PATTERSON UTI ENERGY INC Form 8-K June 26, 2006

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported):

June 23, 2006

Patterson-UTI Energy, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	0-22664	75-2504748
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
4510 Lamesa Hwy., Snyder, Texas		79549
(Address of principal executive offices)		(Zip Code)
Registrant s telephone number, including area code:		325-574-6300
	Not Applicable	
Former name	e or former address, if changed since l	ast report
Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing he following provisions:	is intended to simultaneously satisfy	the filing obligation of the registrant under any of
 Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Pre-commencement communications pursuant to R Pre-commencement communications pursuant to R 	he Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12 ule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act	2) (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

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<u>Top of the Form</u> Item 8.01 Other Events.

On June 23, 2006, the Company received a letter from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") indicating that it has commenced a private investigation of the Company with respect to possible securities laws violations relating to the previously disclosed embezzlement by the Company's former Chief Financial Officer, Jonathan D. Nelson. The Company and its officers and directors intend to continue to fully cooperate with and assist the SEC with respect to matters related to the embezzlement by Mr. Nelson, including this investigation.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Patterson-UTI Energy, Inc.

June 23, 2006 By: \(/s/ John E. Vollmer III \)

Name: John E. Vollmer III

Title: Senior Vice President-Corporate Development, Chief

Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer