

Gastar Exploration USA, Inc.  
Form 8-A12B  
June 20, 2011

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 8-A**

**FOR REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN CLASSES OF SECURITIES**  
**PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR 12(g) OF THE**  
**SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**Gastar Exploration USA, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State of incorporation

or organization)

1331 Lamar Street, Suite 650, Houston, Texas

**98-0570897**  
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

77010

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(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

**Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:**

<b>Title of each class to be so registered</b>	<b>Name of each exchange on which each class is to be registered</b>
<b>8.625% Series A Cumulative Preferred Stock</b>	<b>NYSE Amex</b>

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A.(c), check the following box.

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A.(d), check the following box.

Securities Act registration statement file number to which this form relates: 333-174552.

Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None.

**Item 1. Description of Registrant's Securities to be Registered.**

This Registration Statement relates to the registration under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, of shares of 8.625% Series A Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the Series A Preferred Stock ), of Gastar Exploration USA, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the Registrant ). The description of the Series A Preferred Stock to be registered hereunder is set forth under the caption Description of Series A Preferred Stock in the Registrant's Prospectus Supplement with respect to the Series A Preferred Stock (the Prospectus Supplement ) to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, relating to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-174552), which became effective as of June 8, 2011. The Prospectus Supplement, including the description of the Series A Preferred Stock therein, shall be deemed to be incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 2. Exhibits.**

- 3.1 Certificate of Incorporation of Gastar Exploration USA, Inc., filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on May 24, 2011 (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-174552) filed on May 26, 2011).
- 3.2 Amended and Restated Bylaws of Gastar Exploration USA, Inc., dated May 24, 2011 (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-174552) filed on May 26, 2011).
- 3.3 Certificate of Designation of Rights and Preferences of 8.625% Series A Cumulative Preferred Stock, dated June 20, 2011.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereto duly authorized.

**GASTAR EXPLORATION USA, INC.**

Date: June 20, 2011

By: /s/ J. Russell Porter  
Name: J. Russell Porter  
Title: President

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

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