PETROHAWK ENERGY CORP Form SC 14D9/A August 18, 2011

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14D-9

SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 14(D)(4) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

(AMENDMENT NO. 5)

PETROHAWK ENERGY CORPORATION

(Name of Subject Company)

PETROHAWK ENERGY CORPORATION

(Names of Person Filing Statement)

 $Common\ Stock,\ par\ value\ \$0.001\ per\ share$

(Title of Class of Securities)

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716495106

(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

David S. Elkouri
Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
Petrohawk Energy Corporation
1000 Louisiana, Suite 5600

Houston, Texas 77002 (832) 204-2700

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive

Notice and Communications on Behalf of the Person Filing Statement)

With copies to:

Lee A. Meyerson, Esq.

Eric M. Swedenburg, Esq.

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

425 Lexington Avenue

New York, NY 10017-3026

(212) 455-2000

o Check the box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

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This Amendment No. 5 (this *Amendment*) amends and supplements the Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9 of Petrohawk Energy Corporation, a Delaware corporation (*Petrohawk* or the *Company*), filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the *SEC*) on July 25, 2011 and amended on July 27, 2011, July 28, 2011, August 10, 2011 and August 15, 2011 (as amended, the *Schedule 14D-9*). The Schedule 14D-9 relates to the cash tender offer by North America Holdings II Inc., a Delaware corporation (*Purchaser*), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of BHP Billiton Petroleum (North America) Inc., a Delaware corporation (*Parent*), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of BHP Billiton Limited, a corporation organized under the laws of Victoria, Australia (the *Guarantor*), to purchase all of the shares of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (the *Shares*) that are issued and outstanding, at a price of \$38.75 per Share, net to the seller in cash (the *Offer Price*), without interest, less any applicable withholding taxes, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase, dated July 25, 2011 (the *Offer to Purchase*), and the related letter of transmittal (the *Letter of Transmittal*) which, together with the Offer to Purchase, as each may be amended or supplemented from time to time, collectively constitute the *Offer*. The Offer is described in a Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO (as amended or supplemented from time to time, the *Schedule TO*), filed by Guarantor, Parent and Purchaser with the SEC on July 25, 2011. The Offer to Purchase and Letter of Transmittal were incorporated by reference into the Schedule 14D-9 as Exhibits (a)(1)(A) and (a)(1)(B), respectively.

Except as otherwise set forth below, the information set forth in the Schedule 14D-9 remains unchanged and is incorporated by reference as relevant to the items in this Amendment. Capitalized terms used and not defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to such terms in the Schedule 14D-9. This Amendment is being filed to reflect certain updates as disclosed below.

Item 8. Additional Information

Item 8 of the Schedule 14D-9 is hereby amended by replacing the last sentence of the final paragraph under the heading National Security Regulations with the following two sentences:

On August 17, 2011, the Guarantor and the Company received notice from CFIUS that CFIUS has concluded that there are no national security issues of concern in relation to the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, including the Offer. On August 17, 2011, the Guarantor and the Company issued a joint press release announcing receipt of the notice from CFIUS, a copy of which is filed as Exhibit (a)(1)(N) to this Schedule 14D-9 and is incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9. Exhibits

Item 9 of the Schedule 14D-9 is hereby amended by adding the following exhibit:

Exhibit No. Document

(a)(1)(N) Joint Press Release, issued by BHP Billiton and Petrohawk, dated August 17, 2011 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit (a)(5)(A) to the Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO, as amended by Amendment No. 5 thereto filed with the SEC by the Guarantor, Parent and Purchaser on August 18, 2011)

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SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete, and correct.

PETROHAWK ENERGY CORPORATION

Date: August 18, 2011 By: /s/ DAVID S. ELKOURI

Name: David S. Elkouri

Title: Executive Vice President, General Counsel

and Secretary

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