

Advanced Emissions Solutions, Inc.  
Form 8-A12G  
February 03, 2015

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 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**

**ADVANCED EMISSIONS SOLUTIONS, INC.**  
**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Delaware**  
**(State of incorporation or organization)**

**27-5472457**  
**(I.R.S. Employer Identification no.)**

**9135 South Ridgeline Boulevard, Suite 200, Highlands**  
**Ranch, Colorado**  
**(Address of principal executive offices)**

**80129**  
**(Zip Code)**

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

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

**Securities Act registration statement file number to which this form relates:**

**Not Applicable**

**(if applicable)**

**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>None</b>	<b>None</b>

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

**Rights to Purchase Series A Junior**

**Participating Preferred Stock**

**(Title of Class)**

---

**ADVANCED EMISSIONS SOLUTIONS, INC.**

**INFORMATION REQUIRED IN REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

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

On February 1, 2015, the Board of Directors of Advanced Emissions Solutions, Inc. a Delaware corporation (the Company), declared a dividend distribution of one right (each, a Right and together with all other such rights distributed or issued pursuant hereto, the Rights) for each outstanding share of common stock, par value \$0.001, of the Company (the Common Stock). The dividend is payable to holders of record as of the close of business on February 16, 2015 (the Record Date).

The following is a summary description of the Rights. This summary is intended to provide a general description only and is subject to the detailed terms and conditions of the Rights Agreement, dated as of February 1, 2015, by and between the Company and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., a federally chartered trust company, as rights agent (the Rights Agent), a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on February 2, 2015, and is incorporated herein by reference (the Rights Agreement). Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Rights Agreement.

**Issuance of Rights**

Each holder of Common Stock as of the Record Date will receive a dividend of one Right per share of Common Stock. One Right will also be issued together with each share of Common Stock issued by the Company after the Record Date and prior to the Distribution Date (as defined below), and in certain circumstances, after the Distribution Date. New certificates for Common Stock issued after the Record Date will contain a notation incorporating the Rights Agreement by reference.

Until the Distribution Date:

the Rights will not be exercisable;

the Rights will be evidenced by the certificates for Common Stock (or, in the case of book entry shares, by notation in book entry) and not by separate rights certificates; and

the Rights will be transferable by, and only in connection with, the transfer of Common Stock.

**Distribution Date; Beneficial Ownership**

The Rights are not exercisable until the Distribution Date. As of and after the Distribution Date, the Rights will separate from the Common Stock and each Right will become exercisable to purchase one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of the Company (each whole share, a share of Preferred

Stock ) at a purchase price of \$63.00 (such purchase price, as may be adjusted, the Purchase Price ). This portion of a share of Preferred Stock would give the holder thereof approximately the same dividend, voting, and liquidation rights as would one share of Common Stock. Prior to exercise, the Right does not give its holder any dividend, voting or liquidation rights.

The Distribution Date is the earlier of:

ten days following a public announcement that a person has become an Acquiring Person by acquiring beneficial ownership of 10% or more of the Common Stock then outstanding (or, in the case of a person that had beneficial ownership of 10% or more of the outstanding Common Stock on the date the Rights Agreement was executed, by obtaining beneficial ownership of additional shares of Common Stock representing 1.0% of the shares of Common Stock then outstanding) other than as a result of repurchases of Common Stock by the Company or certain inadvertent acquisitions; and

ten business days (or such later date as the Board shall determine prior to the time a person becomes an Acquiring Person) after the commencement of a tender offer or exchange offer by or on behalf of any person (other than the Company and certain related entities) that, if completed, would result in such person becoming an Acquiring Person.

A person will be deemed to beneficially own any Common Stock if such person or any affiliated or associated person of such person:

is considered a beneficial owner of the Common Stock under Rule 13d-3 of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended and as in effect on the date of the Rights Agreement;

has the right to acquire the Common Stock, either immediately or in the future, pursuant to any agreement, arrangement, or understanding (other than a customary underwriting agreement relating to a bona fide public offering of the Common Stock) or upon the exercise of conversion rights, exchange rights, rights, warrants or options, or otherwise, except that a person will not be deemed to be a beneficial owner of (a) securities tendered pursuant to a tender offer or exchange offer by or on behalf of such person or any affiliated or associated persons of such person until the tendered securities are accepted for purchase or exchange, (b) securities issuable upon exercise of a Right before the occurrence of a Triggering Event (as defined below), or (c) securities issuable upon exercise of a Right after the occurrence of a Triggering Event if the Rights are originally issued Rights or were issued in connection with an adjustment to originally issued Rights;

has the right to vote or dispose of the Common Stock pursuant to any agreement, arrangement, or understanding (other than a right to vote arising from the granting of a revocable proxy or consent that is not also then reportable on a Schedule 13D); or

has an agreement, arrangement, or understanding with another person who beneficially owns Common Stock and the agreement, arrangement, or understanding is for the purpose of acquiring, holding, voting, or disposing of any securities of the Company (other than customary underwriting agreements relating to a bona fide public offering of Common Stock or a right to vote arising from the granting of a revocable proxy or consent that is not also then reportable on a Schedule 13D).

Certain synthetic interests in securities created by derivative positions whether or not such interests are considered to be ownership of the underlying common stock or are reportable on a Schedule 13D are treated as beneficial ownership of the number of shares of Common Stock equivalent to the economic exposure created by the derivative position, to the extent actual shares of Common Stock are directly or indirectly held by counterparties to the derivatives contracts. Swaps dealers unassociated with any control intent or intent to evade the purposes of the rights plan are excepted from such imputed beneficial ownership.

### **Issuance of Rights Certificates**

As soon as practicable after the Distribution Date, rights certificates will be mailed to holders of record of Common Stock as of the close of business on the Distribution Date and, thereafter, the separate rights certificates alone will evidence the Rights.

### **Expiration of Rights**

The Rights will expire on the earliest of (a) 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on February 1, 2016, (b) the time at which the Rights are redeemed (as described below), and (c) the time at which the Rights are exchanged in full (as described below) (the earliest of (a), (b) and (c) being herein referred to as the Expiration Date ).

### **Change of Exercise of Rights Following Certain Events**

The following described events are referred to as Triggering Events.

(a) Flip-In Event. In the event that a person becomes an Acquiring Person, each holder of a Right will thereafter have the right to receive, upon exercise, Common Stock (or, in certain circumstances, other securities, cash, or other assets of the Company) having a value equal to two times the Purchase Price. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing, following the occurrence of a person becoming an Acquiring Person, all Rights that are, or (under certain circumstances specified in the Rights Agreement) were, beneficially owned by any Acquiring Person (or by certain related parties) will be null and void.

For example, at a purchase price of \$63.00 per Right, following the occurrence of a person becoming an Acquiring Person, each Right not owned by the Acquiring Person (or by certain related parties) would entitle its holder to purchase \$126.00 worth of Common Stock (or other consideration, as noted above) for \$63.00. Assuming that the Common Stock has a per share value of \$10.50 at such time, the holder of each valid Right would be entitled to purchase 12 shares of Common Stock for \$63.00.

(b) Flip-Over Events. In the event that, at any time after a person has become an Acquiring Person, (i) the Company engages in a merger or other business combination transaction in which the Company is not the continuing or surviving corporation or other entity, (ii) the Company engages in a merger or other business combination transaction in which the Company is the continuing or surviving corporation and the Common Stock of the Company are changed or exchanged, or (iii) 50% or more of the Company's assets or earning power is sold or transferred, each holder of a Right (except Rights that have previously been voided as set forth above) shall thereafter have the right to receive, upon exercise, common shares of the acquiring company having a value equal to two times the Purchase Price.

### **Redemption**

At any time prior to the earlier of (a) a person becoming an Acquiring Person and (b) the Expiration Date (as defined in the Rights Agreement), the Board may direct the Company to redeem the Rights in whole, but not in part, at a price of \$0.01 per Right (payable in cash, Common Stock, or other consideration deemed appropriate by the Board). Immediately upon the action of the Board directing the Company to redeem the Rights, the Rights will terminate and the only right of the holders of Rights will be to receive the \$0.01 redemption price.

### **Exchange of Rights**

At any time after a person becomes an Acquiring Person but before any person acquires beneficial ownership of 50% or more of the outstanding Common Stock, the Board may direct the Company to exchange the Rights (other than Rights owned by such person or certain related parties, which will have become null and void), in whole or in part, at an exchange ratio of one share of Common Stock per Right (subject to adjustment). The Company may substitute shares of Preferred Stock (or shares of a class or series of the Company's preferred stock having equivalent rights, preferences, and privileges) for Common Stock at an initial rate of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock (or of a share of a class or series of the Company's preferred stock having equivalent rights, preferences, and privileges) per share of Common Stock. Immediately upon the action of the Board directing the Company to exchange the Rights, the Rights will terminate and the only right of the holders of Rights will be to receive the number of shares of Common Stock (or one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock or of a share of a class or series of the Company's preferred stock having equivalent rights, preferences, and privileges) equal to the number of Rights held by such holder multiplied by the exchange ratio.

### **Adjustments to Prevent Dilution; Fractional Shares**

The Board may adjust the Purchase Price, the number of shares of Preferred Stock or other securities or assets issuable upon exercise of a Right, and the number of Rights outstanding to prevent dilution that may occur (a) in the event of a stock dividend on, or a subdivision, combination, or reclassification of, the Preferred Stock, (b) in the event of a stock dividend on, or a subdivision or combination of, the Common Stock, (c) if holders of the Preferred Stock are granted certain rights, options, or warrants to subscribe for Preferred Stock or convertible

securities at less than the current market price of the Preferred Stock, or (d) upon the distribution to holders of the Preferred Stock of evidences of indebtedness or assets (excluding regular periodic cash dividends) or of subscription rights or warrants (other than those referred to above).

With certain exceptions, no adjustment in the Purchase Price will be required until cumulative adjustments amount to at least 1% of the Purchase Price. No fractional shares of Preferred Stock will be issued (other than fractions that are integral multiples of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock), and in lieu thereof, an adjustment in cash may be made based on the market price of the Preferred Stock on the last trading date prior to the date of exercise.

#### **No Stockholder Rights Prior to Exercise; Tax Considerations**

Until a Right is exercised, the holder thereof, as such, will have no rights as a stockholder of the Company, including, without limitation, the right to vote or to receive dividends. While the distribution of the Rights will not be taxable to stockholders or to the Company, stockholders may, depending upon the circumstances, recognize taxable income in the event that the Rights become exercisable for Common Stock (or other consideration) of the Company or for common shares of the acquiring company or in the event of the redemption of the Rights as set forth above.

#### **Amendment of Rights Agreement**

The Company, by action of the Board, may supplement or amend any provision of the Rights Agreement in any respect without the approval of any registered holder of Rights, including, without limitation, in order to (a) cure any ambiguity, (b) correct or supplement any provision contained in the Rights Agreement that may be defective or inconsistent with other provisions of the Rights Agreement, (c) shorten or lengthen any time period under the Rights Agreement, or (d) otherwise change, amend, or supplement any provisions of the Rights Agreement in any manner that the Company deems necessary or desirable; provided, however, that no supplement or amendment made after a person becomes an Acquiring Person shall adversely affect the interests of the registered holders of rights certificates (other than an Acquiring Person or any affiliated or associated person of an Acquiring Person or certain of their transferees) or shall cause the Rights Agreement to become amendable other than in accordance with the amendment provision contained therein. Without limiting the foregoing, the Company may at any time before any person becomes an Acquiring Person amend the Rights Agreements to make provisions of the Rights Agreement inapplicable to a particular transaction by which a person might otherwise become an Acquiring Person or to otherwise alter the terms and conditions of the Rights Agreement as they may apply with respect to any such transaction.

**Item 2. Exhibits.**

The following exhibits are filed as a part of this Registration Statement:

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
3.1	Certificate of Designation, Preferences, and Rights of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock of Advanced Emissions Solutions, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Form 8-K (File No. 000-54992) filed with the SEC on February 2, 2015).
4.1	Rights Agreement dated as of February 1, 2015, by and between the Company and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as rights agent, which includes as Exhibit B the Form of Rights Certificate (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Form 8-K (File No. 000-54992) filed with the SEC on February 2, 2015).



**SIGNATURE**

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

Date: February 3, 2015

**ADVANCED EMISSIONS SOLUTIONS, INC.**

By: /s/ L. Heath Sampson  
Name: L. Heath Sampson  
Title: Chief Financial Officer

8

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
3.1	Certificate of Designation, Preferences, and Rights of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock of Advanced Emissions Solutions, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Form 8-K (File No. 000-54992) filed with the SEC on February 2, 2015).
4.1	Rights Agreement dated as of February 1, 2015, by and between the Company and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as rights agent, which includes as Exhibit B the Form of Rights Certificate (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Form 8-K (File No. 000-54992) filed with the SEC on February 2, 2015).