

GRAN TIERRA ENERGY, INC.  
Form S-8  
December 13, 2010

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 13, 2010 Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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FORM S-8  
REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

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Gran Tierra Energy Inc.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation  
or organization)

98-0479924  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

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300, 625 - 11th Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2R 0E1  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

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2007 Equity Incentive Plan  
(Full title of the plan)

Dana Coffield  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
300, 625 - 11th Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2R 0E1  
(403) 265-3221  
(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

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Copies to:  
Nancy Wojtas, Esq.  
Brett White, Esq.  
Cooley llp  
3175 Hanover Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1130  
(650) 843-5000

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer” and “smaller reporting company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
 Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

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CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered (1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price per Share (2)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (2)	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share	5,306,100 shares	\$ 7.84	\$ 41,599,842	\$ 2,967

(1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a), this Registration Statement shall also cover any additional shares of Registrant’s Common Stock that become issuable under the plan by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or other similar transaction effected without receipt of consideration that increases the number of outstanding shares of Registrant’s Common Stock.

(2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the amount of the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(h). The price per share and aggregate offering price are based upon the average of the high and low prices of the Registrant’s Common Stock on December 6, 2010 as reported on the NYSE Amex.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Registration Statement on Form S-8 is being filed for the purpose of registering an additional 5,306,100 shares of the Registrant's common stock to be issued pursuant to the Registrant's 2007 Equity Incentive Plan.

### INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The contents of the earlier registration statements relating to the 2007 Equity Incentive Plan previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") on October 19, 2007 (File No. 333-146815) and January 28, 2009 (File No. 333-156994) are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof, other than with respect to the sections entitled "Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference."

The following documents filed by the Registrant with the SEC are incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement:

- (a) The Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on February 26, 2010.
- (b) The Registrant's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on May 10, 2010, August 6, 2010, and November 15, 2010.
- (c) The Registrant's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on February 2, 2010, February 18, 2010, June 22, 2010 (as amended by Form 8-K/A filed with the SEC on June 25, 2010), July 6, 2010, August 5, 2010, August 24, 2010, November 15, 2010, and December 13, 2010.
- (d) The description of the Registrant's Common Stock which is contained in a registration statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on April 30, 2007, under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description (including the Registrant's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 13, 2010).

All reports and other documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and to be a part of this registration statement from the date of the filing of such reports and documents.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description
5.1	Opinion of Greenberg Traurig, LLP with respect to the legality of the securities registered hereunder.
23.1	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.
23.2	Consent of Greenberg Traurig, LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).
23.3	Consent of GLJ Petroleum Consultants Ltd.
24.1	Powers of Attorney (included on the signature page hereto).
99.1	2007 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on August 6, 2010).

II-2

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta, Canada, on this 10th day of December, 2010.

Gran Tierra Energy Inc.

By: /s/ Dana Coffield  
 Dana Coffield  
 Title: Chief Executive Officer and President

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know All Persons By These Presents, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Dana Coffield, Martin Eden and David Hardy, and each or any one of them, his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, or their or his substitutes or substitute, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Dana Coffield Dana Coffield	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	December 10, 2010
/s/ Martin Eden Martin Eden	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer and Accounting Officer)	December 10, 2010
/s/ Jeffrey Scott Jeffrey Scott	Chairman of the Board of Directors	December 10, 2010
/s/ Verne Johnson Verne Johnson	Director	December 10, 2010
/s/ J. Scott Price J. Scott Price	Director	December 10, 2010

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/s/ Nicholas G. Kirton Nicholas G. Kirton	Director	December 10, 2010
/s/ Ray Antony Ray Antony	Director	December 10, 2010
/s/ Gerry Macey Gerry Macey	Director	December 10, 2010

II-3

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