

BP Inks Gas Deal With Texas Wildcatter Rod Lewis

March 2, 2010 - 11:39 am

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Source: [Forbes](#)

BP [has cut a \\$200 million deal](#) with San Antonio wildcatter Rodney Lewis to drill on 80,000 acres that Lewis has acquired in the Eagle Ford play in south Texas. What's more interesting is who BP now has as a partner. Lewis is an unassuming, self-made tycoon who shuns the spotlight, and is notable for having the only U.S. oil company with a contract to drill for Pemex in Mexico.

Back in 2008 he turned down months of interview requests before agreeing to sit down with Forbes for [this story \("The Crossing"\)](#) on his oil and gas business, and [this one \("A Wildcatter in Love With Warbirds"\)](#) on his passion for collecting vintage World War II fighter planes. The highlight of his collection is a P-38 nicknamed Glacier Girl that crashed in Greenland in 1942 and was dug out of the ice and restored to flying condition 50 years later. It will be interesting to watch how BP's relationship with Lewis evolves; BP may well see teaming up with Lewis as a strategic opportunity to someday gain entry into Mexico.