

NOBLE DRILLING CORP  
Form SC 13G/A  
February 12, 2002

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

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities exchange Act of 1934

(AMENDMENT NO.8)\*

NOBLE DRILLING CORP

-----  
(NAME OF ISSUER)

COM

-----  
(TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES)

655042109

-----  
(CUSIP NUMBER)

December 31, 2001

-----  
(Date of event which requires filing of this Statement)

NOTE: A MAJORITY OF THE SHARES REPORTED IN THIS SCHEDULE 13G ARE HELD BY UNAFFILIATED THIRD-PARTY CLIENT ACCOUNTS MANAGED BY ALLIANCE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT L.P., AS INVESTMENT ADVISER. (ALLIANCE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT L.P. IS A MAJORITY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF AXA FINANCIAL, INC.)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- X Rule 13d-1(b)
- Rule 13d-1(c)
- Rule 13d-1(d)

\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be 'filed' for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ('Act') or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

(CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE(S))

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CUSIP NO. 655042109

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- 1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

AXA Assurances I.A.R.D. Mutuelle

- 2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \* (A)  [X]  
(B)  [ ]

- 3. SEC USE ONLY

- 4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
France

NUMBER OF SHARES	5.	SOLE VOTING POWER	4,541,579
BENEFICIALLY			
OWNED AS OF	6.	SHARED VOTING POWER	6,167,200
December 31, 2001			
BY EACH	7.	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	14,015,019
REPORTING			
PERSON WITH:	8.	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER	0

- 9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 14,015,019

(Not to be construed as an admission of beneficial ownership)

- 10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES \*  |  |

- 11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 10.6%

- 12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \*  
IC

\* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 655042109

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- 1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

AXA Assurances Vie Mutuelle

- 2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \* (A)  [X]  
(B)  [ ]

- 3. SEC USE ONLY

- 4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
France

NUMBER OF SHARES	5.	SOLE VOTING POWER	4,541,579
BENEFICIALLY			
OWNED AS OF	6.	SHARED VOTING POWER	6,167,200
December 31, 2001			

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BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH:	7.	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	14,015,019
	8.	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER	0
9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON (Not to be construed as an admission of beneficial ownership)			14,015,019
10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES *			
11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9			10.6%
12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON *			
IC			
* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!			

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1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON			
AXA Conseil Vie Assurance Mutuelle			
2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP *			(A) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			(B) <input type="checkbox"/>
3. SEC USE ONLY			
4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION			
France			
NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED AS OF December 31, 2001	5.	SOLE VOTING POWER	4,541,579
	6.	SHARED VOTING POWER	6,167,200
	7.	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	14,015,019
BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH:	8.	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER	0
9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON (Not to be construed as an admission of beneficial ownership)			14,015,019
10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES *			
11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9			10.6%
12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON *			
IC			
* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!			

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1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

AXA Courtage Assurance Mutuelle

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \* (A)  [X]  
(B)  [ ]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
France

NUMBER OF SHARES	5. SOLE VOTING POWER	4,541,579
BENEFICIALLY		
OWNED AS OF	6. SHARED VOTING POWER	6,167,200
December 31, 2001		
BY EACH	7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	14,015,019
REPORTING		
PERSON WITH:	8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER	0

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH  
REPORTING PERSON 14,015,019

(Not to be construed as an admission of beneficial ownership)

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN  
SHARES \* | |

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 10.6%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \*  
IC

\* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

AXA

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \* (A)  [ ]  
(B)  [ ]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
France

NUMBER OF SHARES	5. SOLE VOTING POWER	4,541,579
BENEFICIALLY		
OWNED AS OF	6. SHARED VOTING POWER	6,167,200
December 31, 2001		
BY EACH	7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	14,015,019
REPORTING		

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PERSON WITH: 8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 0

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 14,015,019

(Not to be construed as an admission of beneficial ownership)

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES \* | |

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 10.6%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \* IC

\* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

AXA Financial, Inc. 13-3623351

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \* (A) [ ] (B) [ ]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION State of Delaware

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED AS OF December 31, 2001 BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH: 5. SOLE VOTING POWER 3,946,529 6. SHARED VOTING POWER 6,167,200 7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 13,419,969 8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 0

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 13,419,969

(Not to be construed as an admission of beneficial ownership)

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES \* | |

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 10.1%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \* HC

\* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:  
NOBLE DRILLING CORP

Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:  
13135 So Dairy Ashford  
Sugar Land, TX 77478-

Item 2(a) and (b)  
Name of Person Filing and Address of Principal Business Office:

AXA Conseil Vie Assurance Mutuelle,  
AXA Assurances I.A.R.D Mutuelle, and  
AXA Assurances Vie Mutuelle,  
370, rue Saint Honore  
75001 Paris, France

AXA Courtage Assurance Mutuelle  
26, rue Louis le Grand  
75002 Paris, France

as a group (collectively, the 'Mutuelles AXA').

AXA  
25, avenue Matignon  
75008 Paris, France

AXA Financial, Inc.  
1290 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10104

(Please contact Patrick Meehan at (212) 314-5644 with any questions.)

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Item 2(c) Citizenship:  
Mutuelles AXA and AXA - France  
AXA Financial, Inc. - Delaware

Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:  
  
COM

Item 2(e) Cusip Number:  
655042109

Item 3. Type of Reporting Person:  
AXA Financial, Inc. as a parent holding company,  
in accordance with 240.13d-1(b) (ii) (G).

The Mutuelles AXA, as a group, acting as a parent holding company.

AXA as a parent holding company.

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Item 4. Ownership as of December 31, 2001

(a) Amount Beneficially Owned:

14,015,019 shares of common stock beneficially owned including:

	No. of Shares
	-----
The Mutuelles AXA, as a group	0
AXA	0
AXA Entity or Entities	
acquired solely for investment purposes:	
Common Stock	
AXA Investment Managers Paris (France)	21,600
AXA Investment Managers UK Ltd	573,450
AXA Financial, Inc.	0
Subsidiaries:	
Alliance Capital Management L.P.	
acquired solely for investment purposes on	
behalf of client discretionary investment	
advisory accounts:	
Common Stock	13,371,169
The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States	
acquired solely for investment purposes:	
Common Stock	48,800
	-----
Total	14,015,019
	=====

Each of the Mutuelles AXA, as a group, and AXA expressly declares that the filing of this Schedule 13G shall not be construed as an admission that it is, for purposes of Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act, the beneficial owner of any securities covered by this Schedule 13G.

Each of the above subsidiaries of AXA Financial, Inc. operates under independent management and makes independent decisions.

(b) Percent of Class: 10.6%  
=====

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ITEM 4. Ownership as of December 31, 2001 (CONT.)

(c) Deemed Voting Power and Disposition Power:

(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
Deemed	Deemed	Deemed	Deemed
to have	to have	to have	to have
Sole Power	Shared Power	Sole Power	Shared Power
to Vote	to Vote	to Dispose	to Dispose
or to	or to	or to	or to
Direct	Direct	Direct the	Direct the
the Vote	the Vote	Disposition	Disposition

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The Mutuelles AXA, as a group	0	0	0	0
AXA	0	0	0	0
AXA Entity or Entities:				
AXA Investment Managers Paris (France)	21,600	0	21,600	0
AXA Investment Managers UK Ltd	573,450	0	573,450	0
AXA Financial, Inc.	0	0	0	0
Subsidiaries:				
----- Alliance Capital Management L.P.	3,946,529	6,167,200	13,371,169	0
The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States	0	0	48,800	0
	----- 4,541,579	----- 6,167,200	----- 14,015,019	----- 0
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Each of the above subsidiaries of AXA Financial, Inc. operates under independent management and makes independent voting and investment decisions.

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Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following.  
( )

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on behalf of Another Person. N/A

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary which Acquired the Security Being Reporting on by the Parent Holding Company:

This Schedule 13G is being filed by AXA Financial, Inc.; AXA, which owns AXA Financial, Inc.; and the Mutuelles AXA, which as a group control AXA:

- (X) in the Mutuelles AXAs' capacity, as a group, acting as a parent holding company with respect to the holdings of the following AXA entity or entities:
- (X) in AXA's capacity as a parent holding company with respect to the holdings of the following AXA entity or entities:
  - AXA Investment Managers Paris (France)
  - AXA Investment Managers UK Ltd
- (X) in AXA Financial, Inc.'s capacity as a parent holding company with respect to the holdings of the following subsidiaries:
- (X) Alliance Capital Management L.P. (13-3434400), an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.



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- (X) The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States (13-5570651), an insurance company and an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

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- Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group. N/A
- Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group: N/A
- Item 10. Certification:

By signing below I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purposes or effect.

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.

Date: February 11, 2002 AXA FINANCIAL, INC.\*

/s/ Alvin H. Fenichel

Alvin H. Fenichel  
Senior Vice President  
and Controller

\*Pursuant to the Joint Filing Agreement with respect to Schedule 13G attached hereto as Exhibit I, among AXA Financial, Inc., AXA Conseil Vie Assurance Mutuelle, AXA Assurances I.A.R.D Mutuelle, AXA Assurances Vie Mutuelle, AXA Courtage Assurance Mutuelle, and AXA, this statement Schedule 13G is filed on behalf of each of them.