

SKYEPHARMA PLC
Form 6-K
March 02, 2006

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 6-K

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER
PURSUANT TO RULE 13a - 16 OR 15d - 16 OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the month of March, 2006

SkyePharma PLC

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

SkyePharma PLC, 105 Piccadilly, London W1J 7NJ England

(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40F.

Form 20-F Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-

For Immediate Release

This is a summary - the detailed release will be issued later too

**SkyePharma Responds to Allegations
Made by North Atlantic Value Group**

LONDON, UK, 2 March 2006 - SkyePharma wishes to respond to certain unsubstantiated allegations made by a group of shareholders ("the NAV group") in a circular to SkyePharma's shareholders. The vast majority of the NAV group have been acquired in the last nine months.

Until today the Company has not been able to respond with a detailed rebuttal as the EGM requisitioned by the NAV group have only cited unspecified "corporate governance issues".

- . The allegations made by the NAV group are without substance and they continue to move forward.
- . All NAV group's claims concern matters detailed in SkyePharma's reports and accounts. NAV group cannot claim they were unaware of these facts unless they fail to produce supporting documents.
- . We agree with their statement that SkyePharma has an "excellent and potentially very high value" which has been built by the current Board.
- . SkyePharma has appointed a new non-Executive Chairman, Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer. The Executive Chairman would make them redundant no matter what the NAV group has implied.
- . The NAV group's activity has severely undermined the current share price in the Board's view.
- . The Board of SkyePharma continues to advise shareholders to vote AGAINST the resolution.

Summary response details follow:

"A HISTORY OF DISAPPOINTING ITS SHAREHOLDERS"

Drug development is a long-term process. Predicting the timing of commercialisation is difficult. SkyePharma has the clearest most accurate estimates possible. SkyePharma has a new Chairman and management team designed to move the Company into profitability as soon as possible.

"CONTRACTS WITH QUESTIONABLE VALUE TO SHAREHOLDERS"

All investments are made as part of the Company's commercial relationships and usually as part of a portfolio. Some have resulted in capital gains and others have not. To protect its investments, SkyePharma requests a return on its investments. It invests as a common practice. All information on this has been detailed in the Annual Reports.

"AN INFLATED CORPORATE COST BASE"

SkyePharma's New York offices were rented on an arm's length basis on terms based on independent valuations. The London office is £42 per sq ft over five years, not £80 as suggested by the NAV group. These costs are high - but management is already reviewing all corporate overheads, including the London and New York offices.

"ROBERT THIAN'S SUITABILITY"

In the view of the Board, Robert Thian is unsuitable to be Executive Chairman. His last executive role was in 1989. He lacks the technical training, experience and qualifications. Dr Karabelas and his newly appointed Executive Chairman have relevant experience. They are highly qualified and have exemplary track records.

Dr Jerry Karabelas, Chairman said:

"NAV offer no substance, no strategy, just distortion. NAV would destroy SkyePharma with an 18 month offer while we are already moving the Company forward rapidly.

"This is a crucial moment for shareholders. The choice is to back the Company's coherent strategy or to be misled by unsubstantiated slurs.

Edgar Filing: SKYEPHARMA PLC - Form 6-K

"The Board of SkyePharma believes that all of the above allegations are completely unfounded been contrived by the NAV group for their own ends."

For further information please contact:

SkyePharma PLC

+44 207 491 1777

Frank Condella, Chief Executive Officer

Peter Laing, Director of Corporate Communications

+44 207 491 5124

Sandra Haughton, US Investor Relations

+1 212 753 5780

Buchanan Communications

+44 207 466 5000

Tim Anderson / Mark Court

SkyePharma wishes to remind Shareholders that they are entitled to attend and vote at the m attend on their behalf. The Board strongly advises Shareholders to vote **AGAINST** the resolutions the Form of Proxy (which was sent together with the Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting da proxies should be returned as soon as possible so as to arrive at Capita Registrars, The Registr BR3 4TU not later than 11 am on 7 March 2006.

SkyePharma plc has appointed Salisbury Associates as its Shareholder Communications Advisor. Sali the following Toll Free Shareholder Helplines:

If you have any questions regarding the contents of the documents you have received, please call Information Hotline

In the UK

0800-035-2220

In North America

011800-3231-3233

From other International sites

+44 1494 840 812

The helpline hours are:

9:00am - 5:00pm UK time Monday to Friday from 17 February 2006

9.00am - 5.00pm EST in North America

Please note that your call maybe recorded for quality assurance and training purposes.

END

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

SkyePharma PLC

By: /s/ Douglas Parkhill

Name: Douglas Parkhill

Title: Company Secretary

Date: March 2, 2006