

LEGACY RESERVES LP  
Form 424B3  
January 11, 2010

**Table of Contents**

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are part of an effective registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell, nor do they seek an offer to buy, these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

**Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)  
Registration No. 333-150111**

**SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED JANUARY 11, 2010**

**PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

(To the Prospectus Dated April 16, 2008)

**4,250,000 Units**

**LEGACY RESERVES LP  
Representing Limited Partner Interests**

We are selling 4,250,000 units representing limited partner interests of Legacy Reserves LP. Our units trade on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol LGCY. The last reported sales price of our units on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on January 8, 2010 was \$20.82 per unit.

**Investing in our units involves risks. You should carefully consider each of the factors described under Risk Factors beginning on page S-6 of this prospectus supplement and on page 6 of the accompanying prospectus.**

	<b>Per Unit</b>	<b>Total</b>
Public Offering Price	\$	\$
Underwriting Discounts and Commissions	\$	\$
Proceeds, Before Expenses, to Legacy Reserves LP	\$	\$

The underwriters expect to deliver the units on or about \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

We have granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 637,500 units from us on the same terms and conditions as set forth above if the underwriters sell more than 4,250,000 units in this offering.

*Joint Book-Running Managers*

**Wells Fargo Securities**

**BofA Merrill Lynch**

**UBS Investment Bank**

*Senior Co-Managers*

**Raymond James**

**RBC Capital Markets**

*Co-Managers*

**Oppenheimer & Co.**

**Stifel Nicolaus**

**Wunderlich Securities**

**The date of this prospectus supplement is , 2010.**

---

**Table of Contents**

**CURRENT AREAS OF OPERATIONS**

**PROPOSED WYOMING ACQUISITION**

\* The Wyoming Acquisition is scheduled to close on February 17, 2010, but may not close on such date or at all.

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**  
**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

	<b>Page</b>
<u>SUMMARY</u>	S-1
<u>THE OFFERING</u>	S-5
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	S-6
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	S-10
<u>CAPITALIZATION</u>	S-11
<u>PRICE RANGE OF UNITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS</u>	S-12
<u>MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS</u>	S-13
<u>UNDERWRITING</u>	S-17
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	S-20
<u>EXPERTS</u>	S-20
<u>INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE</u>	S-21
<u>FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	S-22

**PROSPECTUS DATED APRIL 16, 2008**

	<b>Page</b>
ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS	2
CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	3
ABOUT LEGACY RESERVES LP	3
RISK FACTORS	5
USE OF PROCEEDS	20
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES	20
DESCRIPTION OF OUR UNITS	20
CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY	21
MATERIAL PROVISIONS OF OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT	23
DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES	34
DESCRIPTION OF GUARANTEES OF DEBT SECURITIES	45
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND FIDUCIARY DUTIES	45
MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS	51
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	68
LEGAL MATTERS	69
EXPERTS	69
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	69
INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE	70

**Table of Contents**

**Important Notice About Information in This  
Prospectus Supplement and the Accompanying Prospectus**

This document is in two parts. The first part is the prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which gives more general information about securities we may offer from time to time, some of which may not apply to this offering of units.

If the information relating to the offering varies between the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide you with additional or different information. If anyone provides you with additional, different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy our units in any jurisdiction where such offer and any sale would be unlawful. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents or that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since such dates.

The information in this prospectus supplement is not complete. You should review carefully all of the detailed information appearing in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents we have incorporated by reference before making any investment decision.

**Table of Contents**

**SUMMARY**

*This summary highlights information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. It does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. You should read carefully the entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference and the other documents to which we refer herein for a more complete understanding of this offering.*

*Unless the context otherwise requires, references to Legacy Reserves, Legacy, we, our, us, or like terms prior to March 15, 2006 refer to the Moriah Group, Legacy Reserves LP's predecessor, including the oil and natural gas properties we acquired in exchange for units and cash from the Moriah Group, the Brothers Group, H2K Holdings, MBN Properties, our Founding Investors, as discussed in Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 incorporated by reference herein, and certain charitable foundations in connection with our private equity offering on March 15, 2006. When used for periods from March 15, 2006 forward, those terms refer to Legacy Reserves LP and its subsidiaries.*

**LEGACY RESERVES LP**

**Overview**

We are an independent oil and natural gas limited partnership headquartered in Midland, Texas, and are focused on the acquisition and development of oil and natural gas properties primarily located in the Permian Basin and Mid-continent regions of the United States. We were formed in October 2005 to own and operate the oil and natural gas properties that we acquired from our Founding Investors and three charitable foundations in connection with the closing of our private equity offering on March 15, 2006. On January 18, 2007, we completed our initial public offering.

Our primary business objective is to generate stable cash flows allowing us to make cash distributions to our unitholders and to support and increase quarterly cash distributions per unit over time through a combination of acquisitions of new properties and development of our existing oil and natural gas properties.

We have grown primarily through two activities: the acquisition of producing oil and natural gas properties and the development of producing properties as opposed to higher risk exploration of unproved properties.

Our oil and natural gas production and reserve data as of December 31, 2008 are as follows:

We had proved reserves of approximately 30.8 MMBoe, of which 68% were oil and natural gas liquids and 89% were classified as proved developed producing, 2% were proved developed non-producing, and 9% were proved undeveloped;

Our proved reserves had a standardized measure of \$235.0 million based on a price of \$41.00 per barrel of oil and a price of \$5.71 per MMBtu of natural gas held constant over the remaining life of the properties; and

Our proved reserves to production ratio was approximately 10 years based on our average daily net production of 8,553 Boe/d for the three months ended December 31, 2008.

**Business Strategy**

The key elements of our business strategy are to:

Make accretive acquisitions of producing properties generally characterized by long-lived reserves with stable production and reserve development potential;

Add proved reserves and maximize cash flow and production through development projects and operational efficiencies;

Maintain financial flexibility; and

Reduce commodity price risk through oil, NGL and natural gas derivative transactions.

S-1

---



## **Table of Contents**

### **Competitive Strengths**

We believe that we are positioned to successfully execute our business strategy because of the following competitive strengths:

Proven acquisition and exploitation track record;

Predictable, long-lived reserve base;

Diversified operations and operational control over approximately 70% of our current production; and

Experienced management team with a vested interest in our success.

### **Recent Developments**

#### ***Acquisition of Oil and Gas Properties in Wyoming***

On December 18, 2009, we announced the addition of Wyoming as another core operating area by entering into an agreement to purchase working interests in 13 operated oil fields in the Big Horn and Wind River Basins of Wyoming for \$130 million in cash from St. Mary Land and Exploration Company. The properties to be acquired in the Wyoming Acquisition produce 1,478 Boe/d, of which 93% is oil, adding approximately 17% to our existing average daily production. Proved reserves are estimated to be 8.8 MMBoe, 90% of which is considered proved developed producing. The reserve-to-producing ratio of these stable, long-lived properties is approximately 15 years. We expect future potential for tertiary recovery in some of the fields. The closing is anticipated to occur on February 17, 2010 and is subject to customary purchase price adjustments.

We have existing ownership in the Big Horn Basin pursuant to an operating contract with Iron Creek Energy Group based in Cody, Wyoming. Iron Creek will be providing support to Legacy in the operation and administration of the Wyoming properties similar to Iron Creek's current support to Legacy in the Homestead Field in Wyoming and the East Binger Unit in Oklahoma.

Upon completion of this offering and the application of the net proceeds therefrom to fund a portion of the purchase price of the Wyoming Acquisition, we expect that the remaining portion of the purchase price will be funded with borrowings under our revolving credit facility. Our revolving credit facility limits the amounts we can borrow to a borrowing base amount, determined by the lenders in their sole discretion. As of December 31, 2009, the borrowing base under our revolving credit facility was \$340 million and we had \$237 million of outstanding borrowings. Related to the Wyoming Acquisition, we entered into additional commodity swap transactions. For a current summary of our swap agreements, please read "Commodity Derivatives" on page S-3.

#### ***2010 Capital Budget***

On November 12, 2009, the board of directors of our general partner approved a 2010 development capital budget of \$25.0 million, excluding acquisitions. The 2010 capital budget consists of development drilling and completion expenditures, recompletions, and restimulations of existing wells. We may adjust our capital budget during the year in response to changes in oil and natural gas prices, cash flow, results of operations and acquisitions.

#### ***Third Quarter Cash Distribution***

On November 13, 2009, we paid a cash distribution attributable to the third quarter of 2009 of \$0.52 per unit to unitholders of record at the close of business on November 2, 2009. This quarterly distribution represents an annualized distribution of \$2.08 per unit and maintains the distribution amount paid with respect to the prior five quarters.

**Table of Contents****Commodity Derivatives**

We have entered into the following fixed price swaps for oil and natural gas to help mitigate the risk of changing commodity prices. As of January 1, 2010, we had entered into swap agreements to receive average NYMEX West Texas Intermediate oil and Henry Hub, Waha, ANR-Oklahoma and CIG index natural gas prices as summarized below starting with January 1, 2010 through December 2014:

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Annual Volumes (Bbls)</b>	<b>Average Price per Bbl</b>	<b>Price Range per Bbl</b>
2010	1,812,978	\$ 81.16	\$60.15 - \$140.00
2011	1,535,312	\$ 86.64	\$67.33 - \$140.00
2012	1,324,466	\$ 82.01	\$67.72 - \$109.20
2013	881,445	\$ 83.62	\$80.10 - \$89.35
2014	356,710	\$ 87.88	\$87.50 - \$90.50

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Volumes (MMBtu)</b>	<b>Average Price per MMBtu</b>	<b>Price Range per MMBtu</b>
2010	3,923,359	\$ 7.18	\$5.33 - \$9.73
2011	3,038,316	\$ 7.49	\$5.74 - \$8.70
2012	2,357,990	\$ 7.49	\$5.72 - \$8.70
2013	1,402,754	\$ 6.58	\$5.78 - \$6.89
2014	609,104	\$ 6.36	\$5.95 - \$6.47

Additionally, we have entered into NYMEX WTI derivative collar contracts with the following attributes:

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Annual Volumes (Bbl)</b>	<b>Average Put (\$/Bbl)</b>	<b>Average Call (\$/Bbl)</b>
2010	71,800	\$ 120.00	\$ 156.30
2011	68,300	\$ 120.00	\$ 156.30
2012	65,100	\$ 120.00	\$ 156.30

The agreements provide for monthly settlement based on the difference between the agreement fixed price and the actual reference oil and natural gas index prices.

We have entered into natural gas basis swaps to receive floating NYMEX prices less a fixed basis differential and pay prices based on the floating Waha index, a natural gas hub in West Texas. The prices that we receive for our Permian Basin natural gas sales follow Waha more closely than the NYMEX Henry Hub natural gas index. The basis swaps thereby provide a better correlation between our natural gas sales and the derivative settlement payments on our natural gas swaps. The following table summarizes, for the periods indicated, our NYMEX-Waha basis swaps currently in place for production months through December 31, 2010:

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Annual Volumes (MMBtu)</b>	<b>Average Basis Differential</b>	<b>Basis Differential per MMBtu</b>
2010	1,200,000	\$ (0.57)	\$ (0.57)

We enter into derivative transactions with unaffiliated third parties with respect to oil, NGL and natural gas prices to achieve more predictable cash flows and to reduce our exposure to short-term fluctuations in oil, NGL and natural gas prices. These derivative instruments are accounted for in accordance with SFAS No. 133 Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities. These instruments are intended to mitigate a portion of our price risk and may be considered hedges for economic purposes but we have chosen not to designate them as cash flow hedges for accounting purposes. Therefore, all derivative instruments are recorded on the balance sheet at fair value which requires us to mark our future derivatives positions to market each quarter resulting in unrealized gains or losses, which impact reported net income. Unrealized gains or losses represent current period mark-to-market adjustments for commodity derivatives which will be settled in future periods. Unrealized gains or losses result in a non-cash impact on earnings and

**Table of Contents**

do not affect our ability to make our expected cash distributions. The majority of our derivative instruments now in place are in the form of swaps of floating prices for fixed prices paid by the counterparty.

**Our Ownership and Organizational Structure**

The chart below depicts our organization and ownership structure as of the date of this prospectus supplement before giving effect to this offering.

Ownership of Legacy Reserves LP

Public Unitholders	67.20%
Founding Investors, Directors and Management	32.75%
General Partner Interest	0.05%
Total	100.00%

(a) The Founding Investors include the Moriah Group, the Brothers Group, H2K Holdings, Ltd. and SHP Capital LP.

**Table of Contents**

**THE OFFERING**

Units offered by Legacy Reserves LP	4,250,000 units; 4,887,500 units if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional units.
Units outstanding after this offering	39,135,474 units, or 39,772,974 units if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional units.
Use of proceeds	<p>We will receive net proceeds from this offering of approximately \$ million, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us. We plan to use the net proceeds from the offering and from the underwriters' exercise of their option to purchase additional units, if any, to fund a portion of the purchase price of the Wyoming Acquisition. Pending the use of the proceeds as described above, we may use some or all of the net proceeds for general partnership purposes, which may include repayment of outstanding borrowings under our revolving credit facility. Please read Use of Proceeds.</p> <p>Affiliates of Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner &amp; Smith Incorporated and RBC Capital Markets Corporation are lenders under our revolving credit facility and may receive a portion of the proceeds from this offering through repayment of indebtedness under the revolving credit facility. Please read Underwriting.</p>
Cash distributions	<p>We distribute all of our cash on hand at the end of each quarter, after payment of fees and expenses, less reserves (including reserves for capital expenditures) established by our general partner in its discretion. Unlike most publicly traded partnerships, we do not pay incentive distributions to our general partner. In general, we distribute 99.9% of our available cash each quarter to our unitholders and approximately 0.1% of our available cash to our general partner. We refer to this cash as available cash, and we define its meaning in our partnership agreement. We declared a quarterly distribution for our third quarter of 2009 of \$0.52 per unit, or \$2.08 on an annualized basis. We paid this cash distribution on November 13, 2009 to unitholders of record at the close of business on November 2, 2009.</p>
Estimated ratio of taxable income to distribution	<p>We estimate that if you purchase units in this offering and own them through the record date for the distribution with respect to the fourth calendar quarter of 2012, then you will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for that period that will be less than 30% of the amount of cash distributed to you with respect to that period. If you continue to own units purchased in this offering after that period, the percentage of federal taxable income allocated to you may be higher. Please read Material Tax Considerations in this prospectus supplement for the basis of this estimate.</p>

Exchange listing

Our units are traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol LGCY.

S-5

---

**Table of Contents**

**RISK FACTORS**

*An investment in our units involves risk. You should carefully read the risk factors included under the caption **Risk Factors** beginning on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus, as well as the risk factors included in Item 1A. **Risk Factors** in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, and our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2009, June 30, 2009 and September 30, 2009, respectively, together with all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. If any of these risks were to occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects could be materially adversely affected. In such case, the trading price of our units could decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment.*

***The present value of future net cash flows from our proved reserves may not be the same as the current market value of our estimated crude oil, natural gas and NGL reserves.***

The standardized measure of, or present value of future net revenues from, our proved reserves referred to in this prospectus was the then current market value of our estimated crude oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids reserves as of December 31, 2008. In accordance with the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the estimated discounted future net cash flows from our proved reserves are based on prices and costs on the date of the estimate, held flat for the life of the properties. Actual future prices and costs may differ materially from those used in the present value estimate. The present value of future net revenues from our proved reserves as of December 31, 2008 was based on a West Texas Intermediate posted price of \$41.00 per barrel for crude oil and a Henry Hub spot market price of \$5.71 per MMBtu for natural gas on December 31, 2008.

If crude oil prices were \$1.00 per Bbl lower than the price used, our standardized measure as of December 31, 2008 would have decreased from \$235.0 million to \$226.5 million. If natural gas prices were \$0.10 per Mcf lower than the price used, our standardized measure as of December 31, 2008, would have decreased from \$235.0 million to \$232.5 million. Any adjustments to the estimates of proved reserves or decreases in the price of crude oil or natural gas may decrease the value of our units.

Actual future net cash flows will also be affected by increases or decreases in oil and gas demand and changes in governmental regulations or taxation. The timing of both the production and the incurrence of expenses in connection with the development and production of oil and natural gas properties affects the timing of actual future net cash flows from proved reserves. In addition, the 10% discount factor, which is required by the SEC to be used in calculating discounted future net cash flows for reporting purposes, is not necessarily the most appropriate discount factor. The effective interest rate at various times and the risks associated with our business or the oil and gas industry in general will affect the accuracy of the 10% discount factor.

***Our estimates of proved reserves and standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows as of December 31, 2008, which were prepared and presented under the SEC rules effective for such period, may change materially as a result of the new SEC rules effective for fiscal years ending on or after December 31, 2009.***

This prospectus supplement presents estimates of our proved reserves and standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows as of December 31, 2008, which estimates have been prepared and presented under the SEC rules effective for such period. The SEC has adopted new rules that are effective for fiscal years ending on or after December 31, 2009, which require SEC reporting companies to prepare their reserves estimates using revised reserve definitions and revised pricing based on 12-month unweighted first-day-of-the-month average pricing. The pricing utilized for estimates of our reserves as of December 31, 2009 is based on an unweighted twelve month average West



Edgar Filing: LEGACY RESERVES LP - Form 424B3

Texas Intermediate posted price of \$57.65 per Bbl of crude oil and a Henry Hub spot price of \$3.87 per MMBtu for natural gas. The present value of future net revenues from our proved reserves as of December 31, 2008 was based on a West Texas Intermediate posted price of \$41.00 and a Henry Hub spot price of \$5.71 per MMbtu of natural gas. This change in methodology of preparing proved reserve estimates, which is no longer based on a year-end price point but a twelve-month average, as

S-6

---

**Table of Contents**

well as the revised definitions provided by the new SEC oil and gas rules, may have a significant impact on the calculation of the estimated amount of our proved reserves and future net cash flows.

***We may not be able to consummate our Wyoming Acquisition, which could adversely affect our business operations and cash available for distribution.***

The purchase agreement related to the Wyoming Acquisition contains customary closing conditions. It is possible that one or more closing conditions may not be satisfied or, if not satisfied, that such condition may not be waived by the other party. If we were unable to consummate the Wyoming Acquisition, we would not realize the expected benefits of the proposed acquisition, including, without limitation, an expected increase in our distributable cash flow. If we are unable to successfully complete the Wyoming Acquisition, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Further, until January 31, 2010, properties holding reserves representing approximately 24.6% of the total purchase price for the Wyoming Acquisition are subject to rights of first refusal held by non-operating owners. If all or a portion of these rights of first refusal are exercised, the size of our acquisition and the consideration that we would be required to pay therefore could decrease by up to approximately 24.6%.

***Any acquisitions we complete, including the Wyoming Acquisition, are subject to substantial risks that could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations and reduce our ability to make distributions to unitholders.***

The Wyoming Acquisition is our largest acquisition to date and as such may consume a significant amount of our management resources. Further, the Wyoming Acquisition represents an expansion of our operations into a new geographic core area, with operating conditions and a regulatory environment that may not be as familiar to us as our existing core operating areas. As a result, we may not achieve the expected results of the Wyoming Acquisition, and any adverse conditions or developments related to the Wyoming Acquisition may have a negative impact on our operations and financial condition.

Further, even if we complete acquisitions such as the Wyoming Acquisition, which we expect will increase pro forma distributable cash per unit, actual results may differ from our expectations and the impact of these acquisitions may actually result in a decrease in pro forma distributable cash per unit. Any acquisition involves potential risks, including, among other things:

the validity of our assumptions about reserves, future production, revenues, capital expenditures and operating costs;

an inability to successfully integrate the businesses we acquire;

a decrease in our liquidity by using a portion of our available cash or borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facility to finance acquisitions;

a significant increase in our interest expense or financial leverage if we incur additional debt to finance acquisitions;

the assumption of unknown liabilities, losses or costs for which we are not indemnified or for which our indemnity is inadequate;

the diversion of management's attention from other business concerns;

the incurrence of other significant charges, such as impairment of oil and natural gas properties, goodwill or other intangible assets, asset devaluation or restructuring charges;

unforeseen difficulties encountered in operating in new geographic areas; and

the loss of key purchasers.

S-7

---

**Table of Contents**

Our decision to acquire a property depends in part on the evaluation of data obtained from production reports and engineering studies, geophysical and geological analyses, seismic data and other information, the results of which are often inconclusive and subject to various interpretations.

Also, our reviews of newly acquired properties are inherently incomplete because it is generally not feasible to perform an in-depth review of the individual properties involved in each acquisition given time constraints imposed by sellers. Even a detailed review of records and properties may not necessarily reveal existing or potential problems, nor will it permit a buyer to become sufficiently familiar with the properties to fully assess their deficiencies and potential. Inspections may not always be performed on every well, and environmental problems, such as groundwater contamination, are not necessarily observable even when an inspection is undertaken.

***Our sales of oil, natural gas, NGLs and other energy commodities, and related hedging activities, expose us to potential regulatory risks.***

The Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission hold statutory authority to monitor certain segments of the physical and futures energy commodities markets. These agencies have imposed broad regulations prohibiting fraud and manipulation of such markets. With regard to our physical sales of oil, natural gas, NGLs or other energy commodities, and any related hedging activities that we undertake, we are required to observe the market-related regulations enforced by these agencies, which hold substantial enforcement authority. Our sales may also be subject to certain reporting and other requirements. Failure to comply with such regulations, as interpreted and enforced, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

***Federal and state legislation and regulatory initiatives relating to hydraulic fracturing could result in increased costs and additional operating restrictions or delays.***

Congress is currently considering legislation to amend the federal Safe Drinking Water Act to require the disclosure of chemicals used by the oil and natural gas industry in the hydraulic fracturing process. Hydraulic fracturing is an important and commonly used process in the completion of unconventional natural gas wells in shale formations, as well as tight conventional formations including many of those that Legacy completes and produces. This process involves the injection of water, sand and chemicals under pressure into rock formations to stimulate natural gas production. Sponsors of these bills, which are currently pending in the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Environmental and Public Works Committee of the House of Representatives and Senate, respectively, have asserted that chemicals used in the fracturing process could adversely affect drinking water supplies. The proposed legislation would require the reporting and public disclosure of chemicals used in the fracturing process, which could make it easier for third parties opposing the hydraulic fracturing process to initiate legal proceedings based on allegations that specific chemicals used in the fracturing process could adversely affect groundwater. In addition, these bills, if adopted, could establish an additional level of regulation at the federal level that could lead to operational delays or increased operating costs and could result in additional regulatory burdens that could make it more difficult to perform hydraulic fracturing and increase our costs of compliance and doing business.

***Climate change legislation or regulations restricting emissions of greenhouse gases could result in increased operating costs and reduced demand for the oil, natural gas and NGLs that we produce.***

On December 15, 2009, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ( EPA ) officially published its findings that emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases present an endangerment to human health and the environment because emissions of such gases are, according to the EPA, contributing to warming of the Earth's atmosphere and other climatic changes. These findings by the EPA allow the agency to proceed with the adoption and

implementation of regulations that would restrict emissions of greenhouse gases under existing provisions of the federal Clean Air Act. In late September 2009, the EPA had proposed two sets of regulations in anticipation of finalizing its findings that would require a reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases from motor vehicles and that could also lead to the imposition of greenhouse gas emission

S-8

---

**Table of Contents**

limitations in Clean Air Act permits for certain stationary sources. In addition, on September 22, 2009, the EPA issued a final rule requiring the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from specified large greenhouse gas emission sources in the United States beginning in 2011 for emissions occurring in 2010. The adoption and implementation of any regulations imposing reporting obligations on, or limiting emissions of greenhouse gases from, our equipment and operations could require us to incur costs to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases associated with our operations or could adversely affect demand for the oil, natural gas and NGL that we produce.

Also, on June 26, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, or ACESA, which would establish an economy-wide cap-and-trade program to reduce U.S. emissions of greenhouse gases including carbon dioxide and methane. ACESA would require a 17% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 levels by 2020 and just over an 80% reduction of such emissions by 2050. Under this legislation, the EPA would issue a capped and steadily declining number of tradable emissions allowances to certain major sources of greenhouse gas emissions so that such sources could continue to emit greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. These allowances would be expected to escalate significantly in cost over time. The net effect of ACESA will be to impose increasing costs on the combustion of carbon-based fuels such as oil, refined petroleum products, and natural gas. The U.S. Senate has begun work on its own legislation for restricting domestic greenhouse gas emissions and the Obama Administration has indicated its support of legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through an emission allowance system. Although it is not possible at this time to predict when the Senate may act on climate change legislation or how any bill passed by the Senate would be reconciled with ACESA, any future federal laws or implementing regulations that may be adopted to address greenhouse gas emissions could require us to incur increased operating costs and could adversely affect demand for the oil, natural gas and NGLs that we produce.

**Table of Contents**

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We will receive net proceeds of approximately \$      million from the sale of 4,250,000 units offered by this prospectus supplement, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional units in full, we will receive additional net proceeds of approximately \$      million. We plan to use all of the net proceeds from this offering to fund a portion of the purchase price of the Wyoming Acquisition. Please read **Summary** **Recent Developments** for a description of the Wyoming Acquisition. Pending the use of the proceeds as described above, we may use some or all of the net proceeds for general partnership purposes, which may include repayment of outstanding borrowings under our revolving credit facility.

We expect to fund the remaining portion of the purchase price for the Wyoming Acquisition with borrowings under our revolving credit facility.

As of January 11, 2010, approximately \$237.0 million of borrowings were outstanding under our revolving credit facility. As of January 11, 2010, interest on borrowings under our revolving credit facility had a weighted average effective interest rate of approximately 3.0%. The revolving credit facility matures on April 1, 2012. The proceeds of borrowings under our revolving credit facility are used primarily to finance acquisitions and for general partnership purposes. The closing of this offering is not contingent upon the closing of the Wyoming Acquisition. Accordingly, if you decide to purchase our units, you should be willing to do so whether or not we complete the Wyoming Acquisition. If we do not complete the Wyoming Acquisition, we will use the net proceeds from this offering for general partnership purposes, which may include repayments of outstanding borrowings under our revolving credit facility.

The underwriters may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for us and our affiliates in the ordinary course of their business. Affiliates of Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and RBC Capital Markets Corporation are lenders under our revolving credit facility and may receive a portion of the proceeds from this offering through repayment of indebtedness under the revolving credit facility. Please read **Underwriting** **Conflicts of Interest**.

**Table of Contents****CAPITALIZATION**

The following table shows our capitalization as of September 30, 2009 on an actual basis and as adjusted to reflect this offering of units, and the application of the net proceeds as described under Use of Proceeds.

You should read this information in conjunction with Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Item 1. Financial Statements contained in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended September 30, 2009, which we incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement.

	<b>September 30, 2009</b>	
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>As Adjusted</b>
	<b>(In thousands)</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,887	\$
Debt, including current maturities:		
Revolving credit facility	230,000	
Total long-term debt	230,000	
Owners' equity:		
Unitholders	335,360	
General partner interest	63	
Total owners' equity	\$ 335,423	\$
Total capitalization	\$ 565,423	\$



**Table of Contents****PRICE RANGE OF UNITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

Our units are listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol LGCY. The last reported sales price of the units on January 8, 2010 was \$20.82. As of January 6, 2010, we had issued and outstanding 34,885,474 units, which were held by approximately 53 holders of record, including units held by our Founding Investors. The following table presents the high and low sales prices for our units during the periods indicated (as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market) and the amount of the quarterly cash distributions we paid on each of our units with respect to such periods:

	<b>Price Ranges</b>		<b>Cash</b>
	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Distribution</b>
			<b>per Unit</b>
<b>2010</b>			
First Quarter (through January 8, 2010)	\$ 20.95	\$ 19.81	
<b>2009</b>			
First Quarter	\$ 13.99	\$ 7.50	\$ 0.52
Second Quarter	\$ 13.58	\$ 8.95	\$ 0.52
Third Quarter	\$ 17.04	\$ 11.73	\$ 0.52
Fourth Quarter	\$ 20.18	\$ 15.13	
<b>2008</b>			
First Quarter	\$ 22.75	\$ 17.95	\$ 0.49
Second Quarter	\$ 25.17	\$ 19.86	\$ 0.52
Third Quarter	\$ 25.76	\$ 14.00	\$ 0.52
Fourth Quarter	\$ 17.43	\$ 6.50	\$ 0.52

**Table of Contents**

**MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The tax consequences to you of an investment in our units will depend in part on your own tax circumstances. For a discussion of the principal federal income tax considerations associated with our operations and the purchase, ownership and disposition of our units, please read **Material Tax Considerations** in the accompanying base prospectus, **Tax Risks for Unitholders** in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, as, as well as the risk factors included in Item 1A. **Risk Factors** in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended June 30, 2009 and September 30, 2009. You are urged to consult with your own tax advisor about the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences particular to your circumstances.

**Partnership Tax Treatment**

The anticipated after-tax economic benefit of an investment in our units depends largely on our being treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. We have not requested a ruling from the IRS with respect to our partnership status. In order to be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, at least 90% or more of our gross income must be qualifying income. Qualifying income includes income and gains derived from the exploration, development, mining or production, processing, transportation and marketing of natural resources, including natural gas, oil and products thereof. For a more complete description of this qualifying income requirement, please read **Material Tax Considerations Partnership Status** in the accompanying base prospectus.

If we were treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, we would pay federal income tax on our taxable income at the corporate tax rate, which is currently a maximum of 35%, and would likely pay state income tax at varying rates. Distributions to you would generally be taxed again as corporate distributions, and no income, gains, losses or deductions would flow through to you. Because a tax would be imposed upon us as a corporation, our cash available for distribution to you would be substantially reduced. Therefore, treatment of us as a corporation would result in a material reduction in the anticipated cash flow and after-tax return to the limited partners, likely causing a substantial reduction in the value of our units.

**Ratio of Taxable Income to Distributions**

We estimate that if you purchase units in this offering and own them through the record date for the distribution with respect to the fourth calendar quarter of 2012, then you will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for that period that will be less than 30% of the amount of cash distributed to you with respect to that period. If you continue to own units purchased in this offering after that period, the percentage of federal taxable income allocated to you may be higher. Our estimate is based upon many assumptions regarding our business and operations, including assumptions as to tariffs, capital expenditures, cash flows and anticipated cash distributions. Our estimate assumes our available cash will approximate the amount necessary to continue to distribute the current quarterly distribution throughout the referenced period. This estimate and the assumptions are subject to, among other things, numerous business, economic, regulatory, competitive and political uncertainties beyond our control. Further, this estimate is based on current tax law and certain tax reporting positions that we have adopted. Current tax law may change (see **Recent Legislative Developments** below) and the IRS could disagree with our tax reporting positions. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that the estimate will be correct. The actual percentage of taxable income to distributions could be higher or lower, and any differences could be material and could materially affect the value of units. For example, the ratio of taxable income to cash distributions to a purchaser of units in this offering will be greater, and perhaps substantially greater, than our estimate with respect to the period described above if:

gross income from operations exceeds the amount required to make the current quarterly distribution on all units, yet we only distribute the current quarterly distribution on all units;

we drill fewer well locations than we anticipate or spend less than we anticipate in connection with our drilling and completion activities contemplated in our capital budget; or

S-13

---

## **Table of Contents**

we make a future offering of units and use the proceeds of such offering in a manner that does not produce substantial additional deductions during the period described above, such as to repay indebtedness outstanding at the time of such offering or to acquire property that is not eligible for depletion, depreciation or amortization for federal income tax purposes or that is depletable, depreciable, or amortizable at a rate significantly slower than the rate applicable to our assets at the time of such offering.

### ***Deductions for United States Production Activities***

The section regarding deductions to United States production activities beginning on page 60 of the accompanying base prospectus is deleted and restated in its entirety as follows:

Subject to the limitations on the deductibility of losses discussed in the section titled *Material Tax Considerations – Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership – Limitations on Deductibility of Losses* in the accompanying base prospectus and the limitations discussed below, unitholders will be entitled to a deduction, herein referred to as the Section 199 deduction, equal to 9% of our qualified production activities income that is allocated to such unitholder. However, to the extent of our oil-related qualified production activities income, the otherwise allowable Section 199 deduction is reduced by 3% of the least of the unitholder's (1) oil-related qualified production activities income for the tax year, (2) qualified production activities income for the tax year, or (3) taxable income determined without regard to the Section 199 deduction.

Qualified production activities income is generally equal to gross receipts from domestic production activities reduced by cost of goods sold allocable to those receipts, other expenses directly associated with those receipts, and a share of other deductions, expenses and losses that are not directly allocable to those receipts or another class of income. The products produced must be manufactured, produced, grown or extracted in whole or in significant part by the taxpayer in the United States.

For a partnership, the Section 199 deduction is determined at the partner level. To determine his Section 199 deduction, each unitholder will aggregate his share of the qualified production activities income allocated to him from us with the unitholder's qualified production activities income from other sources. Each unitholder must take into account his distributive share of the expenses allocated to him from our qualified production activities regardless of whether we otherwise have taxable income. However, our expenses that otherwise would be taken into account for purposes of computing the Section 199 deduction are only taken into account if and to the extent the unitholder's share of losses and deductions from all of our activities is not disallowed by the basis rules, the at-risk rules or the passive activity loss rules. Please read *Material Tax Considerations – Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership – Limitations on Deductibility of Losses* in the accompanying base prospectus.

The amount of a unitholder's Section 199 deduction for each year is limited to 50% of the IRS Form W-2 wages paid by the unitholder during the calendar year and properly allocable to gross receipts from domestic production activities. Each unitholder is treated as having been allocated IRS Form W-2 wages from us equal to the unitholder's allocable share of our wages. It is not anticipated that we or our subsidiaries will pay material wages that will be allocated to our unitholders.

This discussion of the Section 199 deduction does not purport to be a complete analysis of the complex legislation and Treasury authority relating to the calculation of domestic production gross receipts, qualified production activities income, or IRS Form W-2 Wages, or how such items are allocated by us to unitholders. Each prospective unitholder is encouraged to consult his tax advisor to determine whether the Section 199 deduction would be available to him.

### **Tax-Exempt Organizations & Other Investors**

Ownership of units by tax-exempt entities, including employee benefit plans and individual retirement accounts (known as IRAs), and non-U.S. investors raises issues unique to such persons. Please read **Material Tax Considerations – Tax-Exempt Organizations and Certain Other Investors** in the accompanying base prospectus.

S-14

---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Accuracy-Related Penalties**

The section regarding accuracy-related penalties on page 66 of the accompanying base prospectus is deleted and restated in its entirety as follows:

An additional tax equal to 20% of the amount of any portion of an underpayment of tax that is attributable to one or more specified causes, including negligence or disregard of rules or regulations, substantial understatements of income tax and substantial valuation misstatements, is imposed by the Internal Revenue Code. No penalty will be imposed, however, for any portion of an underpayment if it is shown that there was a reasonable cause for that portion and that the taxpayer acted in good faith regarding that portion.

For individuals, a substantial understatement of income tax in any taxable year exists if the amount of the understatement exceeds the greater of 10% of the tax required to be shown on the return for the taxable year or \$5,000. The amount of any understatement subject to penalty generally is reduced if any portion is attributable to a position adopted on the return: (1) for which there is, or was, substantial authority, or (2) as to which there is a reasonable basis and the relevant facts of that position are disclosed on the return.

If any item of income, gain, loss, or deduction included in the distributive share of unitholders could result in the kind of an understatement of income for which no substantial authority exists, we would be required to disclose the pertinent facts on our return. In addition, we will make a reasonable effort to furnish sufficient information for unitholders to make adequate disclosure on their returns to avoid liability for this penalty. More stringent rules would apply to an understatement of tax resulting from ownership of units if we were classified as a tax shelter. We believe we will not be classified as a tax shelter.

A substantial valuation misstatement exists if (i) the value of any property, or the tax basis of any property, claimed on a tax return is 150% or more of the amount determined to be the correct amount of the valuation or tax basis, (ii) the price for any property or services (or for the use of property) claimed on any such return with respect to any transaction between persons described in Internal Revenue Code Section 482 is 200% or more (or 50% or less) of the amount determined under Section 482 to be the correct amount of such price or (iii) the net Internal Revenue Code Section 482 transfer price adjustment for the taxable year exceeds the lesser of \$5 million or 10% of the taxpayer's gross receipts. No penalty is imposed unless the portion of the underpayment attributable to a substantial valuation misstatement exceeds \$5,000 (\$10,000 for a corporation other than an S Corporation or a personal holding company). The penalty is increased to 40% in the event of a gross valuation misstatement.

### **Recent Legislative Developments**

Current law may change so as to cause us to be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes or otherwise subject us to entity-level taxation. For example, members of Congress have recently considered and are considering substantive changes to the existing federal income tax laws that could affect certain publicly traded partnerships. As previously and currently proposed, we do not believe any such legislation would affect our tax treatment as a partnership. However, the proposed legislation could be modified in a way that could affect us. We are unable to predict whether any of these changes, or other proposals, will ultimately be enacted. Any such changes could negatively impact the value of an investment in our units.

On February 26, 2009, the White House released President Obama's budget proposal for the fiscal year 2010 (the Budget Proposal). Among the changes contained in the Budget Proposal is the elimination of certain key U.S. federal income tax preferences currently available to oil and gas exploration and production companies. These changes include, but are not limited to, (i) the repeal of the percentage depletion allowance for oil and gas properties, (ii) the elimination of current deductions for intangible drilling and development costs, (iii) the elimination of the deduction

for United States production activities, and (iv) the increase in the amortization period from two years to seven years for geophysical costs paid or incurred in connection with the exploration for, or development of, oil or gas within the United States.

S-15

---

**Table of Contents**

On April 23, 2009, the Oil Industry Tax Break Repeal Act of 2009 (the Senate Bill ) was introduced in the Senate and includes many of the proposals outlined in the Budget Proposal. It is unclear whether any such changes will actually be enacted or, if enacted, how soon any such changes could become effective. The passage of any legislation as a result of the Budget Proposal, the Senate Bill or any other similar change in U.S. federal income tax law could affect certain tax deductions that are currently available with respect to oil and gas exploration and production and could negatively impact the value of an investment in our units.

Under current law, the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income of individuals is 35% and the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to long-term capital gains (generally, capital gains on certain assets held for more than 12 months) of individuals is 15%. However, absent new legislation extending the current rates, beginning January 1, 2011, the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income and long-term capital gains of individuals will increase to 39.6% and 20%, respectively. Moreover, these rates are subject to change by new legislation at any time.



**Table of Contents****UNDERWRITING**

Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and UBS Securities LLC are acting as joint book-running managers of the underwritten offering and representatives of the underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions stated in the underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, each underwriter named below has agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to that underwriter, the number of units set forth opposite the underwriter's name.

<b>Underwriters</b>	<b>Number of Units</b>
Wells Fargo Securities, LLC	
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated	
UBS Securities LLC	
Raymond James & Associates, Inc.	
RBC Capital Markets Corporation	
Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.	
Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated	
Wunderlich Securities, Inc.	
Total	4,250,000

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the units included in this offering are subject to approval of legal matters by counsel and to other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to purchase all of the units (other than those covered by the underwriters option to purchase additional units described below) if they purchase any of the units.

**Option to Purchase Additional Units**

We have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for up to 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to 637,500 additional units at the public offering price less the underwriting discount. To the extent the option is exercised, each underwriter must purchase the number of additional units approximately proportionate to that underwriter's initial purchase commitment.

**Underwriting Discount and Expenses**

The underwriters propose to offer some of the units directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and some of the units to dealers at the public offering price less a concession not to exceed \$ per unit. If all of the units are not sold at the initial offering price, the underwriters may change the public offering price and the other selling terms. All compensation received by the underwriters in connection with this offering will not exceed 8% of the gross offering proceeds.

The following table shows the underwriting discounts that we are to pay to the underwriters in connection with this offering. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional units.

	No Exercise	Full Exercise
Per Unit	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$

We estimate that our total expenses of this offering, excluding underwriting discounts, will be approximately \$300,000.

**Lock-Up Agreements**

We, our general partner and the directors and executive officers of certain of our affiliates have agreed that during the 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, we and they will not, without the prior

S-17

---

## **Table of Contents**

written consent of Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, directly or indirectly, offer for sale, contract to sell, sell, distribute, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, pledge, hypothecate, enter into any derivative transaction with similar effect as a sale or otherwise dispose of any units, any securities convertible into, or exercisable or exchangeable for, units or any other rights to acquire such units within the time period of the lock-up, other than (1) pursuant to our long-term incentive plan, (2) in connection with acquisitions of assets or businesses in which units are issued as consideration, provided, however, any such recipient of units will agree to be bound by these provisions for the remainder of the 60-day period or (3) pursuant to the underwriters' option to purchase additional units. Wells Fargo Securities, LLC may, in its sole discretion, allow any of these parties to offer for sale, contract to sell, sell, distribute, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, pledge, hypothecate, enter into any derivative transaction with similar effect as a sale or otherwise dispose of any units, any securities convertible into, or exercisable or exchangeable for, units or any other rights to acquire such units prior to the expiration of such 60-day period in whole or in part at anytime without notice. Wells Fargo Securities, LLC has informed us that in the event that consent to a waiver of these restrictions is requested by us or any other person, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, in deciding whether to grant its consent, will consider the unitholder's reasons for requesting the release, the number of units for which the release is being requested and market conditions at the time of the request for such release. However, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC has informed us that as of the date of this prospectus supplement there are no agreements between Wells Fargo Securities, LLC and any party that would allow such party to transfer any units, nor does it have any intention of releasing any of the units subject to the lock-up agreements prior to the expiration of the lock-up period at this time.

## **Listing**

Our units are listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol LGCY.

## **Passive Market Making**

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may engage in passive market making transactions in the units on the NASDAQ Global Select Market in accordance with Rule 103 of Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the period before the commencement of offers or sales of units and extending through the completion of distribution. A passive market maker must display its bids at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid of the security. However, if all independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, that bid must be lowered when specified purchase limits are exceeded.

## **Price Stabilization, Short Positions and Penalty Bids**

In connection with the offering, the representatives, on behalf of the underwriters, may purchase and sell units in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, syndicate covering transactions and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve syndicate sales of units in excess of the number of units to be purchased by the underwriters in the offering, which creates a syndicate short position. Covered short sales are sales of units made in an amount up to the number of units represented by the underwriters' over-allotment option. In determining the source of units to close out the covered syndicate short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of units available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase units through the over-allotment option. Transactions to close out the covered syndicate short position involve either purchases of the units in the open market after the distribution has been completed or the exercise of the over-allotment option. The underwriters may also make naked short sales of units in excess of the over-allotment option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing units in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the units in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of bids for or purchases of units in the open market while the offering is in progress.

The underwriters also may impose a penalty bid. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the representatives repurchase units originally sold by that syndicate member in order to cover syndicate short positions or make stabilizing purchases.

S-18

---

## **Table of Contents**

Any of these activities may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the units. They may also cause the price of the units to be higher than the price that would otherwise exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. The underwriters may conduct these transactions on the NASDAQ Global Select Market or in the over-the-counter market, or otherwise. If the underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time.

## **Relationships with Underwriters**

Some of the underwriters and their affiliates have performed investment and commercial banking and advisory services for us and our affiliates from time to time for which they have received customary fees and expenses. The underwriters and their affiliates may, from time to time in the future, engage in transactions with and perform services for us in the ordinary course of their business. Affiliates of Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and RBC Capital Markets Corporation are lenders under our revolving credit facility and may receive a portion of the proceeds from this offering pursuant to the repayment of borrowings under that facility. Because the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA, views the common units offered hereby as interests in a direct participation program, there is no conflict of interest between us and the underwriters under NASD Conduct Rule 2720, and this offering is being made in compliance with Rule 2310 of the FINRA Rules. Investor suitability with respect to the units will be judged similarly to the suitability with respect to other securities that are listed for trading on a national securities exchange.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments.

## **Electronic Distribution**

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format may be made available on the websites maintained by one or more of the underwriters. The underwriters may agree to allocate a number of units for sale to their online brokerage account holders. The units will be allocated to underwriters that may make Internet distributions on the same basis as other allocations. In addition, units may be sold by the underwriters to securities dealers who resell units to online brokerage account holders.

Other than this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format, information contained in any website maintained by an underwriter is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus or registration statement of which the accompanying prospectus forms a part, has not been endorsed by us and should not be relied on by investors in deciding whether to purchase units. The underwriters are not responsible for information contained in websites that they do not maintain.

## **Indemnification**

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make because of any of those liabilities.

**Table of Contents**

**LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the units offered in this prospectus supplement will be passed upon for us by Andrews Kurth LLP, Houston, Texas. Certain legal matters in connection with the units offered hereby will be passed upon for the underwriters by Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., Houston, Texas.

**EXPERTS**

Information about our estimated net proved reserves and the future net cash flows attributable to the oil and natural gas reserves of Legacy Reserves LP as of December 31, 2008 contained in Legacy Reserves LP's annual report for the year ended December 31, 2008 filed on Form 10-K and included or incorporated herein by reference was prepared by LaRoche Petroleum Consultants, Ltd., an independent reserve engineer and geological firm, and is included or incorporated herein in reliance upon their authority as experts in reserves and present values.

The consolidated balance sheets of Legacy Reserves LP as of December 31, 2008 and 2007 and the related consolidated statements of operations, unitholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2008 of Legacy Reserves LP incorporated in this prospectus by reference from Legacy Reserves LP's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 have been audited by BDO Seidman, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference, and such financial statements have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

**Table of Contents**

**INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we have filed with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you without actually including the specific information in this prospectus supplement by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. These other documents contain important information about us, our financial condition and results of operations. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and may replace information in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and information previously filed with the SEC.

We are incorporating by reference into this prospectus supplement the documents listed below and any subsequent filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (File no. 001-33249) (excluding information deemed to be furnished and not filed with the SEC) until all the units are sold:

We incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement the documents listed below:

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008;

Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2009, June 30, 2009 and September 30, 2009;

Our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed April 1, 2009, April 3, 2009, June 24, 2009, September 14, 2009, September 17, 2009, September 25, 2009, October 20, 2009 and December 22, 2009; and

The description of our units in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 on January 10, 2007.

You may obtain any of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus from the SEC through the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You also may request a copy of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus (including exhibits to those documents specifically incorporated by reference in this document), at no cost, by visiting our internet website at <http://www.legacylp.com>, or by writing or calling us at the address set forth below. Information on our website is not incorporated into this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or our other securities filings and is not a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

Legacy Reserves LP  
303 W. Wall St., Suite 1400  
Midland, Texas 79701  
Attention: Investor Relations  
Telephone: (432) 689-5200

S-21

---

**Table of Contents**

**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Some of the information included in this prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference herein contain forward-looking statements that are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, which may include statements about:

the amount of oil and natural gas we produce;

the level of capital expenditures;

the price at which we are able to sell our oil and natural gas production;

our ability to acquire additional oil and natural gas properties at economically attractive prices;

our drilling locations and our ability to continue our development activities at economically attractive costs;

the level of our lease operating expenses, general and administrative costs and finding and development costs, including payments to our general partner;

our future operating results; and

our business strategy, plans, objectives, expectations and intentions.

All of these types of statements, other than statements of historical fact included in this prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference herein, are forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as may, could, should, expect, plan, project, intend, and believe, estimate, predict, potential, pursue, target, continue, the negative of such terms or other comparative terminology.

These forward-looking statements are largely based on our expectations, which reflect estimates and assumptions made by our management. These estimates and assumptions reflect our best judgment based on market conditions and other factors known at the time such statements are made. Although we believe such estimates and assumptions to be reasonable, they are inherently uncertain and involve a number of risks and uncertainties that are beyond our control. In addition, management's assumptions about future events may prove to be inaccurate. All readers are cautioned that the forward-looking statements included in this prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference herein are not guarantees of future performance, and our expectations may not be realized or the forward-looking events and circumstances may not occur. Actual results may differ materially from those anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements due to factors described under the caption "Risk Factors" in the accompanying prospectus, as well as the risk factors included in Item 1A. "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, and our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2009, June 30, 2009 and September 30, 2009, respectively. We disclaim any obligation to update these statements unless required by securities law, and we caution you not to rely on them unduly.



**Table of Contents**

**PROSPECTUS**

**Legacy Reserves LP**

**\$500,000,000**

**Units Representing Limited Partner Interests  
Debt Securities**

**Fully and Unconditionally Guaranteed by  
Legacy Reserves Operating LP, Legacy Reserves Operating GP LLC and Legacy Reserves Services, Inc.**

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more series, the following securities under this prospectus:

units representing limited partnership interests in Legacy Reserves LP; and

debt securities, which may be secured or unsecured senior debt securities or secured or unsecured subordinated debt securities.

All other direct or indirect subsidiaries of Legacy Reserves LP, other than minor subsidiaries as such item is interpreted in securities regulations governing financial reporting for guarantors, may guarantee the debt securities.

The securities we may offer:

will have a maximum aggregate offering price of \$500,000,000;

will be offered in amounts, at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more accompanying prospectus supplements; and

may be offered separately or together, or in separate series.

Our units are listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, or NASDAQ, under the symbol LGCY. We will provide information in the prospectus supplement, for the trading market, if any, for any debt securities we may offer.

You should carefully read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement before you invest. You also should read the documents we have referred you to in the Where You Can Find More Information section of this prospectus for information on us and our financial statements. This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

*Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. Limited partnerships are inherently different from corporations. For a discussion of the factors you should consider before deciding to purchase our securities, please see Risk Factors beginning on page 5 of this prospectus, contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein.*

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The date of this prospectus is April 16, 2008.

---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>About This Prospectus</u>	2
<u>Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	3
<u>About Legacy Reserves LP</u>	3
<u>Risk Factors</u>	5
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	20
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	20
<u>Description of Our Units</u>	20
<u>Cash Distribution Policy</u>	21
<u>Material Provisions of Our Partnership Agreement</u>	23
<u>Description of Debt Securities</u>	34
<u>Description of Guarantees of Debt Securities</u>	45
<u>Conflicts of Interest and Fiduciary Duties</u>	45
<u>Material Tax Considerations</u>	51
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	68
<u>Legal Matters</u>	69
<u>Experts</u>	69
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	69
<u>Incorporation By Reference</u>	70

**You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated by reference. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, as well as the information we previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission that is incorporated by reference herein, is accurate as of any date other than its respective date.**

### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, utilizing a shelf registration process or continuous offering process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer from time to time up to \$500,000,000 in total aggregate offering price of units or debt securities in one or more offerings. Each time we offer securities, we will provide you with a prospectus supplement that will describe, among other things, the specific amounts and prices of the securities being offered and the terms of the offering, including in the case of debt securities, the specific terms of the securities. The prospectus supplement may include additional risk factors or other special considerations applicable to those securities. The prospectus supplement may also add, update, or change information contained in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement.

Additional information, including our financial statements and the notes thereto, is incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our reports filed with the SEC. Please read Where You Can Find More Information. You are urged to read this prospectus carefully, including our Risk Factors, and our reports filed with the SEC in their entirety before investing in our units or debt securities. You should read this prospectus and any attached prospectus supplements

relating to the securities offered to you together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

**Table of Contents**

References in this prospectus to Legacy Reserves, Legacy, we, our, us, or like terms prior to March 15, 2006 refer to the Moriah Group, Legacy Reserves predecessor, including the oil and natural gas properties we acquired in exchange for units and cash from the Moriah Group, the Brothers Group, H2K Holdings, MBN Properties and certain charitable foundations in connection with our private equity offering on March 15, 2006. Unless the context otherwise requires, when used for periods from March 15, 2006 forward, those terms refer to Legacy Reserves LP and its subsidiaries.

**CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus contains forward-looking statements that are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control. These statements may include, but are not limited to, statements about our:

- our business strategy;
- the amount of oil and natural gas we produce;
- the price at which we are able to sell our oil and natural gas production;
- our ability to acquire additional oil and natural gas properties at economically attractive prices;
- our drilling locations and our ability to continue our development activities at economically attractive prices;
- the level of our lease operating expenses, general and administrative costs and finding and development costs, including payments to our general partner;
- the level of capital expenditures;
- our future operating results; and
- our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions.

All of these types of statements, other than statements of historical fact included in this prospectus, are forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as may, could, should, expect, plan, project, intend, anticipate, believe, estimate, predict, potential, or other negative of such terms or other comparable terminology.

The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus are largely based on our expectations, which reflect estimates and assumptions made by our management. These estimates and assumptions reflect our best judgment based on currently known market conditions and other factors. Although we believe such estimates and assumptions to be reasonable, they are inherently uncertain and involve a number of risks and uncertainties that are beyond our control. In addition, management's assumptions about future events may prove to be inaccurate. All readers are cautioned that the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus are not guarantees of future performance, and we cannot assure any reader that such statements will be realized or the forward-looking events and circumstances will occur. Actual results may differ materially from those anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements due to factors described in the Risk Factors section and elsewhere in this prospectus. The forward-looking statements in this prospectus speak only as of the date of this prospectus; we disclaim any obligation to update these statements unless required by securities law. These cautionary statements qualify all forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf.

**ABOUT LEGACY RESERVES LP**

Legacy Reserves LP is an independent oil and natural gas limited partnership headquartered in Midland, Texas, focused on the acquisition and development of oil and natural gas properties primarily located in the Permian Basin and Mid-continent regions. We were formed in October 2005 to own and operate the oil and natural gas properties that we acquired from our Founding Investors in connection with the closing of our

**Table of Contents**

formation and a private equity offering on March 15, 2006. On January 18, 2007, we completed our initial public offering.

We have grown primarily through two activities: the acquisition of producing oil and natural gas properties and the development of proved properties as opposed to higher risk exploration of unproved properties.

Our reserves are located primarily in the Permian Basin, one of the largest and most prolific oil and natural gas producing basins in the United States. The Permian Basin is characterized by oil and natural gas fields with long production histories and multiple producing formations. Our producing properties are mature fields with established decline curves.

Our general partner, Legacy Reserves GP, LLC, manages our operations and activities and its board of directors and officers make decisions on our behalf.

Our principal executive offices are located at 303 W. Wall Street, Suite 1400, Midland, Texas 79701 and our telephone number is (432) 689-5200.

Legacy Reserves Operating LP is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legacy Reserves LP that owns and operates our oil and natural gas producing assets.

Legacy Reserves Operating GP LLC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legacy Reserves LP that is the general partner of Legacy Reserves Operating LP.

Legacy Reserves Services, Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legacy Reserves LP that employs our professional and operating personnel and provides administrative services to Legacy Reserves LP and Legacy Reserves Operating LP.

**Table of Contents**

**RISK FACTORS**

*Limited partner interests are inherently different from the capital stock of a corporation, although many of the business risks to which we are subject are similar to those that would be faced by a corporation engaged in a similar business.*

*An investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the following risk factors, together with all of the other information included in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus or any prospectus supplement in evaluating an investment in our securities. If applicable, we will include in any prospectus supplement a description of those significant factors that could make the offering described in the prospectus supplement speculative or risky. If any of these risks were to occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flow could be adversely affected. In that case, our ability to make distributions to our unitholders or pay interest on, or the principal of, any debt securities may be reduced, the trading price of our securities could decline and you could lose all or part of your investment.*

**Risks Inherent in an Investment in Our Units**

*We may not have sufficient available cash to pay the full amount of our current quarterly distribution or any distribution at all following establishment of cash reserves and payment of fees and expenses, including payments to our general partner.*

We may not have sufficient available cash each quarter to pay the full amount of our current quarterly distribution or any distribution at all. The amount of cash we distribute in any quarter to our unitholders may fluctuate significantly from quarter to quarter and may be significantly less than our current quarterly distribution. Under the terms of our partnership agreement, the amount of cash otherwise available for distribution will be reduced by our operating expenses and the amount of any cash reserves that our general partner establishes to provide for future operations, future capital expenditures, future debt service requirements and future cash distributions to our unitholders. Further, our debt agreements contain restrictions on our ability to pay distributions. The amount of cash we can distribute on our units principally depends upon the amount of cash we generate from our operations, which will fluctuate from quarter to quarter based on, among other things:

the amount of oil and natural gas we produce;

the price at which we are able to sell our oil and natural gas production;

whether we are able to acquire additional oil and natural gas properties at economically attractive prices;

whether we are able to continue our development activities at economically attractive costs;

the level of our operating costs, including payments to our general partner;

the level of our interest expense, which depends on the amount of our indebtedness and the interest payable thereon; and

the level of our capital expenditures.



***If we are not able to acquire additional oil and natural gas reserves on economically acceptable terms, our reserves and production will decline, which would adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.***

We will be unable to sustain distributions at the current level without making accretive acquisitions or substantial capital expenditures that maintain or grow our asset base. Oil and natural gas reserves are characterized by declining production rates, and our future oil and natural gas reserves and production and, therefore, our cash flow and our ability to make distributions are highly dependent on our success in economically finding or acquiring additional recoverable reserves and efficiently developing and developing our current reserves. Further, the rate of estimated decline of our oil and natural gas reserves may increase if our wells do not produce as expected. We may not be able to find, acquire or develop additional reserves to

**Table of Contents**

replace our current and future production at acceptable costs, which would adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

***Because we distribute all of our available cash to our unitholders, our future growth may be limited.***

Since we will distribute all of our available cash as defined in our partnership agreement to our unitholders, our growth may not be as fast as businesses that reinvest their available cash to expand ongoing operations. We will depend on financing provided by commercial banks and other lenders and the issuance of debt and equity securities to finance any significant growth or acquisitions. If we are unable to obtain adequate financing from these sources, our ability to grow will be limited.

***If commodity prices decline significantly for a prolonged period, we may be forced to reduce our distribution or not be able to pay distributions at all.***

A significant decline in oil and natural gas prices over a prolonged period would have a significant impact on the value of our reserves and on our cash flow, which would force us to reduce or suspend our distribution. Prices for oil and natural gas may fluctuate widely in response to relatively minor changes in the supply of and demand for oil and natural gas, market uncertainty and a variety of additional factors that are beyond our control, such as:

the domestic and foreign supply of and demand for oil and natural gas;

the price and quantity of imports of crude oil and natural gas;

overall domestic and global economic conditions;

political and economic conditions in other oil and natural gas producing countries, including embargoes and continued hostilities in the Middle East and other sustained military campaigns, and acts of terrorism or sabotage;

the ability of members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to agree to and maintain oil price and production controls;

the level of consumer product demand;

weather conditions;

the impact of the U.S. dollar exchange rates on oil and natural gas prices; and

the price and availability of alternative fuels.

In the past, the prices of oil and natural gas have been extremely volatile, and we expect this volatility to continue.

***If commodity prices decline significantly for a prolonged period, a significant portion of our development projects may become uneconomic, which may adversely affect our ability to make distributions to our unitholders.***

Lower oil and natural gas prices may not only decrease our revenues, but also reduce the amount of oil and natural gas that we can produce economically. Furthermore, substantial decreases in oil and natural gas prices as were experienced as recently as 2002, when prices of less than \$20.00 per Bbl of oil and \$2.00 per Mcf of natural gas were received at the wellhead, would render a significant portion of our development projects uneconomic. This may result

in our having to make substantial downward adjustments to our estimated proved reserves. If this occurs, or if our estimates of development costs increase, production data factors change or drilling results deteriorate, accounting rules may require us to write down, as a non-cash charge to earnings, the carrying value of our oil and natural gas properties for impairments. We may incur impairment charges in the future, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations in the period taken and our ability to borrow funds under our credit facility to pay distributions to our unitholders.

**Table of Contents**

***Our estimated reserves are based on many assumptions that may prove inaccurate. Any material inaccuracies in these reserve estimates or underlying assumptions will materially affect the quantities and present value of our reserves.***

No one can measure underground accumulations of oil and natural gas in an exact way. Oil and natural gas reserve engineering requires subjective estimates of underground accumulations of oil and natural gas and assumptions concerning future oil and natural gas prices, production levels, and operating and development costs. As a result, estimated quantities of proved reserves and projections of future production rates and the timing of development expenditures may prove to be inaccurate. Any material inaccuracies in these reserve estimates or underlying assumptions will materially affect the quantities and present value of our reserves which could adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

***Our credit facility has substantial restrictions and financial covenants, and our borrowing base is subject to redetermination by our lenders which could adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.***

We will depend on our revolving credit facility for future capital needs. Our revolving credit facility restricts, among other things, our ability to incur debt and pay distributions, and requires us to comply with certain financial covenants and ratios. Our ability to comply with these restrictions and covenants in the future is uncertain and will be affected by the levels of cash flow from our operations and events or circumstances beyond our control. Our failure to comply with any of the restrictions and covenants under our revolving credit facility could result in a default under our revolving credit facility. A default under our revolving credit facility could cause all of our existing indebtedness to be immediately due and payable. Additionally, our revolving credit facility limits the amounts we can borrow to a borrowing base amount, determined by the lenders in their sole discretion.

We are prohibited from borrowing under our revolving credit facility to pay distributions to unitholders if the amount of borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility reaches or exceeds 90% of the borrowing base, which is the amount of money available for borrowing, as determined semi-annually by our lenders in their sole discretion. The lenders will redetermine the borrowing base based on an engineering report with respect to our oil and natural gas reserves, which will take into account the prevailing oil and natural gas prices at such time. Any time our borrowings exceed 90% of the then specified borrowing base, our ability to pay distributions to our unitholders in any such quarter is solely dependent on our ability to generate sufficient cash from our operations.

Outstanding borrowings in excess of the borrowing base must be repaid, and, if mortgaged properties represent less than 80% of total value of oil and gas properties used to determine the borrowing base, we must pledge other oil and natural gas properties as additional collateral. We may not have the financial resources in the future to make any mandatory principal prepayments required under our revolving credit facility.

The occurrence of an event of default or a negative redetermination of our borrowing base could adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make distributions to our unitholders.

***Our business depends on gathering and transportation facilities owned by others. Any limitation in the availability of those facilities would interfere with our ability to market the oil and natural gas we produce.***

The marketability of our oil and natural gas production depends in part on the availability, proximity and capacity of gathering and pipeline systems owned by third parties. The amount of oil and natural gas that can be produced and sold is subject to curtailment in certain circumstances, such as pipeline interruptions due to scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, excessive pressure, physical damage to the gathering or transportation system, or lack of contracted capacity on such systems. The curtailments arising from these and similar circumstances may last from a

few days to several months. In many cases, we are provided only with limited, if any, notice as to when these circumstances will arise and their duration. Any significant curtailment in

**Table of Contents**

gathering system or pipeline capacity, or significant delay in the construction of necessary gathering and transportation facilities, could adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

***Our development projects require substantial capital expenditures, which will reduce our cash available for distribution. We may be unable to obtain needed capital or financing on satisfactory terms, which could lead to a decline in our oil and natural gas reserves.***

We make and expect to continue to make substantial capital expenditures in our business for the development, production and acquisition of oil and natural gas reserves. These expenditures will reduce our cash available for distribution. We intend to finance our future capital expenditures with cash flow from operations and borrowings under our revolving credit facility. Our cash flow from operations and access to capital are subject to a number of variables, including:

our proved reserves;

the level of oil and natural gas we are able to produce from existing wells;

the prices at which our oil and natural gas are sold; and

our ability to acquire, locate and produce new reserves.

If our revenues or the borrowing base under our credit facility decrease as a result of lower oil and/or natural gas prices, operating difficulties, declines in reserves or for any other reason, we may have limited ability to obtain the capital necessary to sustain our operations at current levels. Our credit facility restricts our ability to obtain new financing. If additional capital is needed, we may not be able to obtain debt or equity financing. If cash generated by operations or available under our revolving credit facility is not sufficient to meet our capital requirements, the failure to obtain additional financing could result in a curtailment of our operations relating to development of our prospects, which in turn could lead to a decline in our oil and natural gas reserves, and could adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

***We do not control all of our operations and development projects and failure of an operator of wells in which we own partial interests to adequately perform could adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.***

Much of our business activities are conducted through joint operating agreements under which we own partial interests in oil and natural gas wells.

If we do not operate wells in which we own an interest, we do not have control over normal operating procedures, expenditures or future development of underlying properties. The success and timing of our development activities on properties operated by others is outside of our control.

The failure of an operator of wells in which we own partial interests to adequately perform operations, or an operator's breach of the applicable agreements, could reduce our production and revenues and could adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

***Shortages of drilling rigs, equipment and crews could delay our operations, adversely affect our ability to increase our reserves and production and reduce our cash available for distribution to our unitholders.***

Higher oil and natural gas prices generally increase the demand for drilling rigs, equipment and crews and can lead to shortages of, and increasing costs for, drilling equipment, services and personnel. Shortages of, or increasing costs for, experienced drilling crews and oil field equipment and services could restrict our ability to drill the wells and conduct the operations which we currently have planned. Any delay in the drilling of new wells or significant increase in drilling costs could adversely affect our ability to increase our reserves and production and reduce our revenues and cash available for distribution to our unitholders.

**Table of Contents**

***Increases in the cost of drilling rigs, service rigs, pumping services and other costs in drilling and completing wells could reduce the viability of certain of our development projects.***

The rig count and the cost of rigs and oil field services necessary to implement our development projects have risen significantly with the increases in oil and natural gas prices. Increased capital requirements for our projects will result in higher reserve replacement costs which could reduce cash available for distribution. Higher project costs could cause certain of our projects to become uneconomic and therefore not to be implemented, reducing our production and cash available for distribution.

***Drilling for and producing oil and natural gas are high risk activities with many uncertainties that could adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.***

Our drilling activities are subject to many risks, including the risk that we will not discover commercially productive reservoirs. Drilling for oil and natural gas can be uneconomic, not only from dry holes, but also from productive wells that do not produce sufficient revenues to be commercially viable.

In addition, our drilling and producing operations may be curtailed, delayed or canceled as a result of other factors, including:

the high cost, shortages or delivery delays of equipment and services;

unexpected operational events;

adverse weather conditions;

facility or equipment malfunctions;

title disputes;

pipeline ruptures or spills;

collapses of wellbore, casing or other tubulars;

unusual or unexpected geological formations;

loss of drilling fluid circulation;

formations with abnormal pressures;

fires;

blowouts, craterings and explosions; and

uncontrollable flows of oil, natural gas or well fluids.

Any of these events can cause substantial losses, including personal injury or loss of life, damage to or destruction of property, natural resources and equipment, pollution, environmental contamination, loss of wells and regulatory penalties.



We ordinarily maintain insurance against various losses and liabilities arising from our operations; however, insurance against all operational risks is not available to us. Additionally, we may elect not to obtain insurance if we believe that the cost of available insurance is excessive relative to the perceived risks presented. Losses could therefore occur for uninsurable or uninsured risks or in amounts in excess of existing insurance coverage. The occurrence of an event that is not fully covered by insurance could have a material adverse impact on our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

**Table of Contents**

***Increases in interest rates could adversely affect our business, results of operations, cash flows from operations and financial condition.***

Since all of the indebtedness outstanding under our credit facility is at variable interest rates, we have significant exposure to increases in interest rates. As a result, our business, results of operations and cash flows may be adversely affected by significant increases in interest rates.

Further, an increase in interest rates may cause a corresponding decline in demand for equity investments, in particular for yield-based equity investments such as our units. Any reduction in demand for our units resulting from other more attractive investment opportunities may cause the trading price of our units to decline.

***We may have assumed unknown liabilities in connection with the formation transactions and our subsequent acquisitions.***

As part of the formation transactions and subsequent acquisitions, our properties may be subject to existing liabilities, some of which may have been unknown at the closing of such transactions. Unknown liabilities might include liabilities for cleanup or remediation of undisclosed or unknown environmental conditions, claims of vendors or other persons (that had not been asserted or threatened prior to the closing of such transactions), tax liabilities and accrued but unpaid liabilities incurred in the ordinary course of business.

***Properties that we buy may not produce as projected, and we may be unable to determine reserve potential, identify liabilities associated with the properties or obtain protection from sellers against such liabilities.***

One of our growth strategies is to acquire additional oil and natural gas reserves. However, our reviews of acquired properties are inherently incomplete because it generally is not feasible to review in depth every individual property involved in each acquisition. Even a detailed review of records and properties may not necessarily reveal existing or potential problems, nor will it permit a buyer to become sufficiently familiar with the properties to assess fully their deficiencies and potential. Inspections may not always be performed on every well, and environmental problems, such as ground water contamination, are not necessarily observable even when an inspection is undertaken. Even when problems are identified, we often assume environmental and other risks and liabilities in connection with acquired properties.

***Our identified drilling location inventories are scheduled out over several years, making them susceptible to uncertainties that could materially alter the occurrence or timing of their drilling.***

Our management team has specifically identified and scheduled drilling locations as an estimation of our future multi-year drilling activities on our acreage. These identified drilling locations represent a significant part of our growth strategy. Our ability to drill and develop these locations depends on a number of factors, including the availability of capital, seasonal conditions, regulatory approvals, oil and natural gas prices, costs and drilling results. Our final determination on whether to drill any of these drilling locations will be dependent upon the factors described above as well as, to some degree, the results of our drilling activities with respect to our proved drilling locations. Because of these uncertainties, we do not know if the numerous drilling locations we have identified will be drilled within our expected timeframe or will ever be drilled or if we will be able to produce oil or natural gas from these or any other potential drilling locations. As such, our actual drilling activities may be materially different from those presently identified, which could adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

***Our commodity derivative activities could result in cash losses, could reduce our cash available for distributions and may limit potential gains.***

We have entered into, and we may in the future enter into, oil and natural gas derivative contracts intended to offset the effects of price volatility related to a significant portion of our oil and natural gas production. Many derivative instruments that we employ require us to make cash payments to the extent the

**Table of Contents**

applicable index exceeds a predetermined price, thereby limiting our ability to realize the benefit of increases in oil and natural gas prices.

If our actual production and sales for any period are less than our expected production covered by derivative contracts and sales for that period (including reductions in production due to operational delays) or if we are unable to perform our drilling activities as planned, we might be forced to satisfy all or a portion of our derivative contracts without the benefit of the cash flow from our sale of the underlying physical commodity, resulting in a substantial diminution of our liquidity. Lastly, an attendant risk exists in derivative activities that the counterparty in any derivative transaction cannot or will not perform under the instrument and that we will not realize the benefit of the derivative. Under our credit facility, we are prohibited from entering into derivative contracts covering all of our production, and we therefore retain the risk of a price decrease on our volumes not subject to derivative contracts.

***The inability of one or more of our customers to meet their obligations may adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.***

Substantially all of our accounts receivable result from oil and natural gas sales or joint interest billings to third parties in the energy industry. This concentration of customers and joint interest owners may impact our overall credit risk in that these entities may be similarly affected by changes in economic and other conditions. In addition, our oil and natural gas hedging arrangements expose us to credit risk in the event of nonperformance by counterparties.

***We depend on a limited number of key personnel who would be difficult to replace.***

Our operations are dependent on the continued efforts of our executive officers, senior management and key employees. The loss of any member of our senior management or other key employees could negatively impact our ability to execute our strategy.

***We may be unable to compete effectively with larger companies, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.***

The oil and natural gas industry is intensely competitive, and we compete with other companies that have greater resources than us. Our ability to acquire additional properties and to discover reserves in the future will be dependent upon our ability to evaluate and select suitable properties and to consummate transactions in a highly competitive environment. Many of our larger competitors not only explore for and produce oil and natural gas, but also carry on refining operations and market petroleum and other products on a regional, national or worldwide basis. These companies may be able to pay more for productive natural gas properties and exploratory prospects or define, evaluate, bid for and purchase a greater number of properties and prospects than our financial or human resources permit. In addition, these companies may have a greater ability to continue exploration and development activities during periods of low oil and natural gas market prices and to absorb the burden of present and future federal, state, local and other laws and regulations. Our inability to compete effectively with larger companies could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

***If we fail to maintain an effective system of internal controls, we may not be able to accurately report our financial results or prevent fraud. As a result, current and potential unitholders could lose confidence in our financial reporting, which would harm our business and the trading price of our units.***

Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not

prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate. If we cannot

## **Table of Contents**

provide reliable financial reports or prevent fraud, our reputation and operating results could be harmed. We cannot be certain that our efforts to develop and maintain our internal controls will be successful, that we will be able to maintain adequate controls over our financial processes and reporting in the future or that we will be able to continue to comply with our obligations under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Any failure to maintain effective internal controls, or difficulties encountered in implementing or improving our internal controls, could harm our operating results or cause us to fail to meet certain reporting obligations. Ineffective internal controls could also cause investors to lose confidence in our reported financial information, which could have a negative effect on the trading price of our units.

***We are subject to complex federal, state, local and other laws and regulations that could adversely affect the cost, manner or feasibility of conducting our operations.***

Our oil and natural gas exploration and production operations are subject to complex and stringent laws and regulations. In order to conduct our operations in compliance with these laws and regulations, we must obtain and maintain numerous permits, approvals and certificates from various federal, state and local governmental authorities. We may incur substantial costs in order to maintain compliance with these existing laws and regulations. In addition, our costs of compliance may increase if existing laws and regulations are revised or reinterpreted, or if new laws and regulations become applicable to our operations. All such costs may have a negative effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

Our business is subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations as interpreted and enforced by governmental authorities possessing jurisdiction over various aspects of the exploration for and the production of, oil and natural gas. Failure to comply with such laws and regulations, as interpreted and enforced, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

***Our operations expose us to significant costs and liabilities with respect to environmental and operational safety matters.***

We may incur significant costs and liabilities as a result of environmental and safety requirements applicable to our oil and natural gas exploration and production activities. These costs and liabilities could arise under a wide range of federal, state and local environmental and safety laws and regulations, including regulations and enforcement policies, which have tended to become increasingly strict over time. Failure to comply with these laws and regulations may result in the assessment of administrative, civil and criminal penalties, imposition of cleanup and site restoration costs and liens, and to a lesser extent, issuance of injunctions to limit or cease operations. In addition, claims for damages to persons or property may result from environmental and other impacts of our operations.

Strict, joint and several liability may be imposed under certain environmental laws, which could cause us to become liable for the conduct of others or for consequences of our own actions that were in compliance with all applicable laws at the time those actions were taken. New laws, regulations or enforcement policies could be more stringent and impose unforeseen liabilities or significantly increase compliance costs. If we were not able to recover the resulting costs through insurance or increased revenues, our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders could be adversely affected.

## **Risks Related to Our Limited Partnership Structure**

***Units eligible for future sale may have adverse effects on our unit price and the liquidity of the market for our units.***

We cannot predict the effect of future sales of our units, or the availability of units for future sales, on the market price of or the liquidity of the market for our units. Sales of substantial amounts of units, or the perception that such sales could occur, could adversely affect the prevailing market price of our units. Such sales, or the possibility of such sales, could also make it difficult for us to sell equity securities in the future at

**Table of Contents**

a time and at a price that we deem appropriate. Factors affecting the likely volume of future sales of our units, and the possible consequences of such sales, include the following:

All of our units issued in our private equity offerings are restricted securities within the meaning of Rule 144 under the Securities Act. As more of our units become eligible for sale under Rule 144, the volume of sales of our units may increase, which could reduce the market price of our units.

The Founding Investors and their affiliates, including members of our management, own approximately 43% of our outstanding units. We granted the Founding Investors certain registration rights to have their units registered under the Securities Act. Upon registration, these units became eligible for sale into the market. Because of the substantial size of the Founding Investors' holdings, the sale of a significant portion of these units, or a perception in the market that such a sale is likely, could have a significant impact on the market price of our units.

We granted purchasers in our private equity offerings certain registration rights to have the resale of their units registered under the Securities Act. If purchasers in our private equity offerings were to resell a substantial portion of their units, it could reduce the market price of our outstanding units.

***Our Founding Investors, including members of our management, own a 43% limited partner interest in us and control our general partner, which has sole responsibility for conducting our business and managing our operations. Our general partner has conflicts of interest and limited fiduciary duties, which may permit it to favor its own interests to the detriment of our unitholders.***

Our Founding Investors, including members of our management, own a 43% limited partner interest in us and therefore have the ability to effectively control the election of the entire board of directors of our general partner. Although our general partner has a fiduciary duty to manage us in a manner beneficial to us and our unitholders, the directors and officers of our general partner have a fiduciary duty to manage our general partner in a manner beneficial to its owners, our Founding Investors and their affiliates. Conflicts of interest may arise between our Founding Investors and their affiliates, including our general partner, on the one hand, and us and our unitholders, on the other hand. In resolving these conflicts of interest, our general partner may favor its own interests and the interests of its affiliates over the interests of our unitholders. These conflicts include, among others, the following situations:

neither our partnership agreement nor any other agreement requires our Founding Investors or their affiliates, other than our executive officers, to pursue a business strategy that favors us;

our general partner is allowed to take into account the interests of parties other than us, such as our Founding Investors, in resolving conflicts of interest, which has the effect of limiting its fiduciary duty to our unitholders;

our Founding Investors and their affiliates (other than our executive officers and their affiliates) may engage in competition with us;

our general partner has limited its liability and reduced its fiduciary duties under our partnership agreement and has also restricted the remedies available to our unitholders for actions that, without the limitations, might constitute breaches of fiduciary duty. As a result of purchasing units, unitholders consent to some actions and conflicts of interest that might otherwise constitute a breach of fiduciary or other duties under applicable state law;

our general partner determines the amount and timing of asset purchases and sales, capital expenditures, borrowings, issuance of additional partnership securities, and reserves, each of which can affect the amount of



cash that is distributed to our unitholders;

our general partner determines the amount and timing of any capital expenditures and whether a capital expenditure is a maintenance capital expenditure, which reduces operating surplus, or a growth capital expenditure, which does not. Such determination can affect the amount of cash that is distributed to our unitholders;

**Table of Contents**

our general partner determines which costs incurred by it and its affiliates are reimbursable by us;

our partnership agreement does not restrict our general partner from causing us to pay it or its affiliates for any services rendered to us or entering into additional contractual arrangements with any of these entities on our behalf;

our general partner intends to limit its liability regarding our contractual and other obligations;

our general partner controls the enforcement of obligations owed to us by it and its affiliates; and

our general partner decides whether to retain separate counsel, accountants, or others to perform services for us.

***Even if unitholders are dissatisfied they cannot remove our general partner without the consent of unitholders owning at least 662/3% of our units, including units owned by our general partner and its affiliates.***

Currently, the unitholders are unable to remove our general partner without its consent because our general partner's affiliates own sufficient units to be able to prevent our general partner's removal. The vote of the holders of at least 662/3% of all outstanding units voting together as a single class is required to remove the general partner. Affiliates of our general partner, including members of our management, own 43% of our units.

***Our partnership agreement restricts the voting rights of those unitholders owning 20% or more of our units.***

Unitholders' voting rights are further restricted by the partnership agreement provision providing that any units held by a person that owns 20% or more of any class of units then outstanding, other than our general partner, its affiliates, their transferees, and persons who acquired such units with the prior approval of the board of directors of our general partner, cannot vote on any matter. Our partnership agreement also contains provisions limiting the ability of unitholders to call meetings or to acquire information about our operations, as well as other provisions limiting the unitholders' ability to influence the manner or direction of management.

***Our Founding Investors and their affiliates (other than our executive officers and their affiliates) may compete directly with us.***

Our Founding Investors and their affiliates, other than our general partner and our executive officers and their affiliates, are not prohibited from owning assets or engaging in businesses that compete directly or indirectly with us. In addition, our Founding Investors or their affiliates, other than our general partner and our executive officers and their affiliates, may acquire, develop and operate oil and natural gas properties or other assets in the future, without any obligation to offer us the opportunity to acquire, develop or operate those assets.

***Cost reimbursements due our general partner and its affiliates will reduce our cash available for distribution to our unitholders.***

Prior to making any distribution on our outstanding units, we will reimburse our general partner and its affiliates for all expenses they incur on our behalf. Any such reimbursement will be determined by our general partner in its sole discretion. These expenses will include all costs incurred by our general partner and its affiliates in managing and operating us. The reimbursement of expenses of our general partner and its affiliates could adversely affect our ability to pay cash distributions to our unitholders.



**Table of Contents**

***Our partnership agreement limits our general partner's fiduciary duties to our unitholders and restricts the remedies available to unitholders for actions taken by our general partner that might otherwise constitute breaches of fiduciary duty.***

Our partnership agreement contains provisions that reduce the standards to which our general partner would otherwise be held by state fiduciary duty law. For example, our partnership agreement:

permits our general partner to make a number of decisions in its individual capacity, as opposed to in its capacity as our general partner. This entitles our general partner to consider only the interests and factors that it desires, and it has no duty or obligation to give any consideration to any interest of, or factors affecting, us, our affiliates or any unitholder;

provides that our general partner will not have any liability to us or our unitholders for decisions made in its capacity as a general partner so long as it acted in good faith, meaning it believed the decision was in the best interests of our partnership;

provides that our general partner is entitled to make other decisions in good faith if it believes that the decision is in our best interest;

provides generally that affiliated transactions and resolutions of conflicts of interest not approved by the conflicts committee of the board of directors of our general partner and not involving a vote of unitholders must be on terms no less favorable to us than those generally being provided to or available from unrelated third parties or be fair and reasonable to us, as determined by our general partner in good faith, and that, in determining whether a transaction or resolution is fair and reasonable, our general partner may consider the totality of the relationships between the parties involved, including other transactions that may be particularly advantageous or beneficial to us; and

provides that our general partner and its officers and directors will not be liable for monetary damages to us, our unitholders or assignees for any acts or omissions unless there has been a final and non-appealable judgment entered by a court of competent jurisdiction determining that the general partner or those other persons acted in bad faith or engaged in fraud or willful misconduct.

By purchasing a unit, a unitholder will become bound by the provisions in the partnership agreement, including the provisions discussed above. Please read **Conflicts of Interest and Fiduciary Duties** **Fiduciary Duties**.

***Our partnership agreement permits our general partner to redeem any partnership interests held by a limited partner who is a non-citizen assignee.***

If we are or become subject to federal, state or local laws or regulations that, in the reasonable determination of our general partner, create a substantial risk of cancellation or forfeiture of any property that we have an interest in because of the nationality, citizenship or other related status of any limited partner, our general partner may redeem the units held by the limited partner at their current market price. In order to avoid any cancellation or forfeiture, our general partner may require each limited partner to furnish information about his nationality, citizenship or related status. If a limited partner fails to furnish information about his nationality, citizenship or other related status within 30 days after a request for the information or our general partner determines after receipt of the information that the limited partner is not an eligible citizen, our general partner may elect to treat the limited partner as a non-citizen assignee. A non-citizen assignee is entitled to an interest equivalent to that of a limited partner for the right to share in allocations and distributions from us, including liquidating distributions. A non-citizen assignee does not have the right to direct the voting of his units and may not receive distributions in kind upon our liquidation.



**Table of Contents**

***We may issue an unlimited number of additional units without the approval of our unitholders, which would dilute their existing ownership interest in us.***

Our general partner, without the approval of our unitholders, may cause us to issue an unlimited number of additional units. The issuance by us of additional units or other equity securities of equal or senior rank will have the following effects:

- our unitholders' proportionate ownership interests in us will decrease;
- the amount of cash available for distribution on each unit may decrease;
- the risk that a shortfall in the payment of our current quarterly distribution will increase;
- the relative voting strength of each previously outstanding unit may be diminished; and
- the market price of the units may decline.

***The liability of our unitholders may not be limited if a court finds that unitholder action constitutes control of our business.***

A general partner of a partnership generally has unlimited liability for the obligations of the partnership, except for those contractual obligations of the partnership that are expressly made without recourse to the general partner. Our partnership is organized under Delaware law, and we conduct business in a number of other states. The limitations on the liability of holders of limited partner interests for the obligations of a limited partnership have not been clearly established in some of the other states in which we do business. In some states, including Delaware, a limited partner is only liable if he participates in the control of the business of the partnership. These statutes generally do not define control, but do permit limited partners to engage in certain activities, including, among other actions, taking any action with respect to the dissolution of the partnership, the sale, exchange, lease or mortgage of any asset of the partnership, the admission or removal of the general partner and the amendment of the partnership agreement. Our unitholders could, however, be liable for any and all of our obligations as if our unitholders were a general partner if:

- a court or government agency determined that we were conducting business in a state but had not complied with that particular state's partnership statute; or

- our unitholders' right to act with other unitholders to take other actions under our partnership agreement that constitute control of our business.

For a discussion of the implications of the limitations of liability on a unitholder, please read "Material Provisions of our Partnership Agreement - Limited Liability."

***Unitholders may have liability to repay distributions that were wrongfully distributed to them.***

Under certain circumstances, unitholders may have to repay amounts wrongfully returned or distributed to them. Under Section 17-607 of the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act, we may not make a distribution to our unitholders if the distribution would cause our liabilities to exceed the fair value of our assets. Delaware law provides that for a period of three years from the date of the distribution, limited partners who received an impermissible distribution and who knew at the time of the distribution that it violated Delaware law will be liable to the limited partnership for the distribution amount. Substituted limited partners are liable for the obligations of the transferring limited partner to make contributions to the partnership that are known to such substitute limited partner

at the time it became a limited partner and for unknown obligations if the liabilities could be determined from the partnership agreement. Liabilities to partners on account of their partnership interest and liabilities that are non-recourse to the partnership are not counted for purposes of determining whether a distribution is permitted.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Tax Risks to Unitholders**

In addition to reading the following risk factors, you should read **Material Tax Considerations** for a more complete discussion of the expected material federal income tax consequences of owning and disposing of our securities.

***Our tax treatment depends on our status as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, as well as our not being subject to a material amount of additional entity-level taxation by states and localities. If the IRS were to treat us as a corporation or if we were to become subject to a material amount of additional entity-level taxation for state or local tax purposes, then our cash available for distribution to our unitholders would be substantially reduced.***

The anticipated after-tax economic benefit of an investment in our units depends largely on our being treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. We have not requested, and do not plan to request, a ruling from the IRS on this or any other tax matter affecting us.

If we were treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, we would pay federal income tax on our taxable income at the corporate tax rate, which currently has a top marginal rate of 35%, and would likely pay state and local income tax at the corporate tax rate of the various states and localities imposing a corporate income tax. Distributions to our unitholders would generally be taxed again as corporate distributions, and no income, gains, losses, deductions or credits would flow through to our unitholders. Because a tax would be imposed upon us as a corporation, our cash available to pay distributions to our unitholders would be substantially reduced. Therefore, treatment of us as a corporation would result in a material reduction in the anticipated cash flow and after-tax return to our unitholders likely causing a substantial reduction in the value of our units.

Current law may change, causing us to be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes or otherwise subject us to entity-level taxation. In addition, because of widespread state budget deficits and other reasons, several states are evaluating ways to subject partnerships to entity-level taxation through the imposition of state income, franchise and other forms of taxation. For example, we are subject to a new entity-level state tax on the portion of our income that is generated in Texas beginning for tax reports due on or after January 1, 2008. Specifically, the Texas margin tax is imposed at a maximum effective rate of 0.7% of our gross income that is apportioned to Texas. If any additional states were to impose a tax upon us as an entity, the cash available for distribution to our unitholders would be reduced.

***The tax treatment of publicly traded partnerships or an investment in our units could be subject to potential legislative, judicial or administrative changes and differing interpretations, possibly on a retroactive basis.***

The present U.S. federal income tax treatment of publicly traded partnerships, including us, or an investment in our units may be modified by administrative, legislative or judicial interpretation at any time. Any modification to the U.S. federal income tax laws and interpretations thereof may or may not be applied retroactively and could make it more difficult or impossible to meet the exception for us to be treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes that is not taxable as a corporation, or Qualifying Income Exception, affect or cause us to change our business activities, affect the tax considerations of an investment in us, change the character or treatment of portions of our income and adversely affect an investment in our units. For example, in response to certain recent developments, members of Congress are considering substantive changes to the definition of qualifying income under Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code. Legislation has been proposed that would eliminate partnership tax treatment for certain publicly traded partnerships. Although such legislation would not apply to us as currently proposed, it could be amended prior to enactment in a manner that does apply to us. It is possible that these legislative efforts could result in changes to the existing U.S. tax laws that affect publicly traded partnerships, including us. Any modification to the U.S. federal income tax laws and interpretations thereof may or may not be applied retroactively. We are unable to predict whether any of these changes, or other proposals, will ultimately be enacted. Any such changes could negatively impact the value of an investment in our units. For a discussion of the importance of





**Table of Contents**

the Qualifying Income Exception and our status as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, please read **Material Tax Considerations Partnership Status**.

***Our unitholders may be required to pay taxes on their share of our income even if they do not receive any cash distributions from us.***

Our unitholders are required to pay federal income taxes and, in some cases, state and local income taxes on their share of our taxable income, whether or not they receive cash distributions from us. Our unitholders may not receive cash distributions from us equal to their share of our taxable income or even equal to the actual tax liability that results from their share of our taxable income.

***We prorate our items of income, gain, loss and deduction between transferors and transferees of our units each month based upon the ownership of our units on the first day of each month, instead of on the basis of the date a particular unit is transferred.***

We prorate our items of income, gain, loss and deduction between transferors and transferees of our units each month based upon the ownership of our units on the first day of each month, instead of on the basis of the date a particular unit is transferred. The use of this proration method may not be permitted under existing Treasury regulations, and, accordingly, our counsel is unable to opine as to the validity of this method. If the IRS were to challenge this method or new Treasury regulations were issued, we may be required to change the allocation of items of income, gain, loss and deduction among our unitholders. Please read **Material Tax Considerations Disposition of Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees**.

***A successful IRS contest of the federal income tax positions we take may adversely affect the market for our units, and the costs of any contest will reduce our cash available for distribution to our unitholders.***

We have not requested any ruling from the IRS with respect to our treatment as a partnership for federal income tax purposes or any other matter affecting us. The IRS may adopt positions that differ from our counsel's conclusions or the positions we take. It may be necessary to resort to administrative or court proceedings to sustain some or all of our counsel's conclusions or the positions we take. A court may disagree with some or all of our counsel's conclusions or the positions we take. Any contest with the IRS may materially and adversely impact the market for our units and the price at which they trade. In addition, the costs of any contest with the IRS will result in a reduction in cash available to pay distributions to our unitholders and thus will be borne indirectly by our unitholders.

***Tax-exempt entities and foreign persons face unique tax issues from owning units that may result in adverse tax consequences to them.***

Investment in our units by tax-exempt entities, including employee benefit plans and individual retirement accounts (known as IRAs) and non-U.S. persons raises issues unique to them. For example, virtually all of our income allocated to organizations exempt from federal income tax, including individual retirement accounts and other retirement plans, will be unrelated business taxable income and will be taxable to such a unitholder. Distributions to non-U.S. persons will be reduced by withholding taxes imposed at the highest effective applicable tax rate, and non-U.S. persons will be required to file United States federal income tax returns and pay tax on their share of our taxable income.

***Tax gain or loss on the disposition of our units could be more or less than expected because prior distributions in excess of allocations of income will decrease our unitholders tax basis in their units.***

If our unitholders sell any of their units, they will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized and their tax basis in those units. Prior distributions to our unitholders in excess of the total net taxable

income they were allocated for a unit, which decreased their tax basis in that unit, will, in effect, become taxable income to our unitholders if the unit is sold at a price greater than their tax basis in that unit, even if the price our unitholders receive is less than their original cost. A substantial portion of the amount realized, whether or not representing gain, may be ordinary income to our unitholders. In addition, if

**Table of Contents**

our unitholders sell their units, our unitholders may incur a tax liability in excess of the amount of cash our unitholders receive from the sale.

***We will treat each purchaser of our units as having the same tax benefits without regard to the units purchased. The IRS may challenge this treatment, which could adversely affect the value of the units.***

Because we cannot match transferors and transferees of units, we will adopt depletion, depreciation and amortization positions that may not conform with all aspects of existing Treasury regulations. Our counsel is unable to opine as to the validity of such filing positions. A successful IRS challenge to those positions could adversely affect the amount of tax benefits available to our unitholders. It also could affect the timing of these tax benefits or the amount of gain on the sale of units and could have a negative impact on the value of our units or result in audits of and adjustments to our unitholders' tax returns.

***A unitholder whose units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of units may be considered as having disposed of those units. If so, the unitholder would no longer be treated for tax purposes as a partner with respect to those units during the period of the loan may recognize gain or loss from the disposition.***

Because a unitholder whose units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of units may be considered as having disposed of the loaned units, he may no longer be treated for tax purposes as a partner with respect to those units during the period of the loan to the short seller and the unitholder may recognize gain or loss from such disposition. Moreover, during the period of the loan to the short seller, any of our income, gain, loss or deduction with respect to those units may not be reportable by the unitholder and any cash distributions received by the unitholder as to those units could be fully taxable as ordinary income. Our counsel has not rendered an opinion regarding the treatment of a unitholder where our units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of our units; therefore, unitholders desiring to assure their status as partners and avoid the risk of gain recognition from a loan to a short seller are urged to modify any applicable brokerage account agreements to prohibit their brokers from borrowing their units.

***Our unitholders may be subject to state and local taxes and return filing requirements in states where they do not live as a result of investing in our units.***

In addition to federal income taxes, our unitholders will likely be subject to other taxes, including state and local income taxes, unincorporated business taxes and estate, inheritance or intangible taxes that are imposed by the various jurisdictions in which we do business or own property now or in the future, even if they do not reside in any of those jurisdictions. Our unitholders will likely be required to file state and local income tax returns and pay state and local income taxes in some or all of these various jurisdictions. Further, our unitholders may be subject to penalties for failure to comply with those requirements. We currently do business and own assets in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Alabama, Mississippi, Wyoming, North Dakota, Colorado and Arkansas. As we make acquisitions or expand our business, we may do business or own assets in other states in the future. It is the responsibility of each unitholder to file all United States federal, state and local tax returns that may be required of such unitholder. Our counsel has not rendered an opinion on the state or local tax consequences of an investment in our units.

***We will be considered to have terminated for tax purposes due to a sale or exchange of 50% or more of our interests within a twelve-month period.***

We will be considered to have terminated our partnership for federal income tax purposes if there is a sale or exchange of 50% or more of the total interests in our capital and profits within a twelve-month period. Our termination would, among other things result in the closing of our taxable year for all unitholders and could result in a deferral of depreciation deductions allowable in computing our taxable income.



**Table of Contents****USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless otherwise indicated to the contrary in an accompanying prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds (after the payment of any offering expenses and underwriting discounts and commissions) from our sale of securities covered by this prospectus for general partnership purposes, which may include repayment of indebtedness and other capital expenditures or acquisitions and additions to working capital.

The actual application of proceeds from the sale of any particular offering of securities using this prospectus will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to such offering. The precise amount and timing of the application of these proceeds will depend upon our funding requirements and the availability and cost of other funds.

**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

The following table presents the ratios of earnings to fixed charges of the Partnership and its predecessor for the periods indicated. For purposes of computing the ratios of earnings to fixed charges, earnings consist of income from continuing operations before adjustment for equity income from equity method investees plus fixed charges and distributed income from investees accounted for under the equity method. Fixed charges consist of interest expensed and an estimated interest component of rent expense.

	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>				
	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	34.35x	38.82x	4.94x	1.70x	(1)

(1) Earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges, and fixed charges exceeded earnings by approximately \$55.402 million.

**DESCRIPTION OF OUR UNITS****The Units**

The units represent partnership interests in us. The holders of units are entitled to participate in distributions and exercise the rights or privileges available to limited partners under our partnership agreement. For a description of the relative rights and preferences of holders of units in and to distributions, please read this section and Cash Distribution Policy. For a description of the rights and privileges of limited partners under our partnership agreement, including voting rights, please read Material Provisions of our Partnership Agreement.

**Transfer Agent and Registrar*****Duties***

Computershare Trust Company, N.A. serves as registrar and transfer agent for the units. We pay all fees charged by the transfer agent for transfers of units, except the following fees that will be paid by unitholders:

surety bond premiums to replace lost or stolen certificates, taxes and other governmental charges;

special charges or services requested by a holder of a unit; and  
other similar fees or charges.

There will be no charge to holders for disbursements of our cash distributions. We will indemnify the transfer agent against all claims and losses that may arise out of all actions of the transfer agent or its agents or subcontractors for their activities in that capacity, except for any liability due to any gross negligence or willful misconduct of the transfer agent or subcontractors.

**Table of Contents**

***Resignation or Renewal***

The transfer agent may at any time resign, by notice to us, or be removed by us. The resignation or removal of the transfer agent will become effective upon our appointment of a successor transfer agent and registrar and its acceptance of the appointment. If no successor has been appointed and has accepted the appointment within 30 days after notice of its resignation or removal, our general partner is authorized to act as the transfer agent and registrar until a successor is appointed.

**Transfer of Units**

By transfer of units in accordance with our partnership agreement, each transferee of units will be admitted as a limited partner with respect to the units transferred when such transfer and admission is reflected on our books and records. Additionally, each transferee of units:

becomes the record holder of the units;

represents that the transferee has the capacity, power and authority to enter into our partnership agreement;

automatically agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of, and is deemed to have executed, our partnership agreement; and

gives the consents, approvals and waivers contained in our partnership agreement, such as the approval of all transactions and agreements that we are entering into in connection with our formation.

A transferee will become a substituted limited partner of our partnership for the transferred units automatically upon the recording of the transfer on our books and records. Our general partner will cause any transfers to be recorded on our books and records no less frequently than quarterly.

We may, at our discretion, treat the nominee holder of a unit as the absolute owner. In that case, the beneficial holder's rights are limited solely to those that it has against the nominee holder as a result of any agreement between the beneficial owner and the nominee holder.

Units are securities and are transferable according to the laws governing transfers of securities. In addition to other rights acquired upon transfer, the transferor gives the transferee the right to become a limited partner in our partnership for the transferred units.

Until a unit has been transferred on our books, we and the transfer agent, notwithstanding any notice to the contrary, may treat the record holder of the unit as the absolute owner for all purposes, except as otherwise required by law or stock exchange regulations.

***Non-Citizen Assignees; Redemption***

For a discussion of our general partner's ability to redeem the units held by persons other than U.S. citizens, please read Material Provisions of our Partnership Agreement Non-Citizen Assignees; Redemption.

**CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY**

Set forth below is a summary of our cash distribution policy, including a description of the significant provisions of our partnership agreement that relate to cash distributions as well as a description of restrictions on our ability to make



cash distributions.

**General**

*Rationale for Our Cash Distribution Policy*

Our cash distribution policy reflects a basic judgment that our unitholders will be better served by distributing our available cash rather than retaining it. The amount of available cash will be determined by our

## **Table of Contents**

general partner for each fiscal quarter. Our cash distribution policy is consistent with the terms of our partnership agreement, which requires that we distribute all of our available cash on a quarterly basis.

Under our partnership agreement, available cash is defined generally to mean, cash on hand at the end of each quarter, plus working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter, less cash reserves determined by our general partner, in its sole discretion, to be necessary and appropriate to provide for the conduct of our business (including reserves for future capital expenditures, future debt service requirements, and our anticipated capital needs), comply with applicable law, any of our debt instruments or other agreements or provide for future distributions to our unitholders for any one of the upcoming four quarters. Because we are not subject to an entity-level federal income tax, we have more cash to distribute to our unitholders than would be the case if we were subject to such tax.

### ***Limitations on our Ability to Make Quarterly Distributions***

There is no guarantee that unitholders will receive quarterly distributions from us. Our cash distribution policy is subject to limitations and restrictions, including the following:

Our general partner has broad discretion to establish reserves for the prudent conduct of our business. The establishment of those reserves could result in a reduction in the amount of cash available to pay distributions.

Our ability to make distributions of available cash will depend primarily on our cash flow from operations. Although our partnership agreement provides for quarterly distributions of available cash, we may be unable to make distributions to our unitholders.

If we fail to make acquisitions on economically attractive terms, we will not be able to replace our declining oil and natural gas reserves at a level that allows us to maintain our current quarterly distribution.

We will be prohibited from borrowing under our revolving credit facility to make distributions to unitholders if the amount of borrowing outstanding under our revolving credit facility reaches or exceeds 90% of our borrowing base. Further, we may enter into future debt arrangements that could subject our ability to pay distributions to compliance with certain tests or ratios or otherwise restrict our ability to pay distributions.

Under Section 17-607 of the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act, we may not make a distribution to you if the distribution could cause our liabilities to exceed the fair value of our assets.

Although our partnership agreement requires us to distribute our available cash, our partnership agreement, including the provisions requiring us to make cash distributions contained therein, may be amended. Our partnership agreement can be amended with the approval of a majority of the outstanding units. Our Founding Investors, including members of our management, own an aggregate of 43% of the outstanding units, and acting jointly have the ability to amend our partnership agreement.

### ***Our Cash Distribution Policy May Limit Our Ability to Grow***

Because we distribute all of our available cash, our growth may not be as fast as that of businesses that reinvest most or all of their available cash to expand ongoing operations. We generally intend to rely upon external financing sources, including borrowings under our revolving credit facility and issuances of debt and equity securities, to fund a substantial portion of our acquisition expenditures and a portion of our development project capital expenditures. However, to the extent we are unable to finance growth externally, our cash distribution policy will significantly impair our ability to grow.

***Our Cash Distribution Policy***

Our partnership agreement provides for the distribution of available cash on a quarterly basis. Available cash for any quarter consists of cash on hand at the end of that quarter, plus working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter, less cash reserves determined by our general partner in its sole discretion, to be

## **Table of Contents**

necessary and appropriate to provide for the conduct of our business (including reserves for future capital expenditures, future debt service requirements, and our anticipated capital needs), comply with applicable law, any of our debt instruments or other agreements or provide for future cash distributions to our unitholders for any one of the upcoming four quarters. The amount of available cash will be determined by our general partner for each calendar quarter of our operations.

### **Definition of Available Cash**

Available cash is defined in our partnership agreement and generally means, for each fiscal quarter, all cash on hand at the end of the quarter:

less the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner, in its sole discretion, to:

provide for the proper conduct of our business (including reserves for future capital expenditures, future debt service requirements, and for our anticipated credit needs);

comply with applicable law, any of our debt instruments or other agreements; or

provide funds for distribution to our unitholders for any one or more of the next four quarters;

plus all cash on hand on the date of determination of available cash for the quarter resulting from working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter for which the determination is being made. Working capital borrowings are generally borrowings that will be made under our revolving credit facility and in all cases are used solely for working capital purposes or to pay distributions to unitholders.

### **Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation**

If we dissolve in accordance with our partnership agreement, we will sell or otherwise dispose of our assets in a process called liquidation. We will first apply the proceeds of liquidation to the payment of our creditors. We will distribute any remaining proceeds to the unitholders and our general partner, in accordance with their capital account balances, as adjusted to reflect any gain or loss upon the sale or other disposition of our assets in liquidation.

### **Adjustments to Capital Accounts**

We will make adjustments to capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units. In doing so, we will allocate any unrealized and, for tax purposes, unrecognized gain or loss resulting from the adjustments to the unitholders and our general partner in the same manner as we allocate gain or loss upon liquidation.

## **MATERIAL PROVISIONS OF OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

The following is a summary of the material provisions of our partnership agreement.

We summarize the following provisions of our partnership agreement elsewhere in this prospectus:

with regard to distributions of available cash, please read [Cash Distribution Policy](#) ;

with regard to the fiduciary duties of our general partner, please read [Conflicts of Interest and Fiduciary Duties](#) ;

with regard to the transfer of units, please read [Description of Our Units](#) [Transfer of Units](#) ; and

with regard to allocations of taxable income and taxable loss, please read Material Tax Considerations.

**Organization and Duration**

We were organized in October 2005 and will have a perpetual existence.

**Table of Contents**

**Purpose**

Our purpose under the partnership agreement is to engage in any business activities that are approved by our general partner. Our general partner, however, may not cause us to engage in any business activities that it determines would cause us to be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. Our general partner is authorized in general to perform all acts it determines to be necessary or appropriate to carry out our purposes and to conduct our business.

**Power of Attorney**

Each limited partner, and each person who acquires a unit from a unitholder, by accepting the unit, automatically grants to our general partner and, if appointed, a liquidator, a power of attorney, among other things, to execute and file documents required for our qualification, continuance or dissolution. The power of attorney also grants our general partner the authority to amend, and to grant consents and waivers on behalf of the limited partners under, our partnership agreement. Please read [Amendment of the Partnership Agreement](#) below.

**Capital Contributions**

Unitholders are not obligated to make additional capital contributions, except as described below under [Limited Liability](#).

**Voting Rights**

The following is a summary of the unitholder vote required for the matters specified below. Matters requiring the approval of a unit majority require the approval of a majority of the units.

In voting their units, our general partner and its affiliates will have no fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or the limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us or the limited partners.

Issuance of additional units	No approval right.
Amendment of the partnership agreement	Certain amendments may be made by our general partner without the approval of our unitholders. Other amendments generally require the approval of a unit majority. Please read <a href="#">Amendment of the Partnership Agreement</a> .
Merger of our partnership or the sale of all or substantially all of our assets	Unit majority in certain circumstances. Please read <a href="#">Merger, Sale or Other Disposition of Assets</a> . Unit majority if such amendment or other action would adversely affect our limited partners in any material respect. Please read <a href="#">Amendment of the Partnership Agreement</a> of the limited partnership agreement of our operating partnership and other action taken by us as the sole member of its general partner <a href="#">Action Relating to the Operating Partnership and its General Partner</a> .
Dissolution of our partnership	Unit majority. Please read <a href="#">Termination and Dissolution</a> .
Continuation of our partnership upon dissolution	Unit majority. Please read <a href="#">Termination and Dissolution</a> .

Withdrawal of our general partner

Under most circumstances, the approval of a unit majority, excluding units held by our general partner and its affiliates, is required for the withdrawal of our general partner prior to March 31, 2016

**Table of Contents**

in a manner that would cause a dissolution of our partnership. Please read  
Withdrawal or Removal of the General Partner.

Removal of the general partner Not less than 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % of our outstanding units, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates. Please read Withdrawal or Removal of the General Partner.

Transfer of the general partner interest Our general partner may transfer all, but not less than all, of its general partner interest in us without a vote of our unitholders to an affiliate or another person in connection with its merger or consolidation with or into, or sale of all or substantially all of its assets, to such person. The approval of a majority of the units, excluding units held by the general partner and its affiliates, is required in other circumstances for a transfer of the general partner interest to a third party prior to March 31, 2016. Please read Transfer of General Partner Interest. No approval required at any time.

Transfer of ownership interests in our general partner Please read Transfer of Ownership Interests in the General Partner.

**Limited Liability**

***Participation in the Control of Our Partnership***

Assuming that a limited partner does not participate in the control of our business within the meaning of the Delaware Act and that he otherwise acts in conformity with the provisions of the partnership agreement, his liability under the Delaware Act will be limited, subject to possible exceptions, to the amount of capital he is obligated to contribute to us for his units plus his share of any undistributed profits and assets. If it were determined, however, that the right, or exercise of the right, by the limited partners as a group:

- to remove or replace the general partner;
- to approve some amendments to the partnership agreement; or
- to take other action under the partnership agreement;

constituted participation in the control of our business for the purposes of the Delaware Act, then the limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under the laws of Delaware, to the same extent as the general partner. This liability would extend to persons who transact business with us who reasonably believe that the limited partner is a general partner. Neither the partnership agreement nor the Delaware Act specifically provides for legal recourse against the general partner if a limited partner were to lose limited liability through any fault of the general partner. While this does not mean that a limited partner could not seek legal recourse, we know of no precedent for this type of a claim in Delaware case law.

***Unlawful Partnership Distribution***

Under the Delaware Act, a limited partnership may not make a distribution to a partner if, after the distribution, all liabilities of the limited partnership, other than liabilities to partners on account of their partnership interests and liabilities for which the recourse of creditors is limited to specific property of the partnership, would exceed the fair value of the assets of the limited partnership. For the purpose of determining the fair value of the assets of a limited



partnership, the Delaware Act provides that the fair value of property subject to liability for which recourse of creditors is limited shall be included in the assets of the limited partnership only to the extent that the fair value of that property exceeds the nonrecourse liability. The Delaware Act provides that a limited partner who receives a distribution and knew at the time of the distribution that the distribution was in violation of the Delaware Act shall be liable to the limited partnership

## **Table of Contents**

for the amount of the distribution for three years. Under the Delaware Act, a substituted limited partner of a limited partnership is liable for the obligations of the transferring limited partner to make contributions to the partnership, except that such person is not obligated for liabilities unknown to him at the time he became a limited partner and that could not be ascertained from the partnership agreement.

### ***Failure to Comply with the Limited Liability Provisions of Jurisdictions in Which We Do Business***

Our subsidiaries may be deemed to conduct business in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Alabama, Mississippi, Wyoming, North Dakota, Colorado and Arkansas. Our subsidiaries may conduct business in other states in the future. Maintenance of our limited liability as a limited partner of our operating partnership may require compliance with legal requirements in the jurisdictions in which the operating partnership conducts business, including qualifying our subsidiaries to do business there.

Limitations on the liability of limited partners for the obligations of a limited partner have not been clearly established in many jurisdictions. If, by virtue of our limited partner interest in the operating partnership or otherwise, it were determined that we were conducting business in any state without compliance with the applicable limited partnership or limited liability company statute, or that the right or exercise of the right by the limited partners as a group to remove or replace the general partner, to approve some amendments to the partnership agreement, or to take other action under the partnership agreement constituted participation in the control of our business for purposes of the statutes of any relevant jurisdiction, then the limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under the law of that jurisdiction to the same extent as the general partner under the circumstances. We will operate in a manner that the general partner considers reasonable and necessary or appropriate to preserve the limited liability of the limited partners.

### **Issuance of Additional Securities**

Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of additional partnership securities for the consideration and on the terms and conditions determined by our general partner without the approval of the unitholders.

It is possible that we will fund acquisitions through the issuance of additional units or other partnership securities. Holders of any additional units we issue will be entitled to share equally with the then-existing holders of units in our distributions of available cash. In addition, the issuance of additional units or other partnership securities may dilute the value of the interests of the then-existing unitholders in our net assets.

In accordance with Delaware law and the provisions of our partnership agreement, we may also issue additional partnership securities that, as determined by our general partner, may have special voting rights to which the units are not entitled. In addition, our partnership agreement does not prohibit the issuance by our subsidiaries of equity securities that may effectively rank senior to the units.

Upon issuance of additional partnership securities, our general partner will be entitled, but not required, to make additional capital contributions to the extent necessary to maintain its initial 0.1% general partner interest in us. Since our March 2006 private equity offering and the related formation transactions our general partner has not elected to make additional capital contributions to maintain its initial 0.1% general partner interest in us. Our general partner's initial 0.1% interest in us has been, and will continue to be reduced, if we issue additional units in the future and our general partner does not contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its general partner interest. Moreover, our general partner will have the right, which it may from time to time assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates, to purchase units or other partnership securities whenever, and on the same terms that, we issue those securities to persons other than our general partner and its affiliates, to the extent necessary to maintain the percentage

interest of the general partner, including such interest represented by units that existed immediately prior to each issuance. Unitholders will not have preemptive rights to acquire additional units or other partnership securities.

**Table of Contents**

**Amendment of the Partnership Agreement**

***General***

Amendments to our partnership agreement may be proposed only by or with the consent of our general partner. Our general partner, however, will have no duty or obligation to propose any amendment and may decline to do so free of any fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or the limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us or the limited partners. In order to adopt a proposed amendment, other than the amendments discussed below, our general partner must seek written approval of the holders of the number of units required to approve the amendment or call a meeting of the limited partners to consider and vote upon the proposed amendment. Except as described below, an amendment must be approved by a unit majority.

***Prohibited Amendments***

No amendment may be made that would:

enlarge the obligations of any limited partner without its consent, unless approved by at least a majority of the type or class of limited partner interests so affected; or

enlarge the obligations of, restrict in any way any action by or rights of, or reduce in any way the amounts distributable, reimbursable or otherwise payable by us to our general partner or any of its affiliates without the consent of our general partner, which consent may be given or withheld at its option.

The provision of our partnership agreement preventing the amendments having the effects described in any of the clauses above can only be amended upon the approval of the holders of at least 90% of the outstanding units voting together at a single class (including units owned by our general partner and its affiliates). Affiliates of our general partner, including members of our management, own an aggregate of 43% of our outstanding units.

***No Unitholder Approval***

Our general partner may generally make amendments to our partnership agreement without the approval of any limited partner or assignee to reflect:

change in our name, the location of our principal place of business, our registered agent or our registered office;

the admission, substitution, withdrawal or removal of partners in accordance with our partnership agreement;

a change that our general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate to qualify or continue our qualification as a limited partnership or a partnership in which the limited partners have limited liability under the laws of any state or to ensure that neither we nor the operating partnership nor any of its subsidiaries will be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for federal income tax purposes;

an amendment that is necessary, in the opinion of our counsel, to prevent us or our general partner or its directors, officers, agents or trustees from in any manner being subjected to the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Investment Advisors Act of 1940, or plan asset regulations adopted under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, or ERISA, whether or not substantially similar to plan asset regulations currently applied or proposed;

an amendment that our general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate for the authorization of additional partnership securities or rights to acquire partnership securities;

any amendment expressly permitted in our partnership agreement to be made by our general partner acting alone;

**Table of Contents**

an amendment effected, necessitated or contemplated by a merger agreement that has been approved under the terms of our partnership agreement;

any amendment that our general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate for the formation by us of, or our investment in, any corporation, partnership or other entity, as otherwise permitted by our partnership agreement;

a change in our fiscal year or taxable year and related changes;

certain mergers or conveyances as set forth in our partnership agreement; or

any other amendments substantially similar to any of the matters described in the clauses above.

In addition, our general partner may make amendments to our partnership agreement without the approval of any limited partner or transferee in connection with a merger or consolidation approved in connection with our partnership agreement, or if our general partner determines that those amendments:

do not adversely affect the limited partners (or any particular class of limited partners) in any material respect;

are necessary or appropriate to satisfy any requirements, conditions or guidelines contained in any opinion, directive, order, ruling or regulation of any federal or state agency or judicial authority or contained in any federal or state statute;

are necessary or appropriate to facilitate the trading of limited partner interests or to comply with any rule, regulation, guideline or requirement of any securities exchange on which the limited partner interests are or will be listed for trading;

are necessary or appropriate for any action taken by our general partner relating to splits or combinations of units under the provisions of our partnership agreement; or

are required to effect the intent expressed in this prospectus or the intent of the provisions of our partnership agreement or are otherwise contemplated by our partnership agreement.

***Opinion of Counsel and Unitholder Approval***

Our general partner will not be required to obtain an opinion of counsel that an amendment will not result in a loss of limited liability to the limited partners or result in our being treated as an entity for federal income tax purposes in connection with any of the amendments described under **No Unitholder Approval**. No other amendments to our partnership agreement will become effective without the approval of holders of at least 90% of the outstanding units voting as a single class unless we first obtain an opinion of counsel to the effect that the amendment will not affect the limited liability under applicable law of any of our limited partners.

In addition to the above restrictions, any amendment that would have a material adverse effect on the rights or preferences of any type or class of outstanding units in relation to other classes of units will require the approval of at least a majority of the type or class of units so affected. Any amendment that reduces the voting percentage required to take any action is required to be approved by the affirmative vote of limited partners whose aggregate outstanding units constitute not less than the voting requirement sought to be reduced.

***Action Relating to the Operating Partnership and its General Partner***

Without the approval of the holders of units representing a unit majority, our general partner is prohibited from consenting on our behalf, as the sole limited partner of the operating partnership, and the sole member of its general partner, to any amendment to the limited partnership agreement or limited liability company agreement of either such entities or taking any action on our behalf permitted to be taken by a limited partner of the operating partnership or a member of its general partner, in each case, that would adversely effect our limited partners (or any particular class of limited partners) in any material respect.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Merger, Sale or Other Disposition of Assets**

A merger or consolidation of us requires the prior consent of our general partner. Our general partner, however, will have no duty or obligation to consent to any merger or consolidation and may decline to do so free of any fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or the limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interest of us or the limited partners. In addition, the partnership agreement generally prohibits our general partner without the prior approval of the holders of a unit majority, from causing us, among other things, to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets in a single transaction or a series of related transactions, including by way of merger, consolidation or other combination, or approving on our behalf the sale, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of our subsidiaries. Our general partner may, however, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or grant a security interest in all or substantially all of our assets without that approval. Our general partner may also sell all or substantially all of our assets under a foreclosure or other realization upon those encumbrances without that approval. Finally, our general partner may consummate any merger without the prior approval of our unitholders if we are the surviving entity in the transaction, the transaction would not result in an amendment to our partnership agreement that could not otherwise be adopted solely by our general partner, each of our units will be an identical unit of our partnership following the transaction, and the units to be issued do not exceed 20% of our outstanding units immediately prior to the transaction.

If the conditions specified in the partnership agreement are satisfied, our general partner may convert us or any of our subsidiaries into a new limited liability entity or merge us or any of our subsidiaries into, or convey all of our assets to, a newly formed entity if the sole purpose of that merger or conveyance is to effect a mere change in our legal form into another limited liability entity. The unitholders are not entitled to dissenters' rights of appraisal under the partnership agreement or applicable Delaware law in the event of a conversion, merger or consolidation, a sale of substantially all of our assets or any other transaction or event.

### **Termination and Dissolution**

We will continue as a limited partnership until terminated under our partnership agreement. We will dissolve upon:

the election of our general partner to dissolve us, if approved by the holders of units representing a unit majority;

there being no limited partners, unless we are continued without dissolution in accordance with applicable Delaware law;

the entry of a decree of judicial dissolution of our partnership; or

the withdrawal or removal of our general partner or any other event that results in its ceasing to be our general partner other than by reason of a transfer of its general partner interest in accordance with our partnership agreement or withdrawal or removal following approval and admission of a successor.

Upon a dissolution under the last bullet point above, the holders of a unit majority may also elect, within specific time limitations, to continue our business on the same terms and conditions described in our partnership agreement by appointing as a successor general partner an entity approved by the holders of units representing a unit majority, subject to our receipt of an opinion of counsel to the effect that:

the action would not result in the loss of limited liability of any limited partner; and



none of us, our operating partnership or any of our other subsidiaries, would be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise be taxable as an entity for federal income tax purposes upon the exercise of that right to continue.

**Liquidation and Distribution of Proceeds**

Upon our dissolution, unless we are reconstituted and continued as a new limited partnership, the liquidator authorized to wind up our affairs will, acting with all of the powers of our general partner that are

## **Table of Contents**

necessary or appropriate to liquidate our assets and apply the proceeds of the liquidation as provided in **How We Make Cash Distributions** **Distributions of Cash upon Liquidation**. The liquidator may defer liquidation or distribution of our assets for a reasonable period of time or distribute assets to partners in kind if it determines that a sale would be impractical or would cause undue loss to our partners.

### **Withdrawal or Removal of the General Partner**

Except as described below, our general partner has agreed not to withdraw voluntarily as our general partner prior to March 31, 2016 without obtaining the approval of the holders of at least a majority of the outstanding units, excluding units held by the general partner and its affiliates, and furnishing an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. On or after March 31, 2016, our general partner may withdraw as general partner without first obtaining approval of any unitholder by giving 90 days' written notice, and that withdrawal will not constitute a violation of our partnership agreement. Notwithstanding the information above, our general partner may withdraw without unitholder approval upon 90 days' notice to the limited partners if at least 50% of the outstanding units are held or controlled by one person and its affiliates other than the general partner and its affiliates. In addition, the partnership agreement permits our general partner in some instances to sell or otherwise transfer all of its general partner interest in us without the approval of the unitholders. Please read **Transfer of General Partner Interest**.

Upon withdrawal of our general partner under any circumstances, other than as a result of a transfer by our general partner of all or a part of its general partner interest in us, the holders of a unit majority may select a successor to that withdrawing general partner. If a successor is not elected, or is elected but an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters cannot be obtained, we will be dissolved, wound up and liquidated, unless within a specified period after that withdrawal, the holders of a unit majority agree in writing to continue our business and to appoint a successor general partner. Please read **Termination and Dissolution**.

Our general partner may not be removed unless that removal is approved by the vote of the holders of not less than 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % of the outstanding units, voting together as a single class, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates, and we receive an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. Any removal of our general partner is also subject to the approval of a successor general partner by the vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding units. The ownership of more than 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of the outstanding units by our general partner and its affiliates would give them the practical ability to prevent our general partner's removal. Affiliates of our general partner, including members of our management, own an aggregate of 43% of our outstanding units.

Our partnership agreement also provides that if our general partner is removed as our general partner under circumstances where cause does not exist or our general partner withdraws where that withdrawal does not violate our partnership agreement, our general partner will have the right to convert its general partner interest into units or to receive cash in exchange for such interest based on the fair market value of its interest at that time.

In the event of removal of such a general partner under circumstances where cause exists or withdrawal of a general partner where that withdrawal violates our partnership agreement, a successor general partner will have the option to purchase the general partner interest for a cash payment equal to the fair market value of such interest. Under all other circumstances where a general partner withdraws or is removed by the limited partners, the departing general partner will have the option to require the successor general partner to purchase the general partner interest of the departing general partner for fair market value. In each case, this fair market value will be determined by agreement between the departing general partner and the successor general partner. If no agreement is reached, an independent investment banking firm or other independent expert selected by the departing general partner and the successor general partner will determine the fair market value. Or, if the departing general partner and the successor general partner cannot agree upon an expert, then an expert chosen by agreement of the experts selected by each of them will determine the fair market value.

If the option described above is not exercised by either the departing general partner or the successor general partner, the departing general partner's general partner interest will automatically convert into units

## **Table of Contents**

equal to the fair market value of those interests as determined by an investment banking firm or other independent expert selected in the manner described in the preceding paragraph.

In addition, we will be required to reimburse the departing general partner for all amounts due the departing general partner, including, without limitation, all employee-related liabilities, including severance liabilities, incurred for the termination of any employees employed by the departing general partner or its affiliates for our benefit.

## **Transfer of General Partner Interest**

Except for transfer by our general partner of all, but not less than all, of its general partner interest in us to:

an affiliate of our general partner (other than an individual); or

another entity as part of the merger or consolidation of our general partner with or into another entity or the transfer by our general partner of all or substantially all of its assets to another entity,

our general partner may not transfer all or any part of its general partner interest in our partnership to another person prior to March 31, 2016 without the approval of the holders of at least a majority of the outstanding units, excluding units held by our general partner and its affiliates. As a condition of this transfer, the transferee must assume, among other things, the rights and duties of our general partner, agree to be bound by the provisions of our partnership agreement, and furnish an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters.

Our general partner and its affiliates may at any time transfer units to one or more persons without unitholder approval.

## **Transfer of Ownership Interests in the General Partner**

At any time, the members of our general partner may sell or transfer all or part of their membership interest in our general partner to an affiliate or third party without the approval of our unitholders.

## **Change of Management Provisions**

Our partnership agreement contains specific provisions that are intended to discourage a person or group from attempting to remove our general partner or otherwise change our management. If any person or group other than our general partner and its affiliates acquires beneficial ownership of 20% or more of any class of units, that person or group loses voting rights on all of its units. This loss of voting rights does not apply to any person or group that acquires the units from our general partner or its affiliates and any transferees of that person or group approved by our general partner or to any person or group who acquires the units with the prior approval of the board of directors of our general partner.

## **Limited Call Right**

If at any time our general partner and its affiliates own more than 85% of the then-issued and outstanding limited partner interests of any class, our general partner will have the right, which it may assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates or to us, to acquire all, but not less than all, of the remaining partnership securities of the class held by unaffiliated persons as of a record date to be selected by our general partner, on at least 10 but not more than 60 days notice. The purchase price in the event of this purchase is the greater of:

the highest cash price paid by either of our general partner or any of its affiliates for any partnership securities of the class purchased within the 90 days preceding the date on which our general partner first mails notice of its election to purchase those limited partner interests; and

the current market price as of the date three days before the date the notice is mailed.

## **Table of Contents**

As a result of our general partner's right to purchase outstanding partnership securities, a holder of partnership securities may have his partnership securities purchased at an undesirable time or price. Our partnership agreement provides that the resolution of any conflict of interest that is fair and reasonable will not be a breach of the partnership agreement. Our general partner may, but is not obligated to, submit the conflict of interest represented by the exercise of the limited call right to the conflicts committee for approval or seek a fairness opinion from an investment banker. If our general partner exercises its limited call right, it will make a determination at the time, based on the facts and circumstances, and upon the advice of counsel, as to the appropriate method of determining the fairness and reasonableness of the transaction. Our general partner is not obligated to obtain a fairness opinion regarding the value of the units to be repurchased by it upon exercise of the limited call right.

There is no restriction in our partnership agreement that prevents our general partner from issuing additional units and exercising its call right. If our general partner exercised its limited call right, the effect would be to take us private and, if the units were subsequently deregistered, we would no longer be subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

The tax consequences to a unitholder of the exercise of this call right are the same as a sale by that unitholder of his units in the market. Please read [Material Tax Considerations](#) [Disposition of Units](#).

## **Meetings; Voting**

Except as described below regarding a person or group owning 20% or more of any class of units then outstanding, unitholders or transferees who are record holders of units on the record date will be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, meetings of our limited partners and to act upon matters for which approvals may be solicited. Units that are owned by an assignee who is a record holder, but who has not yet been admitted as a limited partner, will be voted by our general partner at the written direction of the record holder. Absent direction of this kind, the units will not be voted, except that, in the case of units held by our general partner on behalf of non-citizen assignees, our general partner will distribute the votes on those units in the same ratios as the votes of limited partners on other units are cast.

Our unitholders, including the general partner and its affiliates, are entitled to elect all of the directors of our general partner. The limited liability company agreement of our general partner provides for a seven member board of directors. Our partnership agreement provides that the annual meeting of limited partners for the directors of the board of our general partner shall be held on the second Wednesday of May or at such other date and time as may be fixed by our general partner.

Additionally, any action that is required or permitted to be taken by the unitholders may be taken either at a meeting of the unitholders or without a meeting if consents in writing describing the action so taken are signed by holders of the number of units necessary to authorize or take that action at a meeting. Meetings of the unitholders may be called by our general partner or by unitholders owning at least 20% of the outstanding units of the class for which a meeting is proposed. Unitholders may vote either in person or by proxy at meetings. The holders of a majority of the outstanding units of the class or classes for which a meeting has been called represented in person or by proxy will constitute a quorum unless any action by the unitholders requires approval by holders of a greater percentage of the units, in which case the quorum will be the greater percentage.

Each record holder of a unit has a vote according to his percentage interest in us, although additional limited partner interests having special voting rights could be issued. Please read [Issuance of Additional Securities](#). However, if at any time any person or group, other than our general partner and its affiliates, or a direct or subsequently approved transferee of our general partner or its affiliates, acquires, in the aggregate, beneficial ownership of 20% or more of any class of units then outstanding, that person or group will lose voting rights on all of its units and the units may not

be voted on any matter and will not be considered to be outstanding when sending notices of a meeting of unitholders, calculating required votes, determining the presence of a quorum or for other similar purposes. Units held in nominee or street name account will be voted by the broker or other nominee in accordance with the instruction of the beneficial owner unless the arrangement between the beneficial owner and his nominee provides otherwise.

## **Table of Contents**

Any notice, demand, request, report or proxy material required or permitted to be given or made to record holders of units under our partnership agreement will be delivered to the record holder by us or by the transfer agent.

## **Status as Limited Partner**

By transfer of units in accordance with our partnership agreement, each transferee of units shall be admitted as a limited partner with respect to the units transferred when such transfer and admission is reflected in our books and records. Except as described under Limited Liability, the units will be fully paid, and unitholders will not be required to make additional contributions.

## **Non-Citizen Assignees; Redemption**

If we are or become subject to federal, state or local laws or regulations that, in the reasonable determination of our general partner, create a substantial risk of cancellation or forfeiture of any property that we have an interest in because of the nationality, citizenship or other related status of any limited partner, our general partner may redeem the units held by the limited partner at their current market price. In order to avoid any cancellation or forfeiture, our general partner may require each limited partner to furnish information about his nationality, citizenship or related status. If a limited partner fails to furnish information about his nationality, citizenship or other related status within 30 days after a request for the information or our general partner determines after receipt of the information that the limited partner is not an eligible citizen, our general partner may elect to treat the limited partner as a non-citizen assignee. A non-citizen assignee is entitled to an interest equivalent to that of a limited partner for the right to share in allocations and distributions from us, including liquidating distributions. A non-citizen assignee does not have the right to direct the voting of his units and may not receive distributions in kind upon our liquidation.

## **Indemnification**

Under our partnership agreement, in most circumstances, we will indemnify the following persons, to the fullest extent permitted by law, from and against all losses, claims, damages or similar events:

our general partner;

any departing general partner;

any person who is or was an affiliate of a general partner or any departing general partner;

any person who is or was a director, officer, member, partner, fiduciary or trustee of any entity set forth in the preceding three bullet points;

any person who is or was serving as director, officer, member, partner, fiduciary or trustee of another person at the request of our general partner or any departing general partner; and

any person designated by our general partner.

Any indemnification under these provisions will only be out of our assets. Unless it otherwise agrees, our general partner will not be personally liable for, or have any obligation to contribute or loan funds or assets to us to enable us to effectuate, indemnification. We may purchase insurance against liabilities asserted against and expenses incurred by persons for our activities, regardless of whether we would have the power to indemnify the person against liabilities under our partnership agreement.



**Reimbursement of Expenses**

Our partnership agreement requires us to reimburse our general partner for all direct and indirect expenses it incurs or payments it makes on our behalf and all other expenses allocable to us or otherwise incurred by our general partner in connection with operating our business. These expenses include salary, bonus, incentive compensation and other amounts paid to persons who perform services for us or on our behalf and expenses

## **Table of Contents**

allocated to our general partner by its affiliates. The general partner is entitled to determine in good faith the expenses that are allocable to us.

## **Books and Reports**

Our general partner is required to keep appropriate books of our business at our principal offices. The books will be maintained for both tax and financial reporting purposes on an accrual basis. For tax and financial reporting purposes, our fiscal year is the calendar year.

We will furnish or make available to record holders of units, within 120 days after the close of each fiscal year, an annual report containing audited financial statements and a report on those financial statements by our independent public accountants. Except for our fourth quarter, we will also furnish summary financial information within 90 days after the close of each quarter.

We will furnish each record holder of a unit with information reasonably required for tax reporting purposes within 90 days after the close of each calendar year. This information is expected to be furnished in summary form so that some complex calculations normally required of partners can be avoided. Our ability to furnish this summary information to unitholders will depend on the cooperation of unitholders in supplying us with specific information. Every unitholder will receive information to assist him in determining his federal and state tax liability and filing his federal and state income tax returns, regardless of whether he supplies us with information.

## **Right to Inspect Our Books and Records**

Our partnership agreement provides that a limited partner can, for a purpose reasonably related to his interest as a limited partner, upon reasonable demand and at his own expense, have furnished to him:

a current list of the name and last known address of each partner;

a copy of our tax returns;

information as to the amount of cash, and a description and statement of the agreed value of any other property or services, contributed or to be contributed by each partner and the date on which each partner became a partner;

copies of our partnership agreement, our certificate of limited partnership, related amendments and powers of attorney under which they have been executed;

information regarding the status of our business and financial condition; and

any other information regarding our affairs as is just and reasonable.

Our general partner may, and intends to, keep confidential from the limited partners trade secrets or other information the disclosure of which our general partner believes in good faith is not in our best interests or that we are required by law or by agreements with third parties to keep confidential.

## **DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES**

Any debt securities that we offer under a prospectus supplement will be direct, unsecured general obligations. The debt securities will be either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities. The debt securities will be issued

under one or more separate indentures between us and a banking or financial institution, as trustee. Senior debt securities will be issued under a senior indenture, and subordinated debt securities will be issued under a subordinated indenture. Together, the senior indenture and the subordinated indenture are called the indentures. The indentures will be supplemented by supplemental indentures, the material provisions of which will be described in a prospectus supplement.

As used in this description, the words Legacy, we, us and our refer to Legacy Reserves LP, and not to any of its subsidiaries or affiliates.

## **Table of Contents**

We have summarized some of the material provisions of the indentures below. This summary does not restate those agreements in their entirety. A form of senior indenture and a form of subordinated indenture have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. We urge you to read each of the indentures because each one, and not this description, defines the rights of holders of debt securities.

Capitalized terms defined in the indentures have the same meanings when used in this prospectus.

### **General**

The debt securities issued under the indentures will be our direct, unsecured general obligations. The senior debt securities will rank equally with all of our other senior and unsubordinated debt. The subordinated debt securities will have a junior position to all of our senior debt.

All of our assets are held by our operating subsidiaries. With respect to these assets, holders of senior debt securities that are not guaranteed by our operating subsidiaries and holders of subordinated debt securities will have a position junior to the prior claims of creditors of these subsidiaries, including trade creditors, debtholders, secured creditors, taxing authorities and guarantee holders, and any preferred unitholders, except to the extent that we may ourselves be a creditor with recognized claims against any subsidiary. Our ability to pay the principal, premium, if any, and interest on any debt securities is, to a large extent, dependent upon the payment to us by our subsidiaries of dividends, debt principal and interest or other charges.

The following description sets forth the general terms and provisions that could apply to debt securities that we may offer to sell. A prospectus supplement and a supplemental indenture relating to any series of debt securities being offered will include specific terms relating to the offering. These terms will include some or all of the following:

the title and type of the debt securities;

the total principal amount of the debt securities;

the percentage of the principal amount at which the debt securities will be issued and any payments due if the maturity of the debt securities is accelerated;

the dates on which the principal of the debt securities will be payable;

the interest rate which the debt securities will bear and the interest payment dates for the debt securities;

any conversion or exchange features;

any optional redemption periods;

any sinking fund or other provisions that would obligate us to repurchase or otherwise redeem some or all of the debt securities;

any provisions granting special rights to holders when a specified event occurs;

any changes to or additional events of default or covenants;

any special tax implications of the debt securities, including provisions for original issue discount securities, if offered; and

any other terms of the debt securities.

Neither of the indentures will limit the amount of debt securities that may be issued. Each indenture will allow debt securities to be issued up to the principal amount that may be authorized by us and may be in any currency or currency unit designated by us.

Debt securities of a series may be issued in registered, coupon or global form.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Subsidiary Guarantees**

If the applicable prospectus supplement relating to a series of our senior debt securities provides that those senior debt securities will have the benefit of a guarantee by any or all of our operating subsidiaries, payment of the principal, premium, if any, and interest on those senior debt securities will be unconditionally guaranteed on an unsecured, unsubordinated basis by such subsidiary or subsidiaries, and such guarantees will be joint and several. The guarantee of senior debt securities will rank equally in right of payment with all of the unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of such subsidiary or subsidiaries.

If the applicable prospectus supplement relating to a series of our subordinated debt securities provides that those subordinated debt securities will have the benefit of a guarantee by any or all of our operating subsidiaries, payment of the principal, premium, if any, and interest on those subordinated debt securities will be unconditionally guaranteed on an unsecured, subordinated basis by such subsidiary or subsidiaries, and such guarantees will be joint and several. The guarantee of the subordinated debt securities will be subordinated in right of payment to all of such subsidiary or subsidiaries existing and future senior indebtedness (as defined in the related prospectus supplement), including any guarantee of the senior debt securities, to the same extent and in the same manner as the subordinated debt securities are subordinated to our senior indebtedness (as defined in the related prospectus supplement). See Subordination below.

The obligations of our operating subsidiaries under any such guarantee will be limited as necessary to prevent the guarantee from constituting a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under applicable law.

### **Covenants**

Under the indentures, we:

will pay the principal of, interest and any premium on, the debt securities when due;

will maintain a place of payment;

will deliver a certificate to the trustee at the end of each fiscal year reviewing our obligations under the indentures;

will preserve our existence; and

will deposit sufficient funds with any paying agent on or before the due date for any principal, interest or premium.

### **Mergers and Sale of Assets**

Each of the indentures will provide that we may not consolidate with or merge into any other Person or sell, convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our properties and assets (on a consolidated basis) to another Person, unless:

either: (a) Legacy is the surviving Person; or (b) the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation, amalgamation or merger or resulting from such conversion (if other than Legacy) or to which such sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition has been made is a corporation, limited liability company or limited partnership organized or existing under the laws of the United States, any state of the United States or the District of Columbia;

the Person formed by or surviving any such conversion, consolidation, amalgamation or merger (if other than Legacy) or the Person to which such sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition has been made assumes all of the obligations of Legacy under such indenture and the debt securities governed thereby pursuant to agreements reasonably satisfactory to the trustee;

we or the successor will not immediately be in default under such indenture; and

we deliver an officer's certificate and opinion of counsel to the trustee stating that such consolidation or merger complies with such indenture and that all conditions precedent set forth in such indenture have been complied with.

**Table of Contents**

Upon the assumption of our obligations under each indenture by a successor, we will be discharged from all obligations under such indenture.

As used in the indenture and in this description, the word *Person* means any individual, corporation, company, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, joint venture, association, joint-stock company, trust, other entity, unincorporated organization or government or any agency or political subdivision thereof.

**Events of Default**

*Event of default*, when used in the indentures, with respect to debt securities of any series, will mean any of the following:

- (1) default in the payment of any interest upon any debt security of that series when it becomes due and payable, and continuance of such default for a period of 30 days;
- (2) default in the payment of the principal of (or premium, if any, on) any debt security of that series at its maturity;
- (3) default in the performance, or breach, of any covenant set forth in Article Ten of the applicable indenture (other than a covenant a default in whose performance or whose breach is elsewhere specifically dealt with as an event of default or which has expressly been included in such indenture solely for the benefit of one or more series of debt securities other than that series), and continuance of such default or breach for a period of 90&#1