Atlas Resource Partners, L.P.
Form 424B5
April 07, 2015
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As Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
Registration No. 333-193727

This preliminary prospectus supplement relates to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, but the information herein is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell the securities described herein and are not soliciting offers to buy such securities in any jurisdiction where such offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED APRIL 7, 2015

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To Prospectus dated February 3, 2014)

Atlas Resource Partners, L.P.

UNITS

% CLASS E CUMULATIVE REDEEMABLE PERPETUAL PREFERRED UNITS

(Liquidation Preference $25.00 per Unit)

We are offering units of our % Class E Cumulative Redeemable Perpetual Preferred Units, or the Class E Preferred Units, with a liquidation preference of $25.00 per Class E Preferred Unit.

Distributions on the Class E Preferred Units are cumulative from the date of original issue and will be payable quarterly in arrears on January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15 of each year, when, as and if declared by the board of directors of our general partner, which we refer to as the Board. The initial distribution on the Class E Preferred Units offered hereby will be payable on in an amount equal to $ per unit. Distributions on the Class E Preferred Units will be payable out of amounts legally available therefor at an initial rate equal to % per annum of the stated liquidation preference.

At any time on or after , 2020, we may redeem the Class E Preferred Units, in whole or in part, out of amounts legally available therefor, at a redemption price of $25.00 per unit plus an amount equal to all accumulated and unpaid distributions thereon to the date of redemption, whether or not declared. We may also

redeem the Class E Preferred Units upon a Change of Control as described in The Offering Change of Control.

The Class E Preferred Units will rank on parity with our outstanding Convertible Class B Preferred Units, or the Class B Preferred Units, and our 8.625% Class D Cumulative Redeemable Perpetual Preferred Units, or the Class D Preferred Units, and senior to our outstanding Convertible Class C Preferred Units, or the Class C Preferred Units, with respect to distributions and distributions upon a liquidation event.

No market currently exists for the Class E Preferred Units. We intend to apply to have the Class E Preferred Units listed on the New York Stock Exchange, or the NYSE, under the symbol ARPPrE. If the application is approved, we expect trading of the Class E Preferred Units on the NYSE to begin within 30 days after their original issue date.

Investing in our Class E Preferred Units involves risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page S-8 of this prospectus supplement and on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Class E Preferred Unit	Total
Price to public	$	$
Underwriting discount	$	$
Proceeds to us, before expenses	$	$

We have granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to an additional Class E Preferred Units at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount, within 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement solely to cover over-allotments, if any.

The underwriters expect to deliver the Class E Preferred Units in book-entry form only, through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company, or the DTC, on or about , 2015.

Joint Bookrunners

MLV & Co.

Ladenburg Thalmann

National Securities Corporation

Northland Capital Markets

U.S. Capital Advisors

Prospectus Supplement dated , 2015

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In making your investment decision, you should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We have not authorized any other person to provide you with any other information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it.

You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of those documents. You should not assume that the information contained in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates of those documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

We expect delivery of the Class E Preferred Units will be made against payment therefor on or about , 2015, which will be the fifth business day following the date of pricing of the Class E Preferred Units (such settlement being referred to as T+5). Under Rule 15c6-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in three business days unless the parties to any such trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, purchasers who wish to trade the Class E Preferred Units will be required, by virtue of the fact that the Class E Preferred Units initially will settle in T+5, to specify an alternate settlement cycle at the time of any such trade to prevent failed settlement and should consult their own advisers.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of the Class E Preferred Units and adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into the accompanying prospectus. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering.

If the description of the Partnership or the offering varies between this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement. In addition, any statement in a filing that we make with the SEC that adds to, updates or changes information contained in an earlier filing that we made with the SEC shall be deemed to modify and supersede such information in the earlier filing.

Unless otherwise noted or indicated by the context, in this prospectus supplement:

the terms the Partnership, we, our and us refer to Atlas Resource Partners, L.P. and its subsidiaries;

the term our general partner refers to Atlas Energy Group, LLC, (Atlas Energy Group NYSE: ATLS); and

we refer to natural gas liquids, such as ethane, propane, normal butane, isobutane and natural gasoline, as NGLs .

SPECIAL NOTE ON FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND RISK FACTORS

Certain sections of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain statements reflecting our views about our future performance and constitute forward-looking statements. We and our representatives may, from time to time, make written or oral forward-looking statements, including statements contained in our filings with the SEC and in our reports to security holders. Generally, the inclusion of the words believe, expect, intend, estimate, project, anticipate, will and similar expressions identify statements that constitute forward-looking statements. All statements addressing operating performance of us or any subsidiary, events or developments that we expect or anticipates would occur in the future are forward-looking statements.

These views involve risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict and, accordingly, our actual results may differ materially from the results discussed in such forward-looking statements. Readers should consider the various factors, including those discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 and subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q filed under Risk Factors, Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates, for factors that may affect our performance. The forward-looking statements are and will be based upon management s then-current views and assumptions regarding future events and operating performance, and are applicable only as of the dates of such statements. We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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SUMMARY

This summary highlights information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. It does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in the Class E Preferred Units. You should read carefully this entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference herein and the other documents to which we refer herein and therein for a more complete understanding of this offering.

Please read Risk Factors on page S-8 of this prospectus supplement, on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, as well as our subsequent filings with the SEC incorporated by reference herein, for information regarding risks you should consider before investing in us.

The Company

Our Business

We are a publicly-traded master limited partnership (NYSE: ARP) and an independent developer and producer of natural gas, crude oil and natural gas liquids, with operations in basins across the United States. We are a leading sponsor and manager of tax-advantaged investment partnerships, or Drilling Partnerships, in which we co-invest, to finance a portion of our natural gas, crude oil and natural gas liquids production activities.

We believe we have established a strong track record of growing our reserves, production and cash flows through a balanced mix of natural gas, oil and natural gas liquids exploitation and development, sponsorship of our Drilling Partnerships, and the acquisition of oil and gas properties. Our primary business objective is to generate growing yet stable cash flows through the development and acquisition of mature, long-lived natural gas, oil and natural gas liquids properties. As of December 31, 2014, our estimated proved reserves were 1,429 billion cubic feet equivalent, or Bcfe, including the reserves net to our equity interest in our Drilling Partnerships. Of our estimated proved reserves, approximately 77% were proved developed and approximately 71% were natural gas.

Organizational Structure

We were formed in October 2011 to own and operate substantially all of the exploration and production assets of Atlas Energy, L.P., or ATLS, which were transferred to us on March 5, 2012. At December 31, 2014, ATLS owned 100% of our general partner Class A Units, all of our incentive distribution rights and an approximate 27.7% limited partner interest (20,962,485 common and 3,749,986 Class C Units) in us. On February 27, 2015, ATLS was acquired by Targa Resources Corp. (NYSE: TRGP) through a merger of a wholly-owned subsidiary of Targa Resources Corp. with and into ATLS, referred to herein as the ATLS Merger, and in connection therewith ATLS (a) transferred certain of its assets, including its limited partnership interests in us, to Atlas Energy Group, LLC (NYSE: ATLS), our general partner, referred to herein as Atlas Energy Group, and its affiliates, and (b) distributed to the ATLS unitholders common units of Atlas Energy Group representing a 100% interest in Atlas Energy Group, referred to herein as the Spin-Off.

Following consummation of the ATLS Merger and Spin-Off, Atlas Energy Group owned 100% of our general partner Class A Units, through which it manages and effectively controls us, and, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, New Atlas Holdings, LLC, owned an approximate 27.7% limited partner interest (20,962,485 common and 3,749,986 Class C Units) in us.

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Recent Developments

Distribution Information

On March 26, 2015, we declared a monthly cash distribution for the month of February 2015 of $0.1083 per common limited partner unit to holders of record on April 7, 2015, which will be paid on April 14, 2015.

On March 20, 2015, we declared a quarterly cash distribution for the period ending April 15, 2015 of $0.539063 per Class D Preferred Unit to holders of record on April 1, 2015, which is expected to be paid on April 15, 2015.

Environmental Matters and Regulation

On March 26, 2015, the Department of the Interior s Bureau of Land Management, which we refer to as the BLM, issued a final rule updating the regulations governing hydraulic fracturing on federal and Indian lands. Among the many new requirements, the final rule requires operators planning to conduct hydraulic fracturing to design and implement a casing and cementing program that follows best practices and meets performance standards to protect and isolate usable water, and also requires operators to monitor cementing operations during well completion. Additionally, the final rule requires that companies publicly disclose the chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process, subject to limited exceptions for trade secret materials, using FracFocus; comply with safety standards for storage of produced water in rigid enclosed, covered, or netted and screened above-ground tanks, with very limited exceptions allowing use of pits that must be approved by BLM on a case-by-case basis; and submit detailed information to the BLM on proposed operations, including but not limited to well geology, location of faults and fractures, estimated volume of fluid to be used, and estimated direction and length of fractures. The final rule also provides that for certain circumstances in which specific state or tribal regulations are equally or more protective than the BLM s new rules, the state or tribe may obtain a variance for that specific regulation. The final rule will be effective on June 24, 2015.

Partnership Information

Atlas Resource Partners, L.P. is a Delaware limited partnership formed in October 2011. Our principal executive offices are located at Park Place Corporate Center One, 1000 Commerce Drive, Suite 400, Pittsburgh, PA 15275, and our telephone number is (877) 280-2857. Our website is *www.atlasresourcepartners.com*. Information on our website or any other website is not incorporated by reference herein and does not constitute a part of this prospectus supplement.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see Where You Can Find More Information in this prospectus supplement.

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THE OFFERING

Issuer	Atlas Resource Partners, L.P.
Securities offered	of our % Class E Cumulative Redeemable Perpetual Preferred Units, liquidation preference $25.00 per unit. We have granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional Class E Preferred Units. For a detailed description of the Class E Preferred Units, please read Description of Class E Preferred Units.
Price per unit	$25.00.
Maturity	Perpetual (unless redeemed by us on or after , 2020). See Description of Class E Preferred Units Redemption Optional Redemption.
Distributions	Distributions on the Class E Preferred Units issued in this offering will accrue and be cumulative from the date that the Class E Preferred Units are originally issued and will be payable on each distribution payment date when, as and if declared by the Board out of funds legally available for such purpose.
Distribution payment dates	Quarterly in arrears on January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15 of each year. The initial distribution on the Class E Preferred Units will be payable on , 2015.
Distribution rate	The distribution rate for the Class E Preferred Units will be % per annum of the $25.00 liquidation preference per unit (equal to $ per unit).
Ranking	The Class E Preferred Units will represent perpetual equity interests in us and, unlike our indebtedness, will not give rise to a claim for payment of a principal amount at a particular date. The Class E Preferred Units will rank:

senior to our common units, the Class C Preferred Units and to each other class or series of limited partnership interests or other equity securities established after the original issue date of the Class E Preferred Units that is not expressly made senior to or *pari passu* with the Class E Preferred Units as to the payment of distributions, which we refer to as Junior Securities;

pari passu with our Class B Preferred Units, our Class D Preferred Units and any class or series of limited partnership interests or other equity securities established after the original issue date of the Class E Preferred Units that is not

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	expressly made senior or subordinated to the Class E Preferred Units as to the payment of distributions, which we refer to as Parity Securities;
	junior to all of our existing and future indebtedness (including indebtedness outstanding under our revolving credit facility, as well as our 7.75% senior notes due 2021 and our 9.25% senior notes due 2021, which we refer to collectively as the Senior Notes) and other liabilities with respect to assets available to satisfy claims against us; and
	junior to each other class or series of limited partnership interests or other equity securities established after the original issue date of the Class E Preferred Units that is expressly made senior to the Class E Preferred Units as to the payment of distributions, which we refer to as Senior Securities.
Restrictions on distributions	No distribution may be declared or paid, or set apart for payment, on any Junior Securities (other than a distribution payable solely in Junior Securities) unless full cumulative distributions have been or contemporaneously are being paid or provided for on all outstanding Class E Preferred Units and any Parity Securities through the most recent respective distribution payment dates. In addition, our revolving credit facility and the indentures governing our Senior Notes restrict our ability to make distributions in certain circumstances. See Risk Factors Risks Relating to this Offering The Class E Preferred Units will be subordinated to our existing and future debt obligations and will not limit our ability to incur future indebtedness that will rank senior to our Class E Preferred Units and We cannot assure you that we will be able to pay distributions regularly, and our ability to pay distributions may be limited by agreements governing our indebtedness and cash distribution requirements under our limited partnership agreement.
Optional redemption	In the event of a Change of Control (as set forth in Change of Control, below) or at any time on or after , 2020, we may redeem, in whole or in part, the Class E Preferred Units at a redemption price of $25.00 per unit plus an amount equal to all accumulated and unpaid distributions thereon to the date of redemption, whether or not declared. Any such redemption may be effected only out of funds legally available for such purpose. We must provide not less than 30 days and not more than 60 days written notice of any such redemption. Any such redemption will be subject to compliance with the provisions of our revolving credit facility, the indentures governing our Senior Notes and the terms of other outstanding debt instruments, Parity Securities or

Senior Securities.

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Conversion; exchange and preemptive rights	Except as described under Description of Class E Preferred Units Change of Control, the Class E Preferred Units will not be subject to preemptive rights or be convertible into or exchangeable for any other securities or property.
Change of Control	Upon the occurrence of a Change of Control (as defined below), we may, at our option, redeem the Class E Preferred Units in whole or in part within 120 days after the first date on which such Change of Control occurred, by paying $ per Class E Preferred Unit, plus all accrued and unpaid distributions to the redemption date. If, prior to the delivery of a Change of Control Conversion Notice, we exercise any of our redemption rights relating to the Class E Preferred Units, holders of the Class E Preferred Units will not have the conversion right described under Description of Class E Preferred Units Change of Control. However, any cash payment upon a Change of Control may not be made unless (i) we have first complied with the Change of Control and Limitation on Sales of Assets and Subsidiary Stock provisions of the indentures governing our Senior Notes and (ii) such payment would be permitted under our revolving credit facility, the restricted payments covenants contained in indentures governing our Senior Notes and the terms of other outstanding debt instruments, Parity Securities or Senior Securities.

Change of Control means the occurrence of any of the following after the original issue date of the Class E Preferred Units:

- the direct or indirect sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition (other than by way of merger or consolidation), in one or a series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of the properties or assets of us and our subsidiaries taken as a whole, to any person (as that term is used in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act) other than to our general partner or its affiliates;

- the removal by our limited partners of Atlas Energy Group, LLC as our general partner; or

- the consummation of any transaction or series of related transactions (including, without limitation, any merger or consolidation) the result of which is that any person (as defined above), other than our general partner or its affiliates, becomes the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of our voting units, measured by voting power rather

than number of units.

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Change of control conversion rights	Upon the occurrence of a Change of Control, each holder of Class E Preferred Units will have the right (unless, prior to the delivery of a Change of Control Conversion Notice, we provide notice of our election to redeem the Class E Preferred Units) to convert some or all of the Class E Preferred Units held by such holder on the Change of Control Conversion Date into a number of our common units per Class E Preferred Unit to be converted equal to the lesser of: the quotient obtained by dividing (i) the sum of the $25.00 liquidation preference plus the amount of any accrued and unpaid distributions to the Change of Control Conversion Date (unless the Change of Control Conversion Date is after a record date for a Class E Preferred Unit distribution payment and prior to the corresponding Class E Preferred Unit distribution payment date, in which case no additional amount for such accrued and unpaid distribution will be included in this sum) by (ii) the Common Unit Price, and , or the Unit Cap, subject to certain adjustments as described under Description of Class E Preferred Units Change of Control ; subject, in each case, to provisions for the receipt of alternative consideration, as described in greater detail under Description of Class E Preferred Units Change of Control. For definitions of Change of Control Conversion Right, Change of Control Conversion Date, Change of Control Conversion Notice and Common Unit Price, and the restrictions on cash payments upon a Change of Control hereunder, see Description of Class E Preferred Units Change of Control.
Voting rights	Holders of the Class E Preferred Units generally have no voting rights, except as set forth below and as described in Description of Class E Preferred Units Voting Rights. Unless we have received the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding Class E Preferred Units, voting as a single class, we may not adopt any amendment to our partnership agreement that would have a material adverse effect on the existing terms of the Class E Preferred Units. In addition, unless we have received the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding Class E Preferred Units, voting as a single class, we may not (i) create or issue any Parity Securities if the cumulative distributions on Class E Preferred Units or any Parity Securities are in arrears or (ii) create or issue any Senior

	Securities.
Fixed liquidation preference	In the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs, whether voluntary or involuntary, holders of the Class E Preferred Units will generally, subject to the discussion under

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	Description of Class E Preferred Units Liquidation Rights, have the right to receive a liquidation preference of $25.00 per unit plus an amount equal to all accumulated and unpaid distributions thereon to the date of payment, whether or not declared. A consolidation or merger of us with or into any other entity, individually or in a series of transactions, will not be deemed to be a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs. The rights of the Class E Preferred Unitholders to receive the liquidation preference will be subject to the proportional rights of holders of Parity Securities (including Class B Preferred Units and Class D Preferred Units).
Sinking fund	The Class E Preferred Units will not be subject to any sinking fund requirements.
No fiduciary duties	We and our officers and directors will not owe any fiduciary duties to holders of the Class E Preferred Units other than a contractual duty of good faith pursuant to our partnership agreement.
Use of proceeds	We expect to receive approximately $ million from the sale of the Class E Preferred Units offered hereby, or approximately $ million if the underwriters option to purchase additional Class E Preferred Units is exercised in full, in each case, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses. We intend to use all of the net proceeds from this offering for general partnership purposes, which may include repayment of borrowings under our revolving credit facility. See Use of Proceeds.
Ratings	The Class E Preferred Units will not be rated.
Listing	We intend to file an application to list the Class E Preferred Units on the NYSE. If the application is approved, we expect that trading of the Class E Preferred Units on the NYSE will begin within 30 days after the original issue date of the Class E Preferred Units. The underwriters have advised us that they intend to make a market in the Class E Preferred Units prior to commencement of any trading on the NYSE. However, the underwriters will have no obligation to do so, and no assurance can be given that a market for the Class E Preferred Units will develop prior to commencement of trading on the NYSE or, if developed, will be maintained.
Tax considerations	See Material Tax Considerations in this prospectus supplement.

Form	The Class E Preferred Units will be issued and maintained in book-entry form, except under limited circumstances. See Description of Class E Preferred Units Book-Entry System.
Settlement	Delivery of the Class E Preferred Units offered hereby will be made against payment therefor through the book-entry facilities of the DTC on or about , 2015.

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RISK FACTORS

Investing in our Class E Preferred Units involves risk. Before you decide whether to purchase any of our Class E Preferred Units, in addition to the other information, documents or reports included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or other offering materials, you should carefully consider the risk factors described below and the risk factors in the section entitled Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 as well as our subsequent filings with the SEC incorporated by reference herein, for information regarding risks you should consider before investing in us. For more information, see the section of this prospectus supplement entitled Where You Can Find More Information. These risks could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or operating results and could result in a partial or complete loss of your investment.

The Class E Preferred Units represent perpetual equity interests in us.

The Class E Preferred Units represent perpetual equity interests in us and, unlike our indebtedness, will not give rise to a claim for payment of a principal amount at a particular date. As a result, holders of the Class E Preferred Units may be required to bear the financial risks of an investment in the Class E Preferred Units for an indefinite period of time. In addition, the Class E Preferred Units will rank junior to all our current and future indebtedness (including indebtedness outstanding under our revolving credit facility and our Senior Notes), and any other senior securities we may issue in the future with respect to assets available to satisfy claims against us.

The Class E Preferred Units have not been rated.

We have not sought to obtain a rating for the Class E Preferred Units and the Class E Preferred Units may never be rated. It is possible, however, that one or more rating agencies might independently determine to assign a rating to the Class E Preferred Units or that we may elect to obtain a rating of the Class E Preferred Units in the future. In addition, we may elect to issue other securities for which we may seek to obtain a rating. If any ratings are assigned to the Class E Preferred Units in the future or if we issue other securities with a rating, such ratings, if they are lower than market expectations or are subsequently lowered or withdrawn, could adversely affect the market for or the market value of the Class E Preferred Units. Ratings only reflect the views of the issuing rating agency or agencies and such ratings could at any time be revised downward or withdrawn entirely at the discretion of the issuing rating agency. A rating is not a recommendation to purchase, sell or hold any particular security, including the Class E Preferred Units. Ratings do not reflect market prices or suitability of a security for a particular investor and any future rating of the Class E Preferred Units may not reflect all risks related to us and our business, or the structure or market value of the Class E Preferred Units.

The Class E Preferred Units will be subordinated to our existing and future debt obligations and will not limit our ability to incur future indebtedness that will rank senior to our Class E Preferred Units.

The Class E Preferred Units will be subordinated to all of our existing and future indebtedness (including indebtedness outstanding under our revolving credit facility and our Senior Notes). As of December 31, 2014, we had total outstanding indebtedness of approximately $1.4 billion, and we had the ability to borrow an additional $204.0 million under our revolving credit facility, subject to certain limitations. As of December 31, 2014, on an as adjusted basis to give effect to our entry into the second lien term loan facility (and our repayment of the revolving credit facility with the proceeds thereof) and the February 2015 reduction in the borrowing base of our revolving credit facility, we had the ability to borrow an additional $288.8 million under our revolving credit facility, subject to certain limitations. The payment of principal and interest on our debt reduces cash available for distributions on our units, including the Class E Preferred Units. We and our subsidiaries have incurred and may incur substantial amounts of debt and other

obligations that will rank senior to our Class E Preferred Units, and the terms of our Class E Preferred Units will not limit the amount of such debt or other obligations that we may incur, except that we will not be able to authorize, create or issue equity securities senior to the Class E

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Preferred Units without the approval of holders of at least two-thirds of our Class E Preferred Units then outstanding.

None of the provisions relating to the Class E Preferred Units relate to or limit our indebtedness or, except for provisions relating to a Change of Control, necessarily afford the holders of the Class E Preferred Units protection in the event of a transaction such as a merger or the sale, lease or conveyance of all or substantially all our assets or business, that might adversely affect the holders of the Class E Preferred Units and the trading price of the Class E Preferred Units. Moreover, the conversion rights and voting rights of holders of our Class E Preferred Units are limited and will not apply in the case of every transaction that may adversely affect the holders of the Class E Preferred Units or the trading price of the Class E Preferred Units.

As a holder of Class E Preferred Units, you have extremely limited voting rights.

Holders of the Class E Preferred Units have no voting rights with respect to matters that generally require the approval of voting unitholders. Voting rights for holders of Class E Preferred Units exist primarily with respect to voting on amendments to our certificate of formation and partnership agreement that materially and adversely affect the rights of the holders of Class E Preferred Units or authorizing, increasing or creating additional classes or series of our units that are senior to the Class E Preferred Units. Certain other limited protective voting rights are described in this prospectus supplement under Description of Class E Preferred Units Voting Rights.

Our ability to issue Parity Securities in the future could adversely affect the rights of holders of our Class E Preferred Units.

We are allowed to issue additional Class E Preferred Units and Parity Securities without any vote of the holders of the Class E Preferred Units, except where the cumulative distributions on the Class E Preferred Units or any Parity Securities are in arrears. The issuance of additional Class E Preferred Units or any Parity Securities would have the effect of reducing the amounts available to the holders of the Class E Preferred Units issued in this offering upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up if we do not have sufficient funds to pay all liquidation preferences of the Class E Preferred Units and Parity Securities in full. It also would reduce amounts available to make distributions on the Class E Preferred Units issued in this offering if we do not have sufficient funds to pay distributions on all outstanding Class E Preferred Units and Parity Securities, including our Class B Preferred Units and Class D Preferred Units.

In addition, although holders of Class E Preferred Units are entitled to limited voting rights, as described in Description of Class E Preferred Units Voting Rights, with respect to certain matters, the Class E Preferred Units will generally vote separately as a class along with all other series of our Parity Securities that we may issue upon which like voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable. As a result, the voting rights of holders of Class E Preferred Units may be significantly diluted, and the holders of such other series of Preferred Units that we may issue may be able to control or significantly influence the outcome of any vote. Future issuances and sales of Parity Securities, or the perception that such issuances and sales could occur, may cause prevailing market prices for the Class E Preferred Units and our common units to decline and may adversely affect our ability to raise additional capital in the financial markets at times and prices favorable to us.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to pay distributions regularly, and our ability to pay distributions may be limited by agreements governing our indebtedness and cash distribution requirements under our partnership agreement.

Our partnership agreement requires that, within 45 days after the end of each quarter, we distribute all of our available cash (as defined in our partnership agreement) to unitholders of record on the applicable record date. As a result, we do not expect to accumulate significant amounts of cash. Depending on the timing and amount of our

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cash distributions, these distributions could significantly reduce the cash available to us in subsequent periods to make payments on the Class E Preferred Units.

In addition, we are party to agreements which would prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the declaration, payment or setting apart for payment of distributions following the occurrence and during the continuance of a default or event of default under such agreement. Furthermore, our revolving credit facility and the indentures governing our Senior Notes restrict or prohibit our ability to make distributions on our Class E Preferred Units under the circumstances described in Description of Class E Preferred Units Distributions Payment of Distributions. In the future we may become party to other agreements which restrict or prohibit the payment of distributions. We will not declare distributions on our Class E Preferred Units, or pay or set apart for payment distributions on our Class E Preferred Units, if the terms of any of our agreements, including any agreement relating to our debt, prohibit such a declaration, payment or setting apart for payment or provide that such declaration, payment or setting apart for payment would constitute a breach of or default under such an agreement.

Change of control conversion rights may make it more difficult for a party to acquire us or discourage a party from acquiring us.

The change of control conversion feature of our Class E Preferred Units may have the effect of discouraging a third party from making an acquisition proposal for us or of delaying, deferring or preventing change of control transactions under circumstances that otherwise could provide the holders of our Class E Preferred Units with the opportunity to realize a premium over the then-current market price of the Class E Preferred Units or that such unitholders may otherwise believe is in their best interests.

Our Class E Preferred Units are a new issuance for which there is no established trading market, which may reduce the market value of, and your ability to transfer or sell, your Class E Preferred Units.

Our Class E Preferred Units are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. Because the Class E Preferred Units have no stated maturity date, investors seeking liquidity will be limited to selling their Class E Preferred Units in the secondary market. We intend to apply to list the Class E Preferred Units on the NYSE, however, we cannot assure you that the Class E Preferred Units will be approved for listing on the NYSE. Even if so approved, trading of the Class E Preferred Units on the NYSE is not expected to begin until sometime during the period ending 30 days after the date of initial issuance of the Class E Preferred Units. An active trading market on the NYSE for the Class E Preferred Units may not develop or last, in which case the trading price of the Class E Preferred Units could be reduced.

We have been advised by certain of the underwriters that they intend to make a market in the Class E Preferred Units prior to any commencement of trading on the NYSE, but they are not obligated to do so and may discontinue market-making at any time without notice.

The liquidity of any market for the Class E Preferred Units that may develop will depend on a number of factors, including those that may affect our market value (described below), many of which are beyond our control.

The market value and trading price of our Class E Preferred Units could be substantially affected by various factors.

The market value and trading price of our Class E Preferred Units will depend on many factors, including:

prevailing interest rates, increases in which may reduce the market value of the Class E Preferred Units;

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the annual yield from distributions on the Class E Preferred Units as compared to yields on other financial instruments;

general economic conditions;

government action or regulation;

changes in tax laws;

the financial condition, performance and prospects of us and our competitors;

changes in financial estimates or recommendations by securities analysts with respect to us, our competitors or our industry; and

our issuance of additional preferred equity or debt securities.

In addition, over the last several years, prices of equity securities in the U.S. trading markets have experienced extreme price fluctuations, and the market price of our common units has also fluctuated significantly during this period. As a result of these and other factors, investors who purchase the Class E Preferred Units in this offering may experience a decrease, which could be substantial and rapid, in the market price of the Class E Preferred Units, including decreases unrelated to our operating performance or prospects. Likewise, if the Class E Preferred Units become convertible and are converted into our common units, holders of our common units issued on conversion may experience a similar decrease, which also could be substantial and rapid, in the market price of our common units.

Treatment of distributions on our Class E Preferred Units as guaranteed payments for the use of capital creates a different tax treatment for the holders of our Class E Preferred Units than the holders of our common units.

The tax treatment of distributions on our Class E Preferred Units is uncertain. We will treat the holders of Class E Preferred Units as partners for tax purposes and will treat distributions on the Class E Preferred Units as guaranteed payments for the use of capital that will generally be taxable to the holders of Class E Preferred Units as ordinary income. Although a holder of Class E Preferred Units could recognize taxable income from the accrual of such a guaranteed payment even in the absence of a contemporaneous distribution, we anticipate accruing and making the guaranteed payment distributions quarterly. Otherwise, the holders of Class E Preferred Units are generally not anticipated to share in our items of income, gain, loss or deduction. Nor will we allocate any share of our nonrecourse liabilities to the holders of Class E Preferred Units. If the Class E Preferred Units were treated as indebtedness for tax purposes, rather than as guaranteed payments for the use of capital, distributions likely would be treated as payments of interest by us to the holders of Class E Preferred Units.

A holder of Class E Preferred Units will be required to recognize gain or loss on a sale of units equal to the difference between the unitholder s amount realized and tax basis in the units sold. The amount realized generally will equal the sum of the cash and the fair market value of other property such holder receives in exchange for such Class E Preferred Units. Subject to general rules requiring a blended basis among multiple limited partnership interests, the tax basis of a Class E Preferred Unit will generally be equal to the sum of the cash and the fair market value of other

property paid by the unitholder to acquire such Class E Preferred Unit. Gain or loss recognized by a unitholder on the sale or exchange of a Class E Preferred Unit held for more than one year generally will be taxable as long-term capital gain or loss. Because holders of Class E Preferred Units will not be allocated a share of our items of depreciation, depletion or amortization, it is not anticipated that such holders would be required to recharacterize any portion of their gain as ordinary income as a result of the recapture rules.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that we will receive net proceeds from this offering of approximately $ million, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional Class E Preferred Units in full, the net proceeds after deducting underwriters discounts and estimated offering fees and expenses, will be approximately $ million. We intend to use all of the net proceeds from this offering for general partnership purposes, which may include repayment of borrowings under our revolving credit facility.

As of March 30, 2015, indebtedness outstanding under our revolving credit facility was approximately $552.0 million, excluding outstanding letters of credit. In addition to working capital and general partnership purposes, we borrow from time to time under our revolving credit facility for capital expenditures. Amounts repaid using the proceeds of this offering may be re-borrowed in the future. The revolving credit facility matures in July 2018.

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CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our consolidated capitalization as of December 31, 2014 (i) on an actual basis, and (ii) on an adjusted basis to give effect to our entry into the second lien term loan facility (and our repayment of the revolving credit facility with proceeds thereof), and to this offering and the application of the net proceeds therefrom.

You should read the following table in conjunction with our historical consolidated financial statements and related notes, Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and other financial information included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement.

	As of December 31, 2014	
	Actual	As Adjusted
	(In thousands)	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 15,247	$ 15,247
Long-term debt:		
Revolving credit facility[1]	696,000	436,500
Second lien term loan facility[1]		250,000
Senior unsecured notes	698,460	698,460
Total long-term debt	1,394,460	1,384,960
Partners capital:		
Common limited partners interests	548,586	548,586
Class B, Class C and Class D preferred limited partners interests	163,522	163,522
Class E preferred limited partners interests		24,750
Class C limited partner warrants	1,176	1,176
General partner s interests	(13,697)	(13,697)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	185,909	185,909
Total partners capital	885,496	910,246
Total capitalization	$ 2,279,956	$ 2,295,206

(1) As of March 30, 2015, indebtedness outstanding under our revolving credit facility was approximately $552.0 million. We intend to use the net proceeds from the offering to reduce borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility. As of March 30, 2015, indebtedness under our second lien term loan facility was $250.0 million.

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RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

AND PREFERRED SECURITIES DIVIDENDS

The table below sets forth our ratios of earnings to fixed charges and ratio of earnings to fixed charges and preferred dividends for the periods indicated.

	Years Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges[1][2]				32.49x	20.68x
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Preferred Dividends[2]				32.49x	20.68x

(1) Ratio of earnings to fixed charges means the ratio of income from continuing operations before income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change, net, and fixed charges to fixed charges, where fixed charges are the interest on indebtedness, amortization of debt expense and estimated interest factor for rentals.

(2) Due to our net loss for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, our earnings were insufficient to cover our fixed charges by $620.8 million, $103.7 million, and $54.0 million, respectively. Due to our net loss for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, our earnings were insufficient to cover our fixed charges and preferred dividends by $640.0 million, $116.4 million, and $57.5 million, respectively. There were no preferred limited partner dividends for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010.

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DESCRIPTION OF CLASS E PREFERRED UNITS

The following description of the Class E Preferred Units does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the provisions of our second amended and restated agreement of limited partnership, as amended through the date hereof and in connection with this offering, which we refer to as the LP Agreement, and the certificate of designation for the Class E Preferred Units, which we refer to as the certificate of designation, each of which will be incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement is a part, and sets forth the terms of the Class E Preferred Units. A copy of the LP Agreement and the certificate of designation may be obtained from us as described under Where You Can Find More Information.

General

The Class E Preferred Units offered hereby are a new series of preferred units. Upon completion of this offering there will be issued and outstanding Class E Preferred Units (Class E Preferred Units if the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full), 39,654 Class B Preferred Units, 3,749,986 Class C Preferred Units and 4,000,000 Class D Preferred Units. The rights of the Class E Preferred Unitholders to receive the liquidation preference will be subject to the proportional rights of holders of Parity Securities (including Class B Preferred Units and Class D Preferred Units). We may, without notice to or consent of the holders of the then-outstanding Class E Preferred Units, authorize and issue additional Class E Preferred Units and Junior Securities (as defined under Summary The Offering Ranking) and, subject to the limitations described under Voting Rights, Senior Securities and Parity Securities (as defined under Summary The Offering Ranking).

The Class E Preferred Units will entitle the holders thereof to receive cumulative cash distributions when, as and if declared by our Board of Directors out of legally available funds for such purpose. When issued and paid for in the manner described in this prospectus supplement and accompanying base prospectus, the Class E Preferred Units offered hereby will be fully paid and nonassessable. Subject to the matters described under Liquidation Rights, each Class E Preferred Unit will generally have a fixed liquidation preference of $25.00 per unit plus an amount equal to accumulated and unpaid distributions thereon to the date fixed for payment, whether or not declared.

The Class E Preferred Units will represent perpetual equity interests in us and, unlike our indebtedness, will not give rise to a claim for payment of a principal amount at a particular date. As such, the Class E Preferred Units will rank junior to all of our current and future indebtedness (including indebtedness outstanding under our revolving credit facility and our Senior Notes) and other liabilities with respect to assets available to satisfy claims against us. The rights of the Class E Preferred Unitholders to receive the liquidation preference will be subject to the proportional rights of holders of Parity Securities (including Class B Preferred Units and Class D Preferred Units).

All of the Class E Preferred Units offered hereby will be represented by a single certificate issued to the DTC, as the initial securities depositary, or the Securities Depositary, and registered in the name of its nominee and, so long as a Securities Depositary has been appointed and is serving, no person acquiring Class E Preferred Units will be entitled to receive a certificate representing such units unless applicable law otherwise requires or the Securities Depositary resigns or is no longer eligible to act as such and a successor is not appointed. See Book-Entry System.

Except as described below in Change of Control, the Class E Preferred Units will not be convertible into common units or any other securities and will not have exchange rights or be entitled or subject to any preemptive or similar rights. The Class E Preferred Units will not be subject to mandatory redemption or to any sinking fund requirements. The Class E Preferred Units will be subject to redemption, in whole or in part, at our option commencing on , 2020. See Redemption.

We have appointed American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC as the paying agent, or the Paying Agent, and the registrar and transfer agent, or the Registrar and Transfer Agent, for the Class E Preferred Units. The address of the Paying Agent is 6201 15th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11219.

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Ranking

The Class E Preferred Units will, with respect to anticipated distributions, rank:

- senior to the Junior Securities (including our common units and Class C Preferred Units);
- *pari passu* with the Parity Securities (including our Class B Preferred Units and Class D Preferred Units); and
- junior to the Senior Securities.

Under our LP Agreement, we may issue Junior Securities from time to time in one or more series without the consent of the holders of the Class E Preferred Units. The Board has the authority to determine the preferences, powers, qualifications, limitations, restrictions and special or relative rights or privileges, if any, of any such series before the issuance of any units of that series. The Board will also determine the number of units constituting each series of securities. Our ability to issue additional Parity Securities in certain circumstances or Senior Securities is limited as described under Voting Rights.

Change of Control

Upon the occurrence of a Change of Control (as defined below), we may, at our option, redeem the Class E Preferred Units in whole or in part within 120 days after the first date on which such Change of Control occurred by paying $25.00 per Class E Preferred Unit, plus all accrued and unpaid distributions to the redemption date. If, prior to the delivery of a Change of Control Conversion Notice (as defined below), we exercise any of our redemption rights as described below under Redemption relating to the Class E Preferred Units, holders of the Class E Preferred Units will not have the conversion right described below. However, any cash payment upon a Change of Control may not be made unless (i) we have first complied with the Change of Control and Limitation on Sales of Assets and Subsidiary Stock provisions of the indentures governing our Senior Notes and (ii) such payment would be permitted under our revolving credit facility, the restricted payments covenants contained in the indentures governing our Senior Notes and the terms of other outstanding debt instruments, Parity Securities or Senior Securities. Additionally, any cash payment to Class E Preferred Unit holders upon a Change of Control will be subject to the limitations, if any, contained in the indentures governing any future issuances of senior notes.

Change of Control means the occurrence of any of the following after the original issue date of the Class E Preferred Units:

- the direct or indirect sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition (other than by way of merger or consolidation), in one or a series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of the properties or assets of us and our subsidiaries taken as a whole, to any person (as that term is used in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act) other than our general partner or its affiliates;
- the removal by our limited partners of our general partner; or

the consummation of any transaction or series of related transactions (including, without limitation, any merger or consolidation) the result of which is that any person (as defined above), other than our general partner or its affiliates, becomes the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of our voting units, measured by voting power rather than number of units;

provided, however that a Change of Control shall not be deemed to occur solely as a result of a transfer of our general partnership interests or equity interests in our general partner to a new entity as a result of any offering of equity interests of such new entity (or securities convertible into such equity interests) so long as the persons or entities that beneficially own the general partnership interests of us or the equity interests in our general partner as of the original issue date of the Class E Preferred Units continue to hold the general partnership interests in such new entity (or, in the case of a new entity that is not a partnership, no other person or group beneficially owns more than 50% of the voting stock of such new entity).

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Within 15 days following a Change of Control, we will provide to each holder of Class E Preferred Units a notice of the occurrence of the Change of Control that describes the holders rights to convert their Class E Preferred Units, which we refer to herein as a Change of Control Conversion Notice. Following a Change of Control, each holder of Class E Preferred Units will have the right (unless, prior to the delivery of a Change of Control Conversion Notice, we provide notice of our election to redeem the Class E Preferred Units as described above) to convert some or all of the Class E Preferred Units held by such holder on the Change of Control Conversion Date (as defined below) into a number of our common units per Class E Preferred Unit to be converted, or the Common Unit Conversion Consideration, equal to the lesser of:

the quotient obtained by dividing (i) the sum of the $25.00 liquidation preference plus the amount of any accrued and unpaid distributions to the Change of Control Conversion Date (unless the Change of Control Conversion Date is after a record date for a Class E Preferred Units distribution payment and prior to the corresponding Class E Preferred Units distribution payment date, in which case no additional amount for such accrued and unpaid distribution will be included in this sum) by (ii) the Common Unit Price (as defined below); and

, the Unit Cap.

The Unit Cap is subject to pro rata adjustments for any unit splits (including those effected pursuant to a distribution of our common units), subdivisions or combinations, in each case referred to as a Unit Split, with respect to our common units. The adjusted Unit Cap as the result of a Unit Split will be the number of our common units that is equivalent to the product obtained by multiplying (i) the Unit Cap in effect immediately prior to the Unit Split by (ii) a fraction, (a) the numerator of which is the number of our common units outstanding after giving effect to the Unit Split and (b) the denominator of which is the number of our common units outstanding immediately prior to the Unit Split.

In the case of a Change of Control pursuant to which our Class E Preferred Units will be converted into cash, securities or other property or assets (including any combination thereof), which we refer to as the Alternative Form Consideration, a holder of Class E Preferred Units will receive upon conversion of such Class E Preferred Units the kind and amount of Alternative Form Consideration which such holder would have owned or been entitled to receive upon the Change of Control had such holder held a number of our common units equal to the Common Unit Conversion Consideration immediately prior to the effective time of the Change of Control, which we refer to as the Alternative Conversion Consideration.

If the holders of our common units have the opportunity to elect the form of consideration to be received in the Change of Control, the consideration that the holders of Class E Preferred Units will receive will be the form and proportion of the aggregate consideration elected by the holders of our common units who participate in the determination (based on the weighted average of elections) and will be subject to any limitations to which all holders of our common units are subject, including, without limitation, pro rata reductions applicable to any portion of the consideration payable in the Change of Control.

We will not issue fractional common units upon the conversion of the Class E Preferred Units. Instead, we will pay the cash value of such fractional units.

If we provide a redemption notice prior to the delivery of a Change of Control Conversion Notice, whether pursuant to our special optional redemption right in connection with a Change of Control or our optional redemption right as

described below under Redemption, holders of Class E Preferred Units will not have any right to convert the Class E Preferred Units that we have elected to redeem and we will not provide a Change of Control Conversion Notice with respect to any Class E Preferred Units that we have elected to redeem.

Change of Control Conversion Right means the right of a holder of Class E Preferred Units to convert some or all of the Class E Preferred Units held by such holder on the Change of Control Conversion Date into a number of our common units per Class E Preferred Unit pursuant to the conversion provisions in our LP Agreement.

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Change of Control Conversion Date means the date fixed by the Board, in its sole discretion, as the date the Class E Preferred Units are to be converted, which will be a Business Day that is no fewer than 20 days nor more than 35 days after the date on which we provide the Change of Control Conversion Notice to holders of the Class E Preferred Units.

Common Unit Price means (i) the amount of cash consideration per common unit, if the consideration to be received in the Change of Control by the holders of our common units is solely cash; and (ii) the average of the closing prices for our common units on the NYSE for the ten consecutive trading days immediately preceding, but not including, the Change of Control Conversion Date, if the consideration to be received in the Change of Control by the holders of our common units is other than solely cash.

Liquidation Rights

We will liquidate in accordance with our LP Agreement. In the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs, the holders of Class E Preferred Units then outstanding will be entitled to be paid, or have us declare and set apart for payment, out of our assets legally available for distribution, after payment or provision for payment of all of our debts and other liabilities, a liquidation preference in cash or property as set forth in the certificate of designation, plus an amount equal to any accrued and unpaid distributions to, but not including, the date of payment or the date the amount for payment is set apart. If, however, our available assets are insufficient to pay such amount in full on all Class E Preferred Units and the corresponding amount payable on all outstanding Parity Securities, then the holders of Class E Preferred Units and the holders of such Parity Securities will share ratably in any such distribution of assets in proportion to the distributions to which they would otherwise be respectively entitled. A consolidation or merger of us with or into any other person, whether in a single transaction or series of transactions will not be deemed to be a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs.

Voting Rights

The Class E Preferred Units will have no voting rights except as set forth below or as otherwise provided by our LP Agreement.

Unless we have received the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding Class E Preferred Units, voting as a single class, we may not adopt any amendment to our LP Agreement that would have a material adverse effect on the existing terms of the Class E Preferred Units.

In addition, unless we have received the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding Class E Preferred Units, voting as a single class, we may not:

- create or issue any Parity Securities if the cumulative distributions payable on outstanding Class E Preferred Units or any Parity Securities are in arrears; or

- create or issue any Senior Securities; *provided, however*, that holders of Class E Preferred Units that have received a notice of a redemption that is to occur within 90 days of the issuance of such Senior Securities shall not be entitled to vote on or consent to the issuance of such Senior Securities unless all or a part of such redemption is being funded with proceeds from the sale of such Senior Securities.

On any matter described above in which the holders of the Class E Preferred Units are entitled to vote as a single class, such holders will be entitled to one vote per unit. Class E Preferred Units held by us or any of our subsidiaries or

affiliates will not be entitled to vote.

The rights of the holders of Class E Preferred Units being redeemed may be terminated as described above in advance of the date of redemption for such units only if notice of the redemption is provided in accordance with the procedures described under Redemption Redemption Procedures and adequate notice has been published that sufficient funds will be made available to such holders within 90 days.

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Class E Preferred 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.

Distributions

General

Holders of Class E Preferred Units will be entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by the Board out of funds legally available for such purpose, cumulative cash quarterly distributions from , 2015.

Distribution Rate

Distributions on Class E Preferred Units will be cumulative and payable quarterly on each Distribution Payment Date (as defined below), when, as and if declared by the Board or any authorized committee thereof out of funds legally available for such purpose. The initial distribution on the Class E Preferred Units will be payable on , 2015 in an amount equal to $ per unit. Distributions on the Class E Preferred Units will accrue at a rate of % per annum per $25.00 stated liquidation preference per Class E Preferred Unit. All distributions on Class E Preferred Units shall be payable without regard to our income and shall be treated for federal income tax purposes as guaranteed payments for the use of capital under Section 707(c) of the Code.

Distribution Payment Dates

The Distribution Payment Dates for the Class E Preferred Units will be on January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15 of each year, commencing on , 2015. Distributions will accumulate in each quarterly distribution period from and including the preceding Distribution Payment Date or the initial issue date, as the case may be, to but excluding the applicable Distribution Payment Date for such quarterly distribution period, and distributions will accrue on accumulated distributions at the applicable distribution rate. If any Distribution Payment Date otherwise would fall on a day that is not a Business Day, declared distributions will be paid on the immediately succeeding Business Day without the accumulation of additional distributions. Distributions on the Class E Preferred Units will be payable based on a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. Business Day means Monday through Friday of each week, except that a legal holiday recognized as such by the government of the United States of America or the State of New York shall not be recognized as such.

Payment of Distributions

Not later than 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on each Distribution Payment Date, we will pay those quarterly distributions, if any, on the Class E Preferred Units that have been declared by the Board to the holders of such units as such holders names appear on our unit transfer books maintained by the Registrar and Transfer Agent on the applicable record date. The record date will be the first Business Day of the month in which the applicable Distribution Payment Date falls, except that in the case of payments of distributions in arrears, the record date with respect to a Distribution Payment Date will be such date as may be designated by the Board in accordance with our LP Agreement.

So long as the Class E Preferred Units are held of record by the nominee of the Securities Depositary, declared distributions will be paid to the Securities Depositary in same-day funds on each Distribution Payment Date. The Securities Depositary will credit accounts of its participants in accordance with the Securities Depositary s normal procedures. The participants will be responsible for holding or disbursing such payments to beneficial owners of the

Class E Preferred Units in accordance with the instructions of such beneficial owners.

No distribution may be declared or paid or set apart for payment on any Junior Securities (other than a distribution payable solely in units of Junior Securities) unless full cumulative distributions have been or

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contemporaneously are being paid or provided for on all outstanding Class E Preferred Units and any Parity Securities through the most recent respective distribution payment dates. Accumulated distributions in arrears for any past distribution period may be declared by the Board and paid on any date fixed by the Board, whether or not a Distribution Payment Date, to holders of the Class E Preferred Units on the record date for such payment, which may not be more than 60 days, nor less than 10 days, before such payment date. Subject to the next succeeding sentence, if all accumulated distributions in arrears on all outstanding Class E Preferred Units and any Parity Securities have not been declared and paid, or sufficient funds for the payment thereof have not been set apart, payment of accumulated distributions in arrears will be made in order of their respective distribution payment dates, commencing with the earliest. If less than all distributions payable with respect to all Class E Preferred Units and any Parity Securities are paid, any partial payment will be made pro rata with respect to the Class E Preferred Units and any Parity Securities entitled to a distribution payment at such time in proportion to the aggregate amounts remaining due in respect of such units at such time. Holders of the Class E Preferred Units will not be entitled to any distribution, whether payable in cash, property or units, in excess of full cumulative distributions. Except insofar as distributions accrue on the amount of any accumulated and unpaid distributions as described under Distributions Distribution Rate, no interest or sum of money in lieu of interest will be payable in respect of any distribution payment which may be in arrears on the Class E Preferred Units. Our revolving credit agreement and the indentures governing our Senior Notes contain provisions which may limit our ability to make distributions on our Class E Preferred Units.

In addition, in the future we may become party to other agreements which restrict or prohibit the payment of distributions.

Redemption

Optional Redemption

In the event of a Change of Control (as set forth in Change of Control) or at any time on or after , 2020, we may redeem, at our option, in whole or in part, the Class E Preferred Units at a redemption price in cash equal to $25.00 per unit plus an amount equal to all accumulated and unpaid distributions thereon to the date of redemption, whether or not declared. Any such optional redemption shall be effected only out of funds legally available for such purpose. We may undertake multiple partial redemptions. Any such redemption will be subject to compliance with the provisions of our revolving credit facility, the indentures governing our Senior Notes, and will be subject to the limitations, if any, contained in the agreements governing any future issuances of senior notes, Parity Securities or Senior Securities.

Redemption Procedures

We will give notice of any redemption by mail, postage prepaid, not less than 30 days and not more than 60 days before the scheduled date of redemption, to the holders of any Class E Preferred Units to be redeemed as such holders names appear on our unit transfer books maintained by the Registrar and Transfer Agent at the address of such holders shown therein. Such notice shall state: (i) the redemption date, (ii) the number of Class E Preferred Units to be redeemed and, if less than all outstanding Class E Preferred Units are to be redeemed, the number (and the identification) of units to be redeemed from such holder, (iii) the redemption price, (iv) the place where the Class E Preferred Units are to be redeemed and shall be presented and surrendered for payment of the redemption price therefor and (v) that distributions on the units to be redeemed will cease to accumulate from and after such redemption date.

If fewer than all of the outstanding Class E Preferred Units are to be redeemed, the number of units to be redeemed will be determined by us, and such units will be redeemed by such method of selection as the Securities Depositary

shall determine, pro rata or by lot, with adjustments to avoid redemption of fractional units. So long as all Class E Preferred Units are held of record by the nominee of the Securities Depositary, we will give notice, or cause notice to be given, to the Securities Depositary of the number of Class E Preferred Units to

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be redeemed, and the Securities Depositary will determine the number of Class E Preferred Units to be redeemed from the account of each of its participants holding such units in its participant account. Thereafter, each participant will select the number of units to be redeemed from each beneficial owner for whom it acts (including the participant, to the extent it holds Class E Preferred Units for its own account). A participant may determine to redeem Class E Preferred Units from some beneficial owners (including the participant itself) without redeeming Class E Preferred Units from the accounts of other beneficial owners.

So long as the Class E Preferred Units are held of record by the nominee of the Securities Depositary, the redemption price will be paid by the Paying Agent to the Securities Depositary on the redemption date. The Securities Depositary s normal procedures provide for it to distribute the amount of the redemption price in same-day funds to its participants who, in turn, are expected to distribute such funds to the persons for whom they are acting as agent.

If we give or cause to be given a notice of redemption, then we will deposit with the Paying Agent funds sufficient to redeem the Class E Preferred Units as to which notice has been given by 5:00 p.m., New York City time, no later than the Business Day immediately preceding the date fixed for redemption, and will give the Paying Agent irrevocable instructions and authority to pay the redemption price to the holder or holders thereof upon surrender or deemed surrender (which will occur automatically if the certificate representing such units is issued in the name of the Securities Depositary or its nominee) of the certificates therefor. If notice of redemption shall have been given, then from and after the date fixed for redemption, unless we default in providing funds sufficient for such redemption at the time and place specified for payment pursuant to the notice, all distributions on such units will cease to accumulate and all rights of holders of such units as our unitholders will cease, except the right to receive the redemption price, including an amount equal to accumulated and unpaid distributions through the date fixed for redemption, whether or not declared.

If only a portion of the Class E Preferred Units represented by a certificate has been called for redemption, upon surrender of the certificate to the Paying Agent (which will occur automatically if the certificate representing such units is registered in the name of the Securities Depositary or its nominee), the Paying Agent will issue to the holder of such units a new certificate (or adjust the applicable book-entry account) representing the number of Class E Preferred Units represented by the surrendered certificate that have not been called for redemption.

Notwithstanding any notice of redemption, there will be no redemption of any Class E Preferred Units called for redemption until funds sufficient to pay the full redemption price of such units, including all accumulated and unpaid distributions to the date of redemption, whether or not declared, have been deposited by us with the Paying Agent.

We and our affiliates may from time to time purchase the Class E Preferred Units, subject to compliance with all applicable securities and other laws. Neither we nor any of our affiliates has any obligation, or any present plan or intention, to purchase any Class E Preferred Units. Any Class E Preferred Units that are redeemed or otherwise acquired by us will be cancelled.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that full cumulative distributions on the Class E Preferred Units or any Parity Securities have not been paid or declared and set apart for payment, we may not repurchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, in whole or in part, any Class E Preferred Units or Parity Securities except pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to all holders of Class E Preferred Units and any Parity Securities. Common units and any other Junior Securities may not be redeemed, repurchased or otherwise acquired unless full cumulative distributions on the Class E Preferred Units and any Parity Securities for all prior and the then-ending distribution periods have been paid or declared and set apart for payment.

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No Sinking Fund

The Class E Preferred Units will not have the benefit of any sinking fund.

No Fiduciary Duty

We and our officers and directors will not owe any fiduciary duties to holders of the Class E Preferred Units other than a contractual duty of good faith pursuant to our LP Agreement.

Book-Entry System

All Class E Preferred Units offered hereby will be represented by a single certificate issued to The Depository Trust Company (and its successors or assigns or any other securities depositary selected by us) (the Securities Depositary), and registered in the name of its nominee (initially, Cede & Co.). The Class E Preferred Units offered hereby will continue to be represented by a single certificate registered in the name of the Securities Depositary or its nominee, and no holder of the Class E Preferred Units offered hereby will be entitled to receive a certificate evidencing such units unless otherwise required by law or the Securities Depositary gives notice of its intention to resign or is no longer eligible to act as such and we have not selected a substitute Securities Depositary within 60 calendar days thereafter. Payments and communications made by us to holders of the Class E Preferred Units will be duly made by making payments to, and communicating with, the Securities Depositary. Accordingly, unless certificates are available to holders of the Class E Preferred Units, each purchaser of Class E Preferred Units must rely on (i) the procedures of the Securities Depositary and its participants to receive distributions, any redemption price, liquidation preference and notices, and to direct the exercise of any voting or nominating rights, with respect to such Class E Preferred Units and (ii) the records of the Securities Depositary and its participants to evidence its ownership of such Class E Preferred Units.

So long as the Securities Depositary (or its nominee) is the sole holder of the Class E Preferred Units, no beneficial holder of the Class E Preferred Units will be deemed to be a unitholder of us. The Depository Trust Company, the initial Securities Depositary, is a New York-chartered limited purpose trust company that performs services for its participants, some of whom (and/or their representatives) own The Depository Trust Company. The Securities Depositary maintains lists of its participants and will maintain the positions (i.e., ownership interests) held by its participants in the Class E Preferred Units, whether as a holder of the Class E Preferred Units for its own account or as a nominee for another holder of the Class E Preferred Units.

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OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The following is a summary of the material provisions of our partnership agreement. We will provide holders of our securities with a copy of our partnership agreement upon request at no charge.

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

- with regard to distributions of available cash, please read Our Cash Distribution Policy;
- with regard to the transfer of common units, please read Description of Common Units Transfer of Common Units; and
- with regard to allocations of taxable income and taxable loss, please read Tax Considerations.

Organization and Duration

Our partnership was formed in October 2011 and will have a perpetual existence unless terminated pursuant to the terms of our partnership agreement.

Purpose

Our purpose under the partnership agreement is to engage in any business activity that is approved by our general partner and that lawfully may be conducted by a limited partnership organized under Delaware law; provided, that our general partner will not cause us to engage in any business activity that the general partner determines would cause us to be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxable as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Although our general partner has the ability to cause us and our subsidiaries to engage in activities other than the production of natural gas and oil, our general partner has no current plans to do so and may decline to do so free of any 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. 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.

Cash Distributions

Our partnership agreement specifies the manner in which we will make cash distributions to holders of our common units and other partnership securities as well as to our general partner in respect of its incentive distribution rights. For a description of these cash distribution provisions, please read Our Cash Distribution Policy.

Capital Contributions; No Dilution of Class A Units; One-to-One Ratio Between Class A Units and Common Units

Unitholders are not obligated to make additional capital contributions, except as described below under Limited Liability.

The class A units are entitled to 2% of all distributions that we make prior to our liquidation. The 2% sharing ratio of the class A units will not be reduced if we issue additional equity securities in the future. Because the 2% sharing ratio will not be reduced if we issue additional equity securities, and in order to ensure that each class A unit represents the same percentage economic interest in us as one common unit, if we issue additional common units, we will also issue to our general partner, for no additional consideration and without any requirement to make a capital contribution, an additional number of class A units so that the total number of outstanding class A units after such issuance equals 2% of the sum of the total number of common units and common unit equivalents and class A units after such issuance.

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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 common units. Except as set forth below, the Class B Preferred Units, Class C Preferred Units and Class D Preferred Units have no voting rights.

In voting their common units, our general partner and its affiliates will have no 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. The holders of a majority of the common units represented in person or by proxy shall constitute a quorum at a meeting of such common unitholders, unless any such action requires approval by holders of a greater percentage of such units in which case the quorum shall be such greater percentage.

The following is a summary of the vote requirements specified for certain matters under our partnership agreement:

Issuance of additional partnership securities	No approval right. See Issuance of Additional Securities.
Amendment of our partnership agreement	Certain amendments may be made by our general partner without the approval of the common unitholders. Other amendments generally require the approval of a unit majority or, if any amendment could adversely affect their rights, the approval by a majority of the Class B or Class C Preferred Units or the approval by two-thirds of the Class D Preferred Units. See Amendment of the Partnership Agreement.
Merger of our partnership or the sale of all or substantially all of our assets	Unit majority in certain circumstances. See Merger, Consolidation, Conversion, Sale or Other Disposition of Our Assets.
Dissolution of our partnership	Unit majority and the approval by a majority of the Class B and Class C Preferred Units and the approval by two-thirds of the Class D Preferred Units. See Termination and Dissolution.
Continuation of our partnership upon dissolution	Unit majority. See Termination and Dissolution.
Withdrawal of our general partner	Prior to March 13, 2022, under most circumstances, the approval of a majority of the common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, is required for the withdrawal of our general partner in a manner that would cause a dissolution of our partnership. See Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner.
Removal of our general partner	Not less than two-thirds of the outstanding common units, including common units held by our general partner and its affiliates. See Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner.
Transfer of the general partner interest	Our general partner may transfer without a vote of our common unitholders all, but not less than all, of its general partner interest in us to an affiliate or another person (other than an individual) 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 common units, excluding

common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, is required in other circumstances for a transfer of the general partner interest to a third-party prior to the tenth anniversary of the date of the distribution. See Transfer of General Partner Interest.

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Transfer of ownership interests in our general partner	No approval required at any time. See General Partner.	Transfer of Ownership Interests in the

The holder of our class A units has all voting rights applicable to the general partner.

Applicable Law; Forum, Venue and Jurisdiction

Our partnership agreement is governed by Delaware law. Our partnership agreement requires that, unless we (through the approval of our general partner) consent in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware shall be the sole and exclusive forum for any claims, suits, actions or proceedings:

arising out of or relating in any way to the partnership agreement (including any claims, suits or actions to interpret, apply or enforce the provisions of the partnership agreement or the duties, obligations or liabilities among limited partners or of limited partners to us, or the rights or powers of, or restrictions on, the limited partners or us);

brought in a derivative manner on our behalf;

asserting a claim of breach of a fiduciary duty owed by any director, officer or other employee of us or our general partner, or owed by our general partner, to us or the limited partners;

asserting a claim arising pursuant to any provision of the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act, or the Delaware Act; or

asserting a claim governed by the internal affairs doctrine;

regardless of whether such claims, suits, actions or proceedings sound in contract, tort, fraud or otherwise, are based on common law, statutory, equitable, legal or other grounds, or are derivative or direct claims. However, if and only if the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware dismisses any such claims, suits, actions or proceedings for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, such claims, suits, actions or proceedings may be brought in another state or federal court sitting in the State of Delaware. By acquiring or purchasing a common unit, a limited partner is irrevocably consenting to these limitations and provisions regarding claims, suits, actions or proceedings and submitting to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware in connection with any such claims, suits, actions or proceedings.

Limited Liability

Assuming that a limited partner does not participate in the control of our business within the meaning of the Delaware Act and otherwise acts in conformity with the provisions of our partnership agreement, the limited partner s liability under the Delaware Act will be limited, subject to possible exceptions, to the amount of capital it is obligated to contribute to us for its common units plus its 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 our general partner,

to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement, or

to take other action under our partnership agreement

constituted participation in the control of our business for purposes of the Delaware Act, then our limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under Delaware law to the same extent as our general partner. This liability would extend to persons who transact business with us and reasonably believe that the limited partner is a general partner. Neither our partnership agreement nor the Delaware Act specifically provides for legal recourse against our general partner if a limited partner were to lose limited liability through any fault of our 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.

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Under the Delaware Act, a limited partnership cannot 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. Moreover, under the Delaware Act, a limited partnership may also not make a distribution to a partner upon the winding up of the limited partnership before liabilities of the limited partnership to creditors have been satisfied by payment or the making of reasonable provision for payment thereof. 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 will be liable to the limited partnership for the amount of the distribution for three years. Under the Delaware Act, an assignee who becomes a limited partner is liable for the obligations of his assignor to make contributions to the partnership, except 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.

We currently conduct business in Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia and Wyoming. Limitations on the liability of limited partners for the obligations of a limited partnership have not been clearly established in many jurisdictions. If it were determined that we were conducting business in any state without compliance with the applicable limited partnership statute, or that the right or exercise of the right by the limited partners as a group to remove or replace our general partner, to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement or to take other action under our 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 our general partner under the circumstances. We will operate in a manner that our 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 our unitholders, subject to the rights of holders of our Class B and Class D Preferred Units to approve the creation or issuance of any securities senior to such units. The affirmative vote of the holders of at least 75% of the outstanding Class B Preferred Units is required to issue any equity securities ranking senior to, or pari passu with, the Class B Preferred Units with respect to liquidation preference or distributions. The affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding Class D Preferred Units, voting as a single class and together with holders of any securities not expressly made senior or subordinated to the Class D Preferred Units, is required to issue any securities ranking senior to the Class D Preferred units with respect to distributions.

It is possible that we will fund acquisitions through the issuance of additional common units or other partnership securities. Holders of any additional common units we issue will be entitled to share equally with the then-existing holders of common units in our distributions of available cash. In addition, the issuance of additional common units or other partnership securities may dilute the value of the interests of the then-existing holders of common units in our net assets. The holders of common units will not have preemptive rights to acquire additional common units or other partnership securities.

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 common units are not entitled. In addition, our partnership agreement does not prohibit the issuance by our subsidiaries of equity securities, which may effectively rank senior to our common units.

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The class A units will be entitled to 2% of all distributions that we make prior to our liquidation, other than distributions we make on our Class D Preferred Units. The 2% sharing ratio of the class A units will not be reduced if we issue additional equity securities in the future. Because the 2% sharing ratio will not be reduced if we issue additional equity securities, and in order to ensure that each class A unit represents the same percentage economic interest in us as one common unit, if we issue additional common units or units convertible into common units, we will also issue to our general partner, for no additional consideration and without any requirement to make a capital contribution, an additional number of class A units so that the total number of outstanding class A units after such issuance equals 2% of the sum of the total number of common units, common unit equivalents and class A units after such issuance.

In addition to the right to receive additional class A units, our general partner will have a limited preemptive right in connection with any issuance by us of additional partnership securities. The right, which the general partner may assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates, will entitle the general partner to purchase additional units of any securities being sold to third parties, on the same terms as such third parties, in an amount up to the amount necessary to maintain the aggregate ownership percentage of the general partner and its affiliates at the same level before and after such issuance.

Amendment of the Partnership Agreement

General. Amendments to our partnership agreement may be proposed only by our general partner. However, our general partner will have no duty or obligation to propose any amendment and may decline to do so free of any duty or obligation whatsoever to us or our limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us or our limited partners. To adopt a proposed amendment, other than the amendments discussed under No Unitholder Approval , our general partner is required to 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.

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 be amended upon the approval of the holders of at least 90% of the outstanding units voting together as a single class.

No Unitholder Approval. Our general partner may generally make amendments to our partnership agreement without the approval of any limited partner to reflect:

a change in our name, the location of our principal place of business, our registered agent or 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 for us to qualify us or continue our qualification as a limited partnership or other entity in which the limited partners have limited liability under the laws of any state or to ensure that we will not be taxed as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes;

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

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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 subject to the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Investment Advisers 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 or issuance of additional partnership securities or options, warrants, rights or appreciation rights relating to partnership securities;

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

any amendment effected, necessitated or contemplated by a merger agreement or plan of conversion 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;

any amendment necessary to require our limited partners to provide a statement, certification or other evidence to us regarding whether such limited partner is subject to U.S. federal income taxation on the income generated by us or regarding such limited partner s nationality or citizenship and to provide for the ability of our general partner to redeem the units of any limited partner who fails to provide such statement, certification or other evidence;

conversions into, mergers with or conveyances to another limited liability entity that is newly formed and has no assets, liabilities or operations at the time of the conversion, merger or conveyance other than those it receives by way of the conversion, merger or conveyance; and

any other amendment substantially similar to any of the matters described above.

In addition, our general partner may amend our partnership agreement, without the approval of the unitholders, if our general partner determines that those amendments:

do not adversely affect the 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 or interdealer quotation system 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 or to implement the tax-related provisions of our partnership agreement; or

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

Unitholder Approval. For amendments of the type not requiring 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 our limited partners or result in our being treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxable as an entity for federal income tax purposes. No other amendments to our partnership agreement will become effective without the approval of holders of at least 90% of the outstanding common units if our general partner determines that such amendment will affect the limited liability of any limited partner under Delaware law.

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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, or, with respect to our Class D Preferred Units, approval of at least two-thirds of Class D Preferred Units. Any amendment that reduces the voting percentage required to take any action other than to remove the general partner or call a meeting of unitholders is required to be approved by the affirmative vote of limited partners whose aggregate outstanding common units constitute not less than the voting requirement sought to be reduced. Any amendment that would increase the percentage of common units required to remove the general partner or call a meeting of unitholders must be approved by the affirmative vote of limited partners whose aggregate outstanding common units constitute not less than the percentage sought to be increased.

Merger, Consolidation, Conversion, Sale or Other Disposition of Our Assets

A merger, consolidation or conversion of us requires the prior consent of our general partner. However, our general partner will have no duty or obligation to consent to any merger, consolidation or conversion 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 any other standard imposed by our partnership agreement, the Delaware Act or applicable law.

In addition, the partnership agreement generally prohibits our general partner, without the prior approval by a unit majority, from causing us to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets in a single transaction or a series of related transactions. Our general partner may, however, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or grant a security interest in all or substantially all of our assets without the approval of a unit majority. 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, consolidation or conversion without the prior approval of our unitholders if we are the surviving entity in the transaction, our general partner has received an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters, the transaction will not result in an amendment to the partnership agreement (other than an amendment that the general partner could adopt without the consent of other partners), each of our units will be an identical unit of our partnership following the transaction and the number of partnership securities to be issued does not exceed 20% of our outstanding partnership securities 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 purpose of that conversion, merger or conveyance is to effect a change in our legal form into another limited liability entity, our general partner has received an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters and the general partner determines that the governing instruments of the new entity provide the limited partners and the general partner with substantially the same rights and obligations as contained in the partnership agreement. 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 similar transaction or event.

Termination and Dissolution

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

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

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

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

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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 us in accordance with our partnership agreement or withdrawal or removal following approval and admission of a successor.

Upon a dissolution under the last item 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 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 under Delaware law of any limited partner; and

neither our partnership nor any of our subsidiaries would be taxed as a corporation or otherwise be taxable as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes upon the exercise of that right to continue (to the extent not already so treated or taxed).

Liquidation and Distribution of Proceeds

Upon our dissolution, unless we are 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 necessary or appropriate liquidate our assets and apply the proceeds of the liquidation as described in Our Cash Distribution Policy. 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 Our General Partner

Except as described below, our general partner has agreed not to withdraw voluntarily as our general partner prior to the tenth anniversary of the date of the distribution, without obtaining the approval of the holders of at least a majority of our outstanding common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, and furnishing an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. On or after the tenth anniversary of the date of the distribution, our general partner may withdraw as our general partner without first obtaining approval from the unitholders by giving 90 days written notice. Notwithstanding the information above, our general partner may withdraw as our general partner without unitholder approval upon 90 days notice to our limited partners if at least 50% of the outstanding common units are held or controlled by one person and its affiliates other than our general partner and its affiliates. In addition, our 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. See Transfer of General Partner Interest.

If our general partner withdraws, other than as a result of a transfer of all or a part of its general partner interest in us, the holders of a unit majority may elect a successor to the withdrawing general partner. If a successor is not elected prior to the effective date of the withdrawal, or is elected but an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters cannot be obtained, we will be dissolved and liquidated, unless within a specified period of time after that withdrawal, the holders of a unit majority elect to continue the partnership by appointing a successor general partner. See Termination and Dissolution.

Our general partner may not be removed unless that removal is approved by the vote of the holders of at least 66 ⅔% of the outstanding units, 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 unit majority, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates. The ownership of more than 33 ⅓% of our outstanding common units by our general partner and its affiliates would give them the practical ability to prevent our general partner s removal.

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In the event of removal of our general partner under circumstances where cause exists or a withdrawal of our general partner that violates our partnership agreement, a successor general partner will have the option to purchase the class A units and incentive distribution rights of the departing general partner for a cash payment equal to the fair market value of those interests. Under all other circumstances where our general partner withdraws or is removed, the departing general partner will have the option to require the successor general partner to purchase those interests for their fair market value. In each case, fair market value will be determined by agreement between the departing general partner and the successor general partner. If they cannot reach an agreement, an independent expert selected by the departing general partner and the successor general partner will determine the fair market value. If the departing general partner and the successor general partner cannot agree on an expert, then an expert chosen by agreement of the experts selected by each of them will determine the fair market value.

If the purchase option is not exercised by either the departing general partner or the successor general partner, the class A units and incentive distribution rights will automatically convert into common units 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 the transfer by our general partner of all, but not less than all, of its class A units 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 to another person, prior to the tenth anniversary of the date of the distribution, without the approval of the holders of at least a majority of our outstanding common units, excluding common 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 common units to one or more persons without unitholder approval.

Transfer of Ownership Interests in the General Partner

The members of our general partner may sell or transfer all or part of their interest in our general partner without the approval of the unitholders.

Transfer of Incentive Distribution Rights

Our general partner or any other holder of incentive distribution rights may transfer any or all of its incentive distribution rights without unitholder approval.

Change of Management Provisions

Our partnership agreement contains specific provisions that are intended to discourage a person or group from attempting to remove Atlas Energy Group as our general partner or otherwise change the management of

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our general partner. If any person or group other than our general partner and its affiliates acquires beneficial ownership of 20% or more of our common units, that person or group will lose voting rights on all of its units and the common units will not be considered outstanding for the purposes of noticing meetings, determining the presence of a quorum, calculating required votes and other similar matters. This loss of voting rights does not apply to any person or group that acquires the common units from our general partner or its affiliates, any transferees of that person or group approved by our general partner or any person or group who acquires the common units directly from us if our general partner notifies such person or group in writing, in advance, that this limitation will not apply.

Limited Call Right

If at any time our general partner and its affiliates own more than two-thirds of the outstanding common units, our general partner will have the right, which it may assign to any of its affiliates or to us, to acquire all, but not less than all, of the common units held by unaffiliated persons as of a record date selected by our general partner on at least 10 but not more than 60 days notice.

The purchase price is the greater of:

- the highest cash price paid by our general partner or any of its affiliates for any limited partner interests 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 average of the daily closing prices of the limited partner interests of such class over the 20 trading days preceding the date three days before the date the notice is mailed.

As a result of our general partner s right to purchase outstanding limited partner interests, a holder of limited partner interests may have his limited partner interests purchased at a price that may be lower than market prices at various times prior to such purchase or lower than a unitholder may anticipate the market price to be in the future. The federal income tax consequences to a unitholder of the exercise of this call right are the same as a sale by that unitholder of his common units in the market.

Meetings; Voting

Except as described above under Change of Management Provisions, unitholders who are record holders of common units on a 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. Our general partner does not anticipate that any meeting of common unitholders will be called in the foreseeable future.

Any action that is required or permitted to be taken by the common unitholders may be taken either at a meeting of the common unitholders or without a meeting if consents in writing describing the action so taken are signed by holders of the number of common units necessary to authorize or take that action at a meeting. Meetings of the common unitholders may be called by our general partner or by holders of at least 20% of the outstanding common 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 common 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 common units, in which case the quorum will be the greater percentage.

Except as described above under Change of Management Provisions, each record holder will have a vote in accordance with his percentage interest, although additional limited partner interests having different voting rights could be issued. See Issuance of Additional Securities. Common 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.

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Any notice, demand, request report, or proxy material required or permitted to be given or made to record holders of common 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 any common units in accordance with our partnership agreement, each transferee of common units shall be admitted as a limited partner with respect to the common units transferred when such transfer and admission is reflected in our books and records. Except as described above under Limited Liability, the common 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, we 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 any limited partner or transferee to furnish information about his nationality, citizenship or related status. If a limited partner fails to furnish this information 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, then the limited partner may be treated as a non-citizen assignee. 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.

In addition, in such circumstance, we will have the right to acquire all (but not less than all) of the units held by such limited partner or non-citizen assignee. The purchase price for such units will be the average of the daily closing prices per unit for the 20 consecutive trading days immediately prior to the date set for such purchase, and such purchase price will be paid (in the sole discretion of our general partner) either in cash or by delivery of a promissory note. Any such promissory note will bear interest at the rate of 5% annually and will be payable in three equal annual installments of principal and accrued interest, commencing one year after the purchase date.

Non-Taxpaying Holders; Redemption

If our general partner, with the advice of counsel, determines that our not being treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxable as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes, coupled with the tax status (or lack of proof thereof) of one or more of our limited partners, has, or is reasonably likely to have, a material adverse effect on the maximum applicable rate that can be charged to customers by our subsidiaries, then our general partner may adopt such amendments to our partnership agreement as it determines necessary or advisable to:

obtain proof of the U.S. federal income tax status of our limited partners (and their owners, to the extent relevant); and

permit us to redeem the units at their current market price held by any person whose tax status has or is reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on our ability to operate our assets or generate revenues from our assets or who fails to comply with the procedures instituted by our general partner to obtain proof of the U.S. federal income tax status.

A non-taxpaying assignee does not have the right to direct the voting of his units and may not receive distributions in-kind upon our liquidation.

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Indemnification

Under our partnership agreement, in most circumstances, we will indemnify the following persons, by reason of their status as such, to the fullest extent permitted by law, from and against all losses, claims or damages arising out of or incurred in connection with our business:

- our general partner;
- any departing general partner;
- any person who is or was an affiliate of our general partner or any departing general partner;
- any person who is or was a manager, managing member, officer, director, employee, agent, fiduciary or trustee of our partnership, our subsidiaries, our general partner, any departing general partner or any affiliate of our partnership, our subsidiaries, our general partner, any departing general partner;
- any person who is or was serving at the request of a general partner or any departing general partner or any affiliate of a general partner or any departing general partner as a manager, managing member officer, director, employee, agent, fiduciary or trustee of another person; and
- any person whom the general partner designates as an indemnitee for purposes of our partnership agreement.

Our indemnification obligation arises only if the indemnified person did not act in bad faith or engage in fraud, willful misconduct or, in the case of a criminal matter, knowledge of the indemnified person s unlawful conduct.

Any indemnification under these provisions will be only out of our assets. Our general partner will not be personally liable for the indemnification obligations and will not have any obligation to contribute or loan funds to us in connection with it. Our partnership agreement permits us to 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 the 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 allocated to our general partner by its affiliates. Our general partner is entitled to determine the expenses that are allocable to us, and our partnership agreement does not place any aggregate limit on the amount of such reimbursements.

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 financial and tax reporting purposes, our fiscal year end is December 31.

We will furnish or make available to record holders of common 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 registered public accounting firm. Except for our fourth quarter, we also furnish or make available summary financial information within 90 days after the close of each quarter. We will be deemed to have made any such report available if we file such report with the SEC on EDGAR or make the report available on a publicly available website that we maintain.

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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 our unitholders will depend on the cooperation of our unitholders in supplying us with specific information. Every unitholder will receive information to assist it in determining its federal and state tax liability and filing its federal and state income tax returns, regardless of whether it 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 its interest as a limited partner, upon reasonable written demand stating the purpose of such demand and at his own expense, obtain:

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 became a partner;

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

information regarding the status of our business and financial condition.

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 is not in our best interests or which we are required by law or by agreements with third parties to keep confidential.

Registration Rights

In our partnership agreement, we have agreed to register for resale under the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws any common units or other partnership securities proposed to be sold by our general partner or any of its affiliates if an exemption from the registration requirements is not otherwise available. There is no limit on the number of times that we may be required to file registration statements pursuant to this obligation. We have also agreed to include any securities held by our general partner or any of its respective affiliates in any registration statement that we file to offer securities for cash, other than an offering relating solely to an employee benefit plan. These registration rights continue for two years following any withdrawal or removal of our general partner. We are obligated to pay all expenses incidental to the registration, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions.

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OUR CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY

Set forth below is a summary of the significant provisions of our partnership agreement that relate to our cash distributions.

General

The amount of distributions paid under our cash distribution policy and the decision to make any distribution will be determined by our general partner in its discretion, taking into account the terms of our partnership agreement. Our cash distribution policy reflects a basic judgment, given our current asset base, that our unitholders will be better served by the distribution of our available cash (which is defined in our partnership agreement and is net of any expenses and reserves established by our general partner) than by our retaining such available cash. It is the current policy of our general partner that we should increase our level of cash distributions per unit only when, in its judgment, it believes that:

- we have sufficient reserves and liquidity for the proper conduct of our business; and
- we can maintain such an increased distribution level for a sustained period.

The amount of available cash, which is defined in our partnership agreement, will be determined by our general partner after the completion of the distribution and will be based upon recommendations from our management. Because we believe that we will generally finance any expansion capital expenditures and investment capital expenditures from external financing sources, we believe that our investors are best served by our distributing all of our available cash. In addition, because we are not subject to entity-level U.S. federal income tax as a partnership, we have more cash to distribute to you than would be the case if we were subject to U.S. federal income tax. Our cash distribution policy is consistent with the terms of our partnership agreement, which requires that we distribute all of our available cash.

Minimum Quarterly Distributions

We currently intend to distribute to the holders of our Class D Units a quarterly distribution of approximately $0.54 per Class D Unit, or approximately $2.16 per Class D Unit per year, upon issuance of the Class E Preferred Units, to the holders of Class E Preferred Units a quarterly distribution of approximately $ per Class E Preferred Unit, or approximately $ per Class E Preferred Unit per year, and to the holders of our Class B Preferred Units on a quarterly basis at least a minimum quarterly distribution of $0.40 per unit, or $1.60 per unit per year, and to holders of our Class C Units on a quarterly basis at least a minimum quarterly distribution of $0.51 per unit, or $2.04 per unit per year, to the extent we have sufficient available cash after we establish appropriate reserves and pay fees and expenses, including payments to our general partner in reimbursement of costs and expenses it incurs on our behalf. Our minimum quarterly distribution is intended to reflect the level of cash that we expect to be available for distribution per common unit, preferred units and class A unit each quarter. There is no guarantee that we will pay the minimum quarterly distribution, or any distribution, in any quarter, and we will be prohibited from making any distributions to unitholders if it would cause an event of default or an event of default is existing under our credit agreement.

It is the current policy of our general partner that we should raise our quarterly cash distribution only when our general partner believes that:

we have sufficient reserves and liquidity for the proper conduct of our business; and

we can maintain such an increased distribution level for a sustained period.

While this is our current policy, our general partner may alter the policy in the future when and if it determines such alteration to be appropriate.

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Quarterly Distributions of Available Cash

Our partnership agreement requires that we make distributions of all available cash (as defined in our partnership agreement) within 45 days after the end of each quarter, beginning with the quarter ending March 31, 2012, to holders of record on the applicable record date.

For these purposes, available cash generally means, for any of our fiscal quarters:

all cash on hand at the end of the quarter (including amounts available for working capital purposes under a credit facility, commercial paper facility or other similar financing arrangement),

less the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner at the date of determination of available cash for the quarter in order to:

provide for the proper conduct of our business (including reserves for working capital, operating expenses, future capital expenditures and credit needs and potential acquisitions);

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

provide funds for distributions to (1) our unitholders for any one or more of the next four quarters or (2) with respect to our incentive distribution rights (provided that our general partner may not establish cash reserves for future distributions on our common units and class A units unless it determines that the establishment of such reserves will not prevent us from distributing the minimum distribution on all common units and class A units);

plus, if our general partner so determines, all or any portion of 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. Working capital borrowings are borrowings that are made under our credit facility or another arrangement and used solely for working capital purposes or to pay distributions to unitholders.

Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus

General

All cash we distribute to unitholders will be characterized as either operating surplus or capital surplus. Our partnership agreement requires that we distribute available cash from operating surplus differently than available cash from capital surplus.

Definition of Operating Surplus

Operating surplus generally means:

$60 million (as described below); *plus*

all of our cash receipts after the separation, including working capital borrowings but excluding cash from (1) borrowings that are not working capital borrowings, (2) sales of equity and debt securities and (3) sales or other dispositions of assets outside the ordinary course of business; *plus*

working capital borrowings made after the end of a quarter but before the date of determination of operating surplus for the quarter; *plus*

cash distributions paid on equity securities that we may issue after the separation to finance all or a portion of the construction, acquisition, development, replacement or improvement of a capital asset (such as equipment or reserves) during the period beginning on the date that we enter into a binding obligation to commence the construction, acquisition, development or improvement of a capital improvement or replacement of a capital asset and ending on the earlier to occur of the date the capital improvement or capital asset begins producing in paying quantities, the date it is placed into service or the date that it is abandoned or disposed of; *plus*

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cash distributions paid (including incremental incentive distributions) on equity issued to pay the construction period interest on debt incurred (including periodic net payments under related interest rate swap arrangements), or to pay construction period distributions on equity issued, to finance the capital improvements or capital assets referred to above; *less*

our operating expenditures (as defined below); *less*

the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner to provide funds for future operating expenditures; *less*

all working capital borrowings not repaid within 12 months after having been incurred or repaid within such twelve-month period with the proceeds of additional working capital borrowings; *less*

any cash loss realized on disposition of an investment capital expenditure.

If a working capital borrowing, which increases operating surplus, is not repaid during the twelve-month period following the borrowing, it will be deemed repaid at the end of such period, thus decreasing operating surplus at such time. When such working capital borrowing is in fact repaid, it will not be treated as a reduction in operating surplus because operating surplus will have been previously reduced by the deemed repayment.

Operating expenditures is defined in our partnership agreement, and generally means all of our cash expenditures, including but not limited to:

taxes;

reimbursement of expenses to our general partner and its affiliates;

payments made in the ordinary course of business on hedge contracts;

director and officer compensation;

repayment of working capital borrowings;

debt service payments; and

estimated maintenance capital expenditures,

Operating expenditures, however, do not include:

repayment of working capital borrowings previously deducted from operating surplus pursuant to the penultimate bullet point of the definition of operating surplus when the repayment actually occurs;

payments (including prepayments and prepayment penalties) of principal of and premium on indebtedness, other than working capital borrowings;

expansion capital expenditures;

actual maintenance capital expenditures;

investment capital expenditures;

payment of transaction expenses relating to interim capital transactions;

distributions to our unitholders and distributions with respect to our incentive distribution rights; or

repurchases of equity interests except to fund obligations under employee benefit plans.

As described above, operating surplus does not reflect actual cash on hand that is available for distribution to our unitholders. For example, it includes a provision that will enable us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to $60 million of cash that we receive in the future from non-operating sources, such as asset sales, issuances of securities and long-term borrowings that would otherwise be distributed as capital

surplus. In addition, the effect of including in the definition of operating surplus certain cash distributions on equity securities would be to increase operating surplus by the amount of the cash distributions. As a result, we may also distribute as operating surplus up to the amount of the cash distributions we receive from non-operating sources.

None of actual maintenance capital expenditures, investment capital expenditures or expansion capital expenditures are subtracted from operating surplus. Because actual maintenance capital expenditures, investment capital expenditures and expansion capital expenditures include interest payments (and related fees) on debt incurred and distributions on equity issued (including incremental distributions on incentive distribution rights) to finance all of the portion of the construction, acquisition, development, replacement or improvement of a capital asset (such as equipment or reserves) during the period from when we enter into a binding commitment to commence the construction, acquisition, development or improvement of a capital asset or replacement of a capital asset until the earlier to occur of the date any such capital asset is placed into service or the date that it is abandoned or disposed of, such interest payments and equity distributions are also not subtracted from operating surplus (except, in the case of maintenance capital expenditures, to the extent such interest payments and distributions are included in estimated maintenance capital expenditures).

Capital Expenditures

Estimated maintenance capital expenditures reduce operating surplus, but expansion capital expenditures, actual maintenance capital expenditures and investment capital expenditures do not.

Maintenance Capital Expenditures

Maintenance capital expenditures are those capital expenditures we expect to make on an ongoing basis to maintain our current production levels over the long term. We expect that a primary component of maintenance capital expenditures will be capital expenditures associated with the replacement of equipment and oil and natural gas reserves (including non-proved reserves attributable to undeveloped leasehold acreage and other similar assets), whether through the development, exploitation and production of an existing leasehold or the acquisition or development of a new oil or natural gas property, including to offset expected production declines from producing properties. Maintenance capital expenditures will also include interest (and related fees) on debt incurred and distributions on equity issued (including incremental distributions on incentive distribution rights) to finance all or any portion of a replacement asset that is paid in respect of the period beginning on the date that we enter into a binding obligation to commence construction or development of the replacement asset and ending on the earlier to occur of the date the replacement asset is placed into service or the date that it is abandoned or disposed of. Capital expenditures made solely for investment purposes will not be considered maintenance capital expenditures.

Because our maintenance capital expenditures can be irregular, the amount of our actual maintenance capital expenditures may differ substantially from period to period, which could cause similar fluctuations in the amounts of operating surplus, adjusted operating surplus and cash available for distribution to our unitholders if we subtracted actual maintenance capital expenditures from operating surplus. To address this issue, our partnership agreement will require that an estimate of the average quarterly maintenance capital expenditures (including estimated plugging and abandonment costs) necessary to maintain our asset base over the long term be subtracted from operating surplus each quarter as opposed to the actual amounts spent. The amount of estimated maintenance capital expenditures deducted from operating surplus is subject to review and change by the board of directors of our general partner at least once a year. We will make the estimate at least annually and whenever an event occurs that is likely to result in a material adjustment to the amount of future estimated maintenance capital expenditures, such as a major acquisition or the introduction of new governmental regulations that will impact our business. Any adjustment to this estimate will be prospective only.

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The use of estimated maintenance capital expenditures in calculating operating surplus will have the following effects:

- it will reduce the risk that maintenance capital expenditures in any one quarter will be large enough to render operating surplus less than the minimum quarterly distribution to be paid on all the units for that quarter;

- it will increase our ability to distribute as operating surplus cash we receive from non-operating sources;

- in quarters where estimated maintenance capital expenditures exceed actual maintenance capital expenditures, it will be more difficult for us to raise our distributions above the minimum quarterly distribution, because the amount of estimated maintenance capital expenditures will reduce the amount of cash available for distribution to our unitholders, even in quarters where there are no corresponding actual capital expenditures; conversely, the use of estimated maintenance capital expenditures in calculating operating surplus will have the opposite effect for quarters in which actual maintenance capital expenditures exceed our estimated maintenance capital expenditures; and

- it will be more difficult for us to raise our distribution above the minimum quarterly distribution and pay incentive distribution rights.

Expansion Capital Expenditures

Expansion capital expenditures are those capital expenditures that we expect will increase the production of our and gas properties over the long term. Examples of expansion capital expenditures include the acquisition of reserves or equipment, the acquisition of new leasehold interests, or the development, exploitation and production of an existing leasehold interest, to the extent such expenditures are incurred to increase the production of our oil and gas properties over the long term. Expansion capital expenditures will also include interest (and related fees) on debt incurred and distributions on equity issued (including incremental distributions on incentive distribution rights) to finance all or any portion of a capital improvement that is paid in respect of the period beginning on the date that we enter into a binding obligation to commence construction or development of the capital improvement and ending on the earlier to occur of the date the capital improvement is placed into service or the date that it is abandoned or disposed of. Capital expenditures made solely for investment purposes will not be considered expansion capital expenditures.

Investment Capital Expenditures

Investment capital expenditures are those capital expenditures that are neither maintenance capital expenditures nor expansion capital expenditures. Investment capital expenditures largely will consist of capital expenditures made for investment purposes. Examples of investment capital expenditures include traditional capital expenditures for investment purposes, such as purchases of securities, as well as other capital expenditures that might be made in lieu of such traditional investment capital expenditures, such as the acquisition of a capital asset for investment purposes or development of our undeveloped properties in excess of the maintenance of our asset base, but which are not expected to expand our asset base for more than the short term.

Capital expenditures that are made in part for maintenance capital purposes and in part for investment capital or expansion capital purposes will be allocated as maintenance capital expenditures, investment capital expenditures or expansion capital expenditure by the board of directors of our general partner based upon its good faith determination.

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Definition of Capital Surplus

Capital surplus is defined in our partnership agreement as any distribution of available cash in excess of our cumulative operating surplus. Accordingly, capital surplus would generally be generated by:

- borrowings (including sales of debt securities) other than working capital borrowings;
- sales of debt and equity securities; and
- sales or other dispositions of assets for cash, other than inventory, accounts receivable and other assets disposed of in the ordinary course of business or as part of normal retirement or replacement of assets.

Characterization of Cash Distributions

We treat all available cash distributed as distributed from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed since we began operations equals our total operating surplus from the date that we began operations until the end of the quarter that immediately preceded the distribution. We will treat any amount distributed in excess of operating surplus, regardless of its source, as capital surplus. As described above, operating surplus includes up to $60 million which does not reflect actual cash on hand that is available for distribution to our unitholders. Rather, it is a provision that will enable us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to this amount of cash we receive in the future from non-operating sources such as asset sales, issuances of securities and borrowings that would otherwise be distributed as capital surplus. We do not currently anticipate that we will make any distributions from capital surplus.

Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus

We will make distributions of available cash from operating surplus for any quarter in the following manner:

- first, pari passu (A) to the holders of Class B Units, Class D Units and, upon issuance of the Class E Preferred Units, the Class E Preferred Units, pro rata, until there has been distributed in respect of each Class B Unit then outstanding an amount equal to $0.40 and in respect of each Class D Unit and Class E Preferred Unit then outstanding an amount equal to the quarterly distribution set forth in the certificates of designation for the Class D Units and Class E Preferred Units and (B) to the holders of the class A units, pro rata, in an amount equal to 2.0202% of the amount distributed with respect to the Class B Units pursuant to clause (A) above;
- second, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our Class C Units, each pro rata, until there has been distributed in respect of each Class C Unit then outstanding the amount specified in the certificate of designation for the Class C Units;

third, to the holders of the incentive distribution rights, (A) 13/85^{ths} of such amount paid pursuant to second above that is between $0.46 per outstanding unit for such quarter, which we refer to as the first target distribution, and $0.50 per outstanding unit for such quarter, which we refer to as the second target distribution ; (B) 23/75^{ths} of such amount paid pursuant to second above that is between the second target distribution and $0.60 per outstanding unit for such quarter, which we refer to as the third target distribution ; and (C) 48/50^{ths} of such amount paid pursuant to second above that is over the third target distribution for such quarter;

fourth, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, until there has been distributed in respect of each common unit then outstanding an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for such quarter;

fifth, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units and Class B Units, each pro rata, until there has been distributed in respect of each common unit and Class B Unit then outstanding an amount equal to the first target distribution for such quarter; and

after that, in the manner described in Cash Distribution Policy Incentive Distribution Rights.

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Adjusted operating surplus for any period generally means operating surplus generated during that period, less:

1. any net increase in working capital borrowings with respect to that period; and

2. any net decrease in cash reserves for operating expenditures with respect to that period not relating to an operating expenditure made with respect to that period,

and plus:

3. any net decrease in working capital borrowings made with respect to that period;

4. any net increase in cash reserves for operating expenditures with respect to that period required by any debt instrument for the repayment of principal, interest or premium; and

5. any net decrease made in subsequent periods in cash reserves for operating expenditures initially established with respect to such period to the extent such decrease results in a reduction of adjusted operating surplus in subsequent periods pursuant to item 2 above.

Operating surplus generated during a period is equal to the difference between:

the operating surplus determined at the end of that period; and

the operating surplus determined at the beginning of that period.

Incentive Distribution Rights

Incentive distribution rights represent the right to receive increasing amounts of quarterly distributions of available cash from operating surplus after we have made payments in excess of the first target distribution and the tests described below have been met. Our general partner currently holds all of the incentive distribution rights, but may transfer these rights separately from its general partner interest in us, without the consent of the unitholders.

We will make incentive distributions to the holders of our incentive distribution rights for any quarter in which we have distributed available cash from operating surplus to our unitholders in an amount equal to the first target distribution, as follows:

first, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 85% to the holders of our common units and Class B Preferred Units, each pro rata, and 13% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights, until there has been distributed in respect of each common unit and Class B Preferred Unit then outstanding an amount equal to the second target distribution for such quarter;

second, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 75% to the holders of our common units and Class B Preferred Units, each pro rata, and 23% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights, until there has been distributed in respect of each common unit and Class B Preferred Unit then outstanding an amount equal to the third target distribution for such quarter; and

after that, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 50% to the holders of our common units and Class B Preferred Units, each pro rata, and 48% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights.

The class A units represent a 2% general partner interest in us, and the holder of such units are entitled to 2% of our cash distributions, without any requirement to make a capital contribution to us. The 2% sharing ratio of the class A units will not be reduced if we issue additional common units in the future. Because the 2% sharing ratio will not be reduced if we issue additional common units, and in order to ensure that each class A unit represents the same percentage economic interest in Atlas Resource Partners as one common unit, if we issue additional common units, we will also issue to our general partner, for no additional consideration and without any requirement to make a capital contribution, an additional number of class A units so that the total number of outstanding class A units after such issuance equals 2% of the sum of the total number of common units and class A units after such issuance.

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Right to Reset Incentive Distribution Levels

The holder of our incentive distribution rights, which will initially be our general partner, has the right under our partnership agreement to elect to relinquish the right to receive incentive distribution payments based on the initial cash target distribution levels and to reset, at higher levels, the minimum quarterly distribution amount and cash target distribution levels upon which the incentive distribution payments to our general partner would be set. If our general partner transfers all or a portion of our incentive distribution rights in the future, then the holder or holders of a majority of our incentive distribution rights will be entitled to exercise this right.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the general partner does not have the right to reset the minimum quarterly distributions payable to holders of our Class B Preferred Units or Class C Preferred Units without the consent of such holders. Upon a reset of the minimum quarterly distribution amount as set forth herein, holders of Class B Preferred Units shall continue to have the right to receive distributions equal to the greater of (i) $0.40 and (ii) the quarterly distribution payable to holders of common units for the most recently completed quarter, in each case multiplied by the number of common units into which such Class B Preferred Unit is then convertible, and holders of Class C Preferred Units shall continue to have the right to receive distributions equal to the greater of (i) $0.51 and (ii) the quarterly distribution payable to holders of common units for the most recently completed quarter, in each case multiplied by the number of common units into which such Class C Preferred Unit is then convertible.

The right to reset the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels upon which the incentive distributions are based may be exercised, without approval of our unitholders or the conflicts committee of the board of directors of our general partner, at any time when we have made cash distributions to the holders of the incentive distribution rights at the highest level of incentive distribution for the prior four consecutive fiscal quarters. The reset minimum quarterly distribution amount and target distribution levels are described below and will be higher than the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels prior to the reset and there will be no incentive distributions paid under the reset target distribution levels. We anticipate that the holder of our incentive distribution rights would exercise this reset right in order to facilitate acquisitions or internal growth projects that would otherwise not be sufficiently accretive to cash distributions per common unit, taking into account the existing levels of incentive distribution payments being made to such holder.

In connection with the resetting of the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels and the corresponding relinquishment of incentive distribution payments based on the target cash distributions prior to the reset, the holder of our incentive distribution rights will be entitled to receive a number of newly issued common units based on a predetermined formula described below that takes into account the cash parity value of the average cash distributions related to the incentive distribution rights received by such holder for the two quarters prior to the reset event, as compared to the average cash distributions per common unit during this period.

The number of common units that the holder of our incentive distribution rights would be entitled to receive from us in connection with a resetting of the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels then in effect would be equal to:

the average amount of cash distributions received by the holder of our incentive distribution rights in respect of such rights during the two consecutive fiscal quarters ended immediately prior to the date of such reset election; *divided by*

the average of the amount of cash distributed per common unit during each of these two quarters.

Following a reset election, the minimum quarterly distribution amount will be reset to an amount equal to the average cash distribution amount per class A unit and common unit for the two fiscal quarters immediately preceding the reset election (which amount we refer to as the reset minimum quarterly distribution) and the

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target distribution levels will be reset to be correspondingly higher such that after distributions to holders of our Preferred Units, we would distribute all of our available cash from operating surplus for each quarter thereafter as follows:

first, 2% to holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, until each holder receives an amount per unit equal to 115% of the reset minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter;

second, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 85% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 13% to our general partner, until each holder of our class A units and holder of our common units receives an amount per unit equal to 125% of the reset minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter;

third, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 75% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 23% to our general partner, until each holder of our class A units and holder of our common units receives an amount per unit equal to 150% of the reset minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter; and

thereafter, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 50% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 48% to our general partner.

The holder of our incentive distribution rights will be entitled to cause the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels to be reset on more than one occasion, provided that it may not make a reset election except at a time when it has received incentive distributions for the prior four consecutive fiscal quarters based on the highest level of incentive distributions that it is entitled to receive under our partnership agreement.

Distributions from Capital Surplus

We distribute available cash from capital surplus, if any, in the following manner:

first, *pari passu* (A) to the holders of Class B Preferred Units, Class D Preferred Units and, upon issuance of the Class E Preferred Units, the Class E Preferred Units, pro rata, until (i) a hypothetical holder of a Class B Preferred Unit acquired on the date the Class B Preferred Units were initially issued has received with respect to such Class B Preferred Unit, during the period since the date the Class B Preferred Units were initially issued through such distribution date, distributions of available cash that are deemed to be capital surplus in an aggregate amount equal to the face value of the Class B Preferred Units set forth in the certificate of designation for the Class B Preferred Units and (ii) a hypothetical holder of a Class D Preferred Unit or Class E Preferred Unit acquired on the date such were initially issued has received with respect to such units, during the period since the date such units were initially issued through such distribution date, distributions of available cash that are deemed to be capital surplus in an aggregate amount equal to the face value of the Class D Preferred Units and Class E Preferred Units set forth in the certificates of designation for such units, and (B) to the holders of class A units, pro rata, in an amount equal to 2.0202% of the amounts distributed with respect to the Class B Preferred Units pursuant to clause (A) above;

second, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of Class C Preferred Units, pro rata, until a hypothetical holder of a Class C Preferred Unit acquired on the date the Class C Preferred Units were initially issued has received aggregate distributions of available cash that are deemed to be capital surplus in an amount equal to the face value of the Class C Preferred Units;

third, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, pro rata, until distributions have been paid on each common unit from capital surplus in an aggregate amount equal to the initial unrecovered unit price (as defined below); and

after that, we will distribute all available cash from capital surplus as if it were from operating surplus.

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Our partnership agreement treats a distribution from capital surplus as the repayment of an investment in our units, which we refer to as the unrecovered unit price. The initial unrecovered unit price will be equal to the average of the closing prices of an Atlas Resource Partners common unit on the NYSE for the five trading days immediately following the completion of the distribution. Any distributions from capital surplus after the distribution will reduce the unrecovered unit price. In addition, any distribution of capital surplus will also reduce the minimum quarterly distribution, the first target distribution, the second target distribution and the third target distribution, which we refer to in this document as target distribution levels. Each of the target distribution levels will be reduced in connection with a distribution of capital surplus to an amount equal to the then-applicable target distribution level multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the unrecovered unit price immediately prior to such distribution of capital surplus, and the denominator of which is the unrecovered unit price immediately after such distribution of capital surplus.

After the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels have been reduced to zero, we will treat all distributions of available cash from all sources as if they were from operating surplus. Because the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels will have been reduced to zero, our general partner will then be entitled to receive 50% of all distributions of available cash in its capacity as general partner and holder of the incentive distribution rights, in addition to any distributions to which it may be entitled as a holder of units.

Distributions from capital surplus will not reduce the minimum quarterly distribution or target distribution levels for the quarter in which they are distributed.

Adjustment of Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels

In addition to adjustments made upon a distribution of available cash from capital surplus, we will proportionately adjust the minimum quarterly distribution, target distribution levels and any other amounts calculated on a per unit basis upward or downward, as appropriate, if any combination or subdivision of common units occurs. For example, if a two-for-one split of the common units occurs, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels.

We will not make any adjustment for the issuance of additional common units for cash or property.

We may also adjust the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels if legislation is enacted or if existing law is modified or interpreted in a manner that causes us to become taxable as a corporation or otherwise subject to taxation as an entity for federal, state or local income tax purposes. In this event, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels for each quarter after that time to amounts equal to the product of:

- the minimum quarterly distribution and each of the target distribution levels, and
- one minus the sum of:
  - the highest marginal federal income tax rate which could apply to the partnership that is taxed as a corporation plus

the effective overall state and local income tax rate that would have been applicable in the preceding calendar year as a result of the new imposition of the entity level tax, after taking into account the benefit of any deduction allowable for federal income tax purposes for the payment of state and local income taxes, but only to the extent of the increase in rates resulting from that legislation or interpretation.

For example, assuming we are not previously subject to state and local income tax, if we became taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes and subject to a maximum marginal federal, and effective state and local, income tax rate of 40%, then we would reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels to 60% of the amount immediately before the adjustment.

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Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation

When we commence dissolution and liquidation, we will sell or otherwise dispose of our assets and adjust the partners capital account balances to reflect any resulting gain or loss. We will first apply the proceeds of liquidation to the payment of our creditors in the order of priority provided in our partnership agreement and by law. Then we will pay $26.03 per Class B Preferred Unit plus all unpaid distributions to the holders of the Class B Preferred Units, and $25.00 per Class D Preferred Unit and Class E Preferred Unit plus all unpaid distributions to the holders of such units, in each case subject to adjustment. Then we will pay $23.10 per Class C Preferred Unit plus all unpaid distributions to the holders of the Class C Preferred Units, subject to adjustment. After that, we will distribute the proceeds to the other unitholders and our general partner in accordance with their capital account balances, as so adjusted.

We maintain capital accounts in order to ensure that the partnership s allocations of income, gain, loss and deduction are respected under the Internal Revenue Code. The balance of a partner s capital account also determines how much cash or other property the partner will receive on liquidation of the partnership. A partner s capital account is credited with (increased by) the following items:

- the amount of cash and fair market value of any property (net of liabilities) contributed by the partner to the partnership, and
- the partner s share of book income and gain (including income and gain exempt from tax).

A partner s capital account is debited with (reduced by) the following items:

- the amount of cash and fair market value (net of liabilities) of property distributed to the partner, and
- the partner s share of loss and deduction (including some items not deductible for tax purposes).

Partners are entitled to liquidating distributions in accordance with their capital account balances. Upon our liquidation, any gain, or unrealized gain attributable to assets distributed in kind, will be allocated to the partners in the following manner:

- first, to our partners who have negative balances in their capital accounts to the extent of and in proportion to those negative balances;
- second, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, until the capital account for each common unit is equal to the sum of:
  - the unrecovered unit price, and

the amount of the unpaid minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs;

third, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to holders of our common units, each pro rata, until there has been allocated under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

the excess of the first target distribution per unit over the minimum quarterly distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence, less

the cumulative amount per unit of any distribution of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the minimum quarterly distribution per unit that was distributed 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, for each quarter of our existence;

fourth, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 85% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 13% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights, until there has been allocated under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

the excess of the second target distribution per unit over the first target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence, less

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the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the first target distribution per unit that was distributed 2% to the holders of our class A units and 85% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 13% to the holder of our incentive distribution rights for each quarter of our existence; and

fifth, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 75% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 23% to the holder of our incentive distribution rights, until there has been allocated under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

the excess of the third target distribution per unit over the second target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence, less

the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the second target distribution per unit that was distributed 2% to the holders of our class A units and 75% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 23% to the holder of our incentive distribution rights for each quarter of our existence; and

after that, 50% to the holders of our common units and 2% to the holders of our class A units, each pro rata, and 48% to the holder of our incentive distribution rights.

Upon our liquidation, any loss will generally be allocated to our general partner and the unitholders in the following manner:

first, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, until the capital accounts of the common unitholders have been reduced to zero; and

after that, 100% to our general partner.

In addition, we will make interim adjustments to the capital accounts at the time we issue additional equity interests or make distributions of property. We will base these adjustments on the fair market value of the interests or the property distributed and we will allocate any 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. In the event that we make positive interim adjustments to the capital accounts, we will allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional equity interests or our distributions of property or upon our liquidation in a manner which results, to the extent possible, in the capital account balances of our general partner equaling the amount which would have been our general partner s capital account balances if we had not made any earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts.

Rationale for Our Cash Distribution Policy

Our cash distribution policy reflects a basic judgment, given our current asset base, that our unitholders will be better served by our distributing our available cash rather than our retaining it. It is the current policy of our general partner that we should increase our level of cash distributions per unit only when, in its judgment, it believes that:

we have sufficient reserves and liquidity for the proper conduct of our business, and

we can maintain such an increased distribution level for a sustained period.

The amount of available cash will be determined by our general partner for each calendar quarter after the distribution and will be based upon recommendations from our management. Because we believe that we will generally finance any expansion capital expenditures and investment capital expenditures from external financing sources, we believe that our unitholders are best served by our distributing all of our available cash. Our cash distribution policy is consistent with the terms of our partnership agreement, which requires that we distribute all of our available cash quarterly.

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Restrictions and Limitations on Our Ability to Make Distributions

We cannot guarantee that unitholders will receive cash distributions from us or that we can or will maintain any increases in our cash distributions. Our distribution policy may be changed at any time and is subject to certain restrictions, including:

Other than the obligation under our partnership agreement to distribute available cash on a quarterly basis, which is subject to our general partner s authority to establish reserves and other limitations, our unitholders have no contractual or other legal right to receive distributions;

Our general partner will have broad discretion to establish reserves for the prudent conduct of our business and for future cash distributions, and the establishment of those reserves could result in a reduction in cash distributions to you from the levels we currently anticipate pursuant to our stated distribution policy. Any determination to establish or increase reserves made by our general partner in good faith will be binding on the unitholders. We intend to reserve a portion of our cash generated from operations to fund our exploration and development capital expenditures. Over a longer period of time, if our general partner does not set aside sufficient cash reserves or make sufficient cash expenditures to maintain our asset base, we will be unable to pay the minimum quarterly distribution from cash generated from operations and would therefore expect to reduce our distributions. If our asset base decreases and we do not reduce our distributions, a portion of the distributions may be considered a return of part of our unitholders investment in us as opposed to a return on our unitholders investment;

Our ability to make distributions of available cash will depend primarily on our cash flow from operations, which will fluctuate primarily based on commodity prices, production volumes, investor funds raised and the number of wells we drill;

Even if we do not modify our cash distribution policy, the amount of distributions we pay and the decision to make any distribution will be determined by our general partner, taking into consideration the terms of our partnership agreement, our credit facility and any other debt agreements we may enter into in the future;

Under Section 17-607 of the Delaware 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;

If and to the extent our cash available for distribution materially declines, we may reduce our distribution in order to service or repay our debt or fund expansion capital expenditures;

Our cash distribution policy is subject to restrictions on distributions under our credit facility and may be subject to restrictions under other debt agreements that we may enter into in the future. If we are unable to satisfy these restrictions, or if a default occurs under our credit facility (including a default of financial and other covenants), we would be prohibited from making cash distributions to our unitholders notwithstanding

our stated cash distribution policy;

We may lack sufficient cash to pay distributions to our unitholders due to a number of factors, including the amount of natural gas and oil we produce, the price at which we sell our natural gas and oil, the level of our operating costs, our ability to acquire, locate and produce new reserves, results of our hedging activities, the number of wells we drill, the amount of funds we raise through our investment partnerships, the level of our interest expense, principal and interest payments on our outstanding debt, tax expenses, and the level of our capital expenditures. See Risk Factors for information regarding these factors;

Although our partnership agreement requires us to distribute our available cash, our partnership agreement may be amended with the approval of our general partner and a majority of our outstanding common units;

Prior to making any distribution on our common units, we will reimburse our general partner and its affiliates for all direct and indirect expenses they incur on our behalf. Our partnership agreement does

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not set a limit on the amount of expenses for which our general partner and its affiliates may be reimbursed. These expenses include salary, bonus, incentive compensation and other amounts paid to persons who perform services for us or on our behalf and expenses allocated to our general partner by its affiliates. Our partnership agreement provides that our general partner will determine in good faith the expenses that are allocable to us. The reimbursement of expenses and payment of fees, if any, to our general partner and its affiliates will reduce the amount of cash available to pay cash distributions to our unitholders;

If and to the extent our cash available for distribution materially declines, we may reduce our distribution in order to service or repay our debt or fund growth capital expenditures;

Our ability to make distributions to our unitholders depends on the performance of our operating subsidiaries and their ability to distribute cash to us. The ability of our operating subsidiaries to make distributions to us may be restricted by, among other things, the provisions of existing and future indebtedness, applicable state partnership and limited liability company laws and other laws and regulations;

All available cash distributed by us from any source will be treated as distributed from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed by us equals the cumulative operating surplus from the date that we began operations through the end of the quarter immediately preceding that distribution. We anticipate that distributions from operating surplus will generally not represent a return of capital. However, operating surplus, as defined in our partnership agreement, includes certain components that represent non-operating sources of cash, including a $60 million cash basket and working capital borrowings. Consequently, it is possible that distributions from operating surplus may represent a return of capital. For example, the $60 million cash basket would allow us to distribute as operating surplus cash proceeds we receive from non-operating sources, such as asset sales, issuances of securities and long-term borrowings, which would represent a return of capital. Distributions representing a return of capital could result in a corresponding decrease in our asset base. Additionally, any cash distributed by us in excess of operating surplus will be deemed to be capital surplus as the repayment of the initial investment in our units, which is similar to a return of capital. Distributions from capital surplus could result in a corresponding decrease in our asset base. We do not currently anticipate that we will make any distributions from capital surplus.

Our Cash Distribution Policy Limits Our Ability to Grow

Because we distribute our available cash, our growth may not be as significant as businesses that reinvest their available cash to expand ongoing operations. If we issue additional limited partnership units or incur debt to fund acquisitions and expansion and investment capital expenditures, the payment of distributions on those additional units or interest on that debt could increase the risk that we will be unable to maintain or increase our per unit distribution level. There are no limitations in our partnership agreement on our ability to issue additional units, including units ranking senior to the common units.

Our Ability to Grow is Dependent on Our Ability to Have Access to External Expansion Capital

Because we expect that we will distribute our available cash from operations to our unitholders each quarter in accordance with the terms of our partnership agreement, we expect that we will rely primarily upon external financing sources, including commercial bank borrowings and the issuance of debt and equity securities, to fund any expansion and investment capital expenditures and any acquisitions. As a result, to the extent we are unable to finance growth externally, our cash distribution policy will significantly impair our ability to grow. In addition, because we will

distribute all of our available cash, our growth may not be as fast as that of businesses that reinvest their available cash to expand their ongoing operations. To the extent that we issue additional units in connection with any expansion capital expenditures, the payment of distributions on those additional units may increase the risk that we will be unable to maintain or increase our distribution levels. There are no limitations in

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our partnership agreement on our ability to issue additional units, except for the rights of the Class B, Class D and Class E Units to approve issuances of securities senior to such units (See Our Partnership Agreement Issuance of Additional Securities). The incurrence of additional commercial borrowings or other debt to finance our growth strategy would result in increased interest expense, which in turn may impact the available cash that we have to distribute to our unitholders.

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MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The tax consequences to you of an investment in the Class E Preferred Units will depend in part on your own tax circumstances. Although this section updates and adds information related to certain tax considerations, it should be read in conjunction with the risk factors included under the caption Tax Risks to Unitholders in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, and with Tax Considerations in the accompanying base prospectus, which provides a discussion of the principal federal income tax considerations associated with our operations and the purchase, ownership and disposition of our units of limited partner interest. The following discussion is limited as described under the caption Tax Considerations in the accompanying base prospectus.

All prospective holders of Class E Preferred Units are encouraged to consult with their own tax advisors about the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences particular to their own circumstances. In particular, ownership of Class E Preferred Units by tax-exempt entities, including employee benefit plans and individual retirement accounts, and non-U.S. investors raises issues unique to such persons. The relevant rules are complex, and the discussions herein and in the accompanying base prospectus do not address tax considerations applicable to tax-exempt entities and non-U.S. investors, except as specifically set forth in the accompanying base prospectus. See Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors below.

Unitholder Status

The tax treatment of our Class E Preferred Units is uncertain. Although the IRS may disagree with our treatment, we will treat holders of our Class E Preferred Units as partners entitled to a guaranteed payment for the use of capital on their units. If the Class E Preferred Units are not partnership interests, they would likely constitute indebtedness for federal income tax purposes and distributions on the Class E Preferred Units would constitute ordinary interest income to the holders of Class E Preferred Units.

Treatment of Distributions

We will treat distributions on the Class E Preferred Units as guaranteed payments for the use of capital that will generally be taxable to the holders of Class E Preferred Units as ordinary income and will be deductible by us. Although a holder of Class E Preferred Units could recognize taxable income from the accrual of such a guaranteed payment even in the absence of a contemporaneous distribution, the partnership anticipates accruing and making the guaranteed payment distributions quarterly. Otherwise, the holders of Class E Preferred Units are generally not anticipated to share in the partnership s items of income, gain, loss or deduction, nor will the partnership allocate any share of its nonrecourse liabilities to the holders of Class E Preferred Units.

Basis of Units

A unitholder s initial tax basis for his or her units (including Class E Preferred Units) will be the amount he or she paid for the units plus his or her share of our nonrecourse liabilities. A unitholder s basis in its Class E Preferred Units will not be affected by distributions on such units. We do not anticipate that a holder of Class E Preferred Units will be allocated any share of our liabilities. The IRS has ruled that a partner who acquires interests in a partnership in separate transactions must combine those interests and maintain a single adjusted tax basis for all of those interests. If you own common units and Class E Preferred Units, please consult your tax advisor with respect to determining the consequences of a guaranteed payment on your basis in your units.

Limitations on Deductibility of Losses

A holder of Class E Preferred Units will only be allocated loss to the extent the capital accounts of our common unitholders have been reduced to zero. Although it is not anticipated that a holder of Class E Preferred Units would be allocated loss, the deductibility of any such allocation may be limited for various reasons. In the event that you are allocated loss as a holder of a Class E Preferred Unit, please consult your tax advisor as to the application of any limitation to the deductibility of that loss.

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Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction

If we have a net profit, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated among our holders of units other than Class D Preferred Units and Class E Preferred Units in accordance with their percentage interests in us. If we have a net loss, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated among our holders of units other than Class D Preferred Units and Class E Preferred Units in accordance with their percentage interests in us to the extent of their positive capital accounts. Because holders of Class E Preferred Units will not receive allocations of our gross income, such holders will not be entitled to deductions for percentage depletion.

Generally, holders of Class E Preferred Units will have a capital account equal to the liquidation preference of each Class E Preferred Unit, or $25.00, without regard to the price paid for such units, but will have an initial tax basis with respect to the Class E Preferred Units equal to the price paid for such units. To the extent the purchase price paid for a Class E Preferred Unit exceeds the liquidation preference of such unit, we will have income that will be allocated to the holders of our common units.

Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees

The accrued distributions treated as guaranteed payments for the use of capital will be allocated to holders of Class E Preferred Units owning Class E Preferred Units as of the opening of the applicable exchange on the first business day of the month, or the Allocation Date, and those holders will also be entitled to receive the distribution of the guaranteed payment payable with respect to their units on or about the 15th business day of the month. Purchasers of Class E Preferred Units after the Allocation Date will therefore not be allocated accrued distributions or be entitled to a cash distribution on their Class E Preferred Units until the next Allocation Date.

Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors

Ownership of units by employee benefit plans, other tax-exempt organizations, nonresident aliens, foreign corporations, other foreign persons and regulated investment companies raises issues unique to those investors and, as described below, may have substantially adverse tax consequences.

Employee benefit plans and most other organizations exempt from federal income tax, including individual retirement accounts and other retirement plans, are subject to federal income tax on unrelated business taxable income. We will treat distributions on the Class E Preferred Units as guaranteed payments for the use of capital. The treatment of guaranteed payments for the use of capital to tax exempt investors is not certain, and such payments may be treated as unrelated business taxable income for federal income tax purposes. If you are a tax-exempt entity, you should consult your tax advisor with respect to the consequences of owning our Class E Preferred Units.

A regulated investment company or mutual fund is required to derive 90% or more of its gross income from interest, dividends and gains from the sale of stocks or securities or foreign currency or specified related sources. The American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 generally treats income from the ownership of a qualified publicly traded partnership as qualified income to a regulated investment company. We expect that we will meet the definition of a qualified publicly traded partnership. Accordingly, we anticipate that all of our income will be treated as qualified income to a regulated investment company.

Non-resident aliens and foreign corporations, trusts or estates that own units will be considered to be engaged in business in the United States on account of ownership of our units. As a consequence they will be required to file federal tax returns reporting their share of our income, gain, loss or deduction (in the case of holders of common units) or their share of income from guaranteed payments (in the case of holders of Class E Preferred Units) and pay federal

income tax at regular rates on any net income or gain. Generally, a partnership is required to pay a withholding tax on the portion of the partnership s income that is effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business and which is allocable to foreign partners. Under rules applicable to publicly traded partnerships, we will withhold at the highest applicable effective tax rate on cash distributions made to foreign unitholders. Each foreign unitholder must obtain a taxpayer identification number from the IRS and submit that number to our transfer agent on a Form W-8 BEN or W-8 BEN-E in order to obtain credit for the taxes withheld.

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Because a foreign corporation that owns units will be treated as engaged in a United States trade or business, that corporation may be subject to United States branch profits tax at a rate of 30%, in addition to regular federal income tax, on its share of our income and gain, as adjusted for changes in its U.S. net equity, which are effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business. That tax may be reduced or eliminated by an income tax treaty between the United States and the country in which the foreign corporate unitholder is a qualified resident. In addition, this type of unitholder is subject to special information reporting requirements under Section 6038C of the Internal Revenue Code.

Under a ruling of the IRS, a foreign unitholder who sells or otherwise disposes of a unit will be subject to federal income tax on gain realized on the disposition of that unit to the extent that this gain is effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the foreign unitholder. Apart from the ruling, a foreign unitholder will not be taxed or subject to withholding upon the disposition of a unit if he has owned less than 5% in value of the units during the five-year period ending on the date of the disposition and if the units are regularly traded on an established securities market at the time of the disposition.

Nominee Reporting

Persons who hold an interest in us as a nominee for another person are required to furnish to us:

(1) the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the beneficial owner and the nominee;

(2) a statement regarding whether the beneficial owner is:

(a) a non-U.S. person;

(b) a non-U.S. government, an international organization or any wholly owned agency or instrumentality of either of the foregoing; or

(c) a tax-exempt entity;

(3) the amount and description of units held, acquired or transferred for the beneficial owner; and

(4) specific information including the dates of acquisitions and transfers, means of acquisitions and transfers, and acquisition cost for purchases, as well as the amount of net proceeds from sales.

Brokers and financial institutions are required to furnish additional information, including whether they are U.S. persons and specific information on units they acquire, hold or transfer for their own account. A penalty of $100 per failure, up to a maximum of $1.5 million per calendar year, is imposed by the Code for failure to report that information to us. The nominee is required to supply the beneficial owner of the units with the information furnished to us.

Administrative Matters

Holders of Class E Preferred Units will receive specific tax information from us, including a Schedule K-1 which generally would be expected to provide a single income item equal to the preferred return. Notwithstanding the rules described above under Basis of Units requiring aggregation of partnership interests purchased in separate transactions, you may receive two Schedules K-1 if you hold common units and Class E Preferred Units due to administrative reporting limitations. See Administrative Matters Information Returns and Audit Procedures in the accompanying base prospectus.

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA)

FATCA imposes a U.S. federal withholding tax of 30% on payments of (i) interest, dividends other fixed or determinable annual or periodical gains, profits and income from sources within the United (FDAP Income) and (ii) gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of any property of a type which can produce interest or

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dividends from sources within the United States (Gross Proceeds) to a foreign financial institution (as specifically defined for this purpose) unless such institution enters into an agreement with the U.S. government to withhold on certain payments and to collect and provide to the U.S. tax authorities substantial information regarding U.S. account holders of such institution (which includes certain equity and debt holders of such institution, as well as certain account holders that are foreign entities with U.S. owners). A U.S. federal withholding tax of 30% generally applies to dividends and the Gross Proceeds of a disposition of our units to a non-financial foreign entity unless such entity provides the withholding agent with either a certification that it does not have any substantial direct or indirect U.S. owners or provides information regarding direct and indirect U.S. owners of the entity. Under applicable final Treasury Regulations, the withholding provisions described above will generally apply to payments of FDAP Income made on or after July 1, 2014 and to payments of Gross Proceeds on or after January 1, 2017. Holders of our units who are foreign financial institutions or certain other non-US entities may be subject to withholding on distributions they receive from us, or their distributive share of our income, that are not considered effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business (See Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors) pursuant to the rules described above. You should consult your tax advisors regarding the application of these withholding provisions.

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UNDERWRITING

MLV & Co. LLC, Ladenburg Thalmann & Co. Inc., National Securities Corporation, Northland Capital Markets and U.S. Capital Advisors LLC are acting as the joint book-running managers of the offering. Subject to the terms and conditions stated in the underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, each underwriter named below has severally agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to that underwriter, the number of Class E Preferred Units set forth opposite the underwriter s name.

Underwriter	Number of Class E Preferred Units
MLV & Co. LLC	
Ladenburg Thalmann & Co. Inc.	
National Securities Corporation	
Northland Capital Markets	
U.S. Capital Advisors LLC	
Total	

Northland Capital Markets is the trade name for certain capital markets and investment banking services of Northland Securities, Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC.

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligation of the underwriters to purchase Class E Preferred Units is subject to certain conditions precedent, including but not limited to (1) listing on the NYSE, (2) delivery of legal opinions, and (3) delivery of various auditor and reserve engineer comfort letters. The underwriters are obligated to purchase all of the Class E Preferred Units (other than those covered by the over-allotment option described below) if it purchases any of the Class E Preferred Units.

The underwriters initially propose to offer the Class E Preferred Units directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and to certain dealers at a price that represents a concession not in excess of $ per Class E Preferred Unit below the public offering price. Any underwriters may allow, and such dealers may re-allow, a concession not in excess of $ per Class E Preferred Unit to other underwriters or to certain dealers. If the Class E Preferred Units are not sold at the initial price to the public, the underwriters may change the offering price and the other selling terms. The offering of the Class E Preferred Units by the underwriters is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriters right to reject any order in whole or in part.

If the underwriters sell more than Class E Preferred Units, we have granted the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to additional Class E Preferred Units at the public offering price less the underwriting commission. The underwriters may exercise the option solely for the purpose of covering over-allotments, if any, in connection with this offering. To the extent the option is exercised, each underwriter must purchase a number of additional Class E Preferred Units approximately proportionate to that underwriter s initial purchase commitment. Any Class E Preferred Units issued or sold under the option will be issued and sold on the same terms and conditions as the other Class E Preferred Units that are the subject of this offering.

We have agreed that, for a period of 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, we will not, without the prior written consent of the underwriters, dispose of or hedge any Class E Preferred Units or similar equity securities

or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for Class E Preferred Units or similar equity securities. The underwriters in their sole discretion may release any of the securities subject to these lock-up agreements at any time without notice.

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The Class E Preferred Units are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We intend to apply to list the Class E Preferred Units on the NYSE under the symbol ARPPrE. If the application is approved, we expect trading of the Class E Preferred Units on the NYSE to begin within 30 days after the date of initial delivery of the Class E Preferred Units. The underwriters have advised us that they intend to make a market in the Class E Preferred Units before commencement of trading on the NYSE. They will have no obligation to make a market in the Class E Preferred Units, however, and may cease market-making activities, if commenced, at any time. Accordingly, an active trading market on the NYSE for the Class E Preferred Units may not develop or, even if one develops, may not last, in which case the liquidity and market price of the Class E Preferred Units could be adversely affected, the difference between bid and asked prices could be substantial and your ability to transfer Class E Preferred Units at the time and price desired will be limited.

The following table shows the underwriting discounts and commissions 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 over-allotment option.

	Paid by Us	
	No Exercise	**Full Exercise**
Per Class E Preferred Unit	$	$
Total		

We estimate that our total expenses for this offering, excluding underwriter discounts, will be approximately $300,000.

We expect that the delivery of the Class E Preferred Units will be made against payment therefor on , 2015, which will be the fifth business day following the trade date of the Class E Preferred Units (such settlement cycle being herein referred to as T+5). Under Rule 15c6-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in three business days, unless the parties to any such trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, purchasers who wish to trade the Class E Preferred Units more than three business days prior to the issue date of the Class E Preferred Units will be required, by virtue of the fact that the Class E Preferred Units will not settle in T+3, to specify an alternative settlement cycle at the time of such trade to prevent a failed settlement and should consult their own advisers in connection with that election.

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may purchase and sell Class E Preferred Units in the open market. Purchases and sales in the open market may include short sales, purchases to cover short positions, which may include purchases pursuant to the over-allotment option, and stabilizing purchases.

Short sales involve secondary market sales by the underwriters of a greater number of Class E Preferred Units than they are required to purchase in the offering.

Covered short sales are sales of Class E Preferred Units in an amount up to the number of Class E Preferred Units represented by the underwriters over-allotment option.

Naked short sales are sales of Class E Preferred Units in an amount in excess of the number of Class E Preferred Units represented by the underwriters over-allotment option.

Covering transactions involve purchases of Class E Preferred Units either pursuant to the over-allotment option or in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover short positions.

To close a naked short position, the underwriters must purchase Class E Preferred Units in the open market after the distribution has been completed. 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 Class E Preferred Units in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering.

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To close a covered short position, the underwriters must purchase Class E Preferred Units in the open market after the distribution has been completed or must exercise the over-allotment option. In determining the source of Class E Preferred Units to close the covered short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of Class E Preferred Units available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase Class E Preferred Units through the over-allotment option.

Stabilizing transactions involve bids to purchase Class E Preferred Units so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.

The underwriters may also impose a penalty bid. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when an underwriter repurchases Class E Preferred Units originally sold by that syndicate member in order to cover syndicate short positions or make stabilizing purchases.

Purchases to cover short positions and stabilizing purchases, as well as other purchases by the underwriters for their own accounts, may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the Class E Preferred Units. They may also cause the price of the Class E Preferred 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 NYSE, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise. If the underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters and selected dealers against some specified types of liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make in respect of any of these liabilities.

The underwriters and their affiliates have provided in the past to us and our affiliates and may provide from time to time in the future certain financial advisory, investment banking and other services for us and such affiliates in the ordinary course of their business, for which they have received and may continue to receive customary fees and commissions. In addition, from time to time, the underwriters and their affiliates may effect transactions for their own accounts or the account of customers, and hold on behalf of themselves or their customers, long or short positions in our debt or equity securities or loans, and may do so in the future.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format may be made available on Internet website maintained by the underwriters of this offering and may be made available on websites maintained by other dealers. Other than the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format, the information on the underwriters website and any information contained in any other website maintained by any dealer is not part of the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or the registration statement of which the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus form a part.

Because the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (FINRA) views the Class E Preferred Units as interests in a direct participation program, the offering is being made in compliance with Rule 2310 of the FINRA Rules. Investor suitability with respect to the Class E Preferred Units will be judged similarly to the suitability with respect to other securities that are listed for trading on a national securities exchange.

Foreign Regulatory Restrictions on Purchase of Class E Preferred Units

We have not taken any action to permit a public offering of the Class E Preferred Units outside the United States or to permit the possession or distribution of this prospectus supplement outside the United States except in accordance

with the laws of each such jurisdiction. Persons outside the United States who come into possession of this prospectus supplement must inform themselves about and observe any restrictions relating to this offering of the Class E Preferred Units and the distribution of the prospectus supplement outside the United States.

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LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with this offering will be passed upon for us by Ledgewood, P.C., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Certain legal matters in connection with this offering will be passed upon for the underwriters by Reed Smith LLP, New York, New York.

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRMS

Our consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014, and management s assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the reports of Grant Thornton LLP, independent registered public accountants, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The Statements of Revenues and Direct Operating Expenses of the Oil and Gas Properties under Contract for Purchase by ARP Rangely Production, LLC from Merit Energy for the year ended December 31, 2013, incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, have been audited by KPMG LLP, independent auditors, as indicated in their report with respect thereto.

INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM ENGINEER

Certain estimates of our net natural gas and oil reserves and the present value of such reserves incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement have been derived from engineering reports prepared by Wright and Company, Inc.

Certain estimates of our net natural gas and oil reserves and the present value of such reserves incorporated by reference in this prospectus have been derived from engineering reports prepared by Cawley, Gillespie, and Associates, Inc.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC s web site at http://www.sec.gov or at our website at www.atlasresourcepartners.com. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC s public reference room at 100 F. Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for additional information on the public reference room.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with it. This means that we disclose important information to you by referring you to these documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus or any other subsequently filed document that is deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus modifies or supersedes such statement. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below that we have filed with the SEC:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014;

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our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on February 23, 2015 and March 2, 2015 (other than the information provided in Item 2.02, which shall not be incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement); and

our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on August 8, 2014.

All documents that we file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, on or after the date of this prospectus supplement and prior to the completion or termination of the offering made pursuant to this prospectus supplement are also incorporated herein by reference and will automatically update and supersede information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. Nothing in this prospectus supplement shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished to but not filed with the SEC pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K (or corresponding information furnished under Item 9.01 or included as an exhibit to such Form 8-K).

You may request a copy of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement without charge by writing or calling us at:

Atlas Resource Partners, L.P.

Park Place Corporate Center One

1000 Commerce Drive, Suite 400

Pittsburgh, PA 15275

(877) 280-2857

Attn: Brian Begley

The statements that we make in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or in any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus about the contents of any other documents are not necessarily complete, and are qualified in their entirety by referring you to copies of those documents that are filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus forms a part, or as an exhibit to the documents incorporated by reference. You can obtain copies of these documents from the SEC or from us, as described above.

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PROSPECTUS

ATLAS RESOURCE PARTNERS, L.P.

COMMON UNITS, PREFERRED UNITS, SUBORDINATED UNITS, WARRANTS,

DEBT SECURITIES AND GUARANTEES

ATLAS ENERGY HOLDINGS OPERATING COMPANY, LLC

ATLAS RESOURCE FINANCE CORPORATION

DEBT SECURITIES AND GUARANTEES

We may offer and issue, from time to time, common units representing limited partner interests, preferred units representing limited partner interests, subordinated units representing limited partner interests, debt securities and warrants. This prospectus describes the general terms of these securities and the general manner in which we will offer them. We will provide the specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. The prospectus supplements will also describe the specific manner in which we will offer these securities.

Our common units are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ARP.

Investing in these securities involves certain risks. You should carefully read and consider the risk factors included in our periodic reports, in any prospectus supplement relating to a specific offering of securities and in other documents that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. See Risk Factors on page 2 of this prospectus.

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

Prospectus dated February 3, 2014

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In making your investment decision, you should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized any other person to provide you with any other information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it.

You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus or in any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of those documents. You should not assume that the information contained in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus or in any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates of those documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates. We will disclose any material changes in our affairs in an amendment to this prospectus, a prospectus supplement or a future filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is a part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration statement, we may sell securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings.

Each time we sell securities we will provide a prospectus supplement and, if applicable, a pricing supplement containing specific information about the terms of the securities being offered. That prospectus supplement may include a discussion of any risk factors or other special considerations that apply to those securities. The prospectus supplement and any pricing supplement may also add, update or change the information in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus (including the information incorporated by reference

herein) and any prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, you should rely on the information in that prospectus supplement or pricing supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading Where You Can Find More Information.

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SPECIAL NOTE ON FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND RISK FACTORS

Certain sections of this registration statement contain statements reflecting our views about our future performance and constitute forward-looking statements. We and our representatives may, from time to time, make written or oral forward-looking statements, including statements contained in our filings with the SEC and in our reports to security holders. Generally, the inclusion of the words believe, expect, intend, estimate, project, anticipate, will and expressions identify statements that constitute forward-looking statements. All statements addressing operating performance of us or any subsidiary, events or developments that we expect or anticipates would occur in the future are forward-looking statements.

These views involve risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict and, accordingly, our actual results may differ materially from the results discussed in such forward-looking statements. Readers should consider the various factors, including those discussed in our most recent annual report on Form 10-K under Risk Factors, Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates and in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, that are on file with the SEC for additional factors that may affect our performance. The forward-looking statements are and will be based upon management s then-current views and assumptions regarding future events and operating performance, and are applicable only as of the dates of such statements. We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

We are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, the securities described in this prospectus only where offers and sales are permitted. Since information that we file with the SEC in the future will automatically update and supersede information contained in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement, you should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus or in any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of the document.

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THE COMPANY

We are a publicly-traded master-limited partnership (NYSE: ARP) and an independent developer and producer of natural gas, crude oil and natural gas liquids, with operations in basins across the United States. We are a leading sponsor and manager of tax-advantaged investment partnerships, in which we co-invest, to finance a portion of our natural gas and oil production activities. We believe we have established a strong track record of growing our reserves, production and cash flows through a balanced mix of natural gas and oil exploitation and development and sponsorship of investment partnerships and acquisition of oil and gas properties. Our primary business objective is to generate growing yet stable cash flows through the development and acquisition of mature, long-lived natural gas and oil properties. Our operations include three reportable operating segments: gas and oil production, well construction and completion and other partnership management.

We were formed in October 2011 to own and operate substantially all of the exploration and production assets of Atlas Energy, L.P. (NYSE: ATLS), or the Atlas Energy E&P Operations, which were transferred to us on March 5, 2012. Atlas Energy, L.P. is a publicly-traded master limited partnership which owns 100% of our general partner Class A Units and incentive distribution rights and an approximate 36.9% limited partner ownership interest in us.

We conduct our operations through, and our operating assets are owned by, our subsidiaries. Our general partner has sole responsibility for conducting our business and managing our operations. Our general partner does not receive any management fee or other compensation in connection with its management of our business apart from its general partner interest and incentive distribution rights, but it is reimbursed for direct and indirect expenses incurred on our behalf. Our executive offices are located at Park Place Corporate Center One, 1000 Commerce Drive, Suite 400, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15275, telephone number (877) 950-7473. Our website address is www.atlasresourcepartners.com. The information on our website is not part of this prospectus and you should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus when making a decision as to whether or not to invest in our securities.

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RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risk. Before you decide whether to purchase any of our securities, in addition to the other information, documents or reports included or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any prospectus supplement or other offering materials, you should carefully consider the risk factors in the section entitled Risk Factors in any prospectus supplement, in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and any Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K filed by us subsequent to such Annual Report on Form 10-K, as the same may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by our filings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. For more information, see the section of this prospectus entitled Where You Can Find More Information. These risks could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or operating results and could result in a partial or complete loss of your investment.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC s web site at http://www.sec.gov or at our website at http://www.atlasresourcepartners.com. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC s public reference room at 100 F. Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for additional information on the public reference room.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with it. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring to these documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus. All documents that we subsequently file pursuant to Sections 13, 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 prior to the termination of the offering shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into the prospectus.

We are incorporating by reference the following documents that we have previously filed with the SEC (other than any portions of the respective filings that were furnished, pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Current Reports on Form 8-K or other applicable SEC rules, rather than filed):

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012;
- our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2013, June 30, 2013 and September 30, 2013;
- the description of our common units contained in our Form 10, filed on October 17, 2011, and any subsequent amendment thereto containing an update to such description;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K and 8-K/A filed on January 9, 2013, January 11, 2013, January 17, 2013, January 25, 2013, May 10, 2013, May 31, 2013, June 10, 2013, June 14, 2013, August 2, 2013, August 6, 2013, September 27, 2013, October 9, 2013, October 30, 2013, December 12, 2013 and December 27, 2013; and

our Current Reports on Form 8-K/A filed on July 10, 2012 and August 24, 2012.

We will provide to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in the prospectus but not delivered with the prospectus. You may request a copy of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus without charge by writing or calling us at:

Atlas Resource Partners GP, LLC

Park Place Corporate Center One

1000 Commerce Drive, Suite 400

Pittsburgh, PA 15275

(877) 280-2857

Attn: Brian Begley

Except as set forth herein, information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus and you should not consider information contained on our website as part of this prospectus.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as may be otherwise set forth in any prospectus supplement accompanying this prospectus, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sales of securities sold by us for general partnership purposes.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The table below sets forth the ratios of earnings to fixed charges for us for the periods indicated.

	Nine months ended September 30,		Years ended December 31,			
	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges(1)	(5)	(2)	32.49x	20.68x	(4)	408.20x
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges and preferred dividends	(5)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)

(1) Ratio of earnings to fixed charges means the ratio of income from continuing operations before income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change, net, and fixed charges to fixed charges, where fixed charges are the interest on indebtedness, amortization of debt expense and estimated interest factor for rentals.
(2) Our earnings were insufficient to cover our fixed charges by $54.0 million for this period.
(3) We did not have any preferred securities outstanding as of these periods.
(4) Our earnings were insufficient to cover our fixed charges by $54.3 million for this period.
(5) Our earnings were insufficient to cover our fixed charges by $61.1 million for this period.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES WE MAY OFFER

We may offer common, preferred and subordinated units representing limited partner interests, various series of debt securities, or warrants to purchase any of such securities, from time to time in one or more offerings under this prospectus at prices and on terms to be determined by market conditions at the time of the offering. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities that we may offer. In connection with each offering, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will describe the specific amounts, prices and terms of the securities being offered, including, to the extent applicable:

- designation or classification;
- aggregate offering price;
- rates and times of payment of dividends;
- redemption, conversion or exchange terms;

conversion or exchange prices or rates and any provisions for changes to or adjustments in the conversion or exchange prices or rates and in the securities or other property receivable upon conversion or exchange;

ranking;

restrictive covenants;

voting or other rights; and

important federal income tax considerations.

The prospectus supplement also may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus or in documents we have incorporated by reference.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

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DESCRIPTION OF COMMON UNITS

Common Units

The common units are a class of limited partner interests in us. The holders of common units are entitled to participate in partnership distributions and exercise the rights or privileges available to holders of common units as outlined in our partnership agreement. For a description of the rights and preferences of holders of common units in partnership distributions, please read Our Cash Distribution Policy. For a description of the rights and privileges of the holders of our common units under our partnership agreement, including voting rights, please read Our Partnership Agreement.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Duties. American Stock Transfer serves as registrar and transfer agent for the common units. We pay all fees charged by the transfer agent for transfers of common units except the following that must be paid by unitholders:

- surety bond premiums to replace lost or stolen certificates, taxes and other governmental charges;
- special charges for services requested by a common unitholder; and
- other similar fees or charges.

There will be no charge to unitholders for disbursements of our cash distributions. We will indemnify the transfer agent, its agents and each of their stockholders, directors, officers and employees against all claims and losses that may arise out of acts performed or omitted for its activities in that capacity, except for any liability due to any gross negligence or intentional misconduct of the indemnified person or entity.

Resignation or Removal. The transfer agent may 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 the resignation or removal, our general partner may act as the transfer agent and registrar until a successor is appointed.

Transfer of Common Units

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

- represents that the transferee has the capacity, power and authority to become bound by our partnership agreement;

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

gives the consents and waivers contained in our partnership agreement.

A transferee will become a limited partner of our partnership for the transferred common 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 from time to time as necessary to accurately reflect the transfers.

We may, at our discretion, treat the nominee holder of a common 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.

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Common units are securities and are transferable according to the laws governing transfers of securities.

Until a common unit has been transferred on our books, we and the transfer agent 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.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED UNITS

The preferred units will be a separate class of limited partner interest. The rights of holders of preferred units to participate in distributions to partners will differ from, and may be senior to, the rights of the holders of common units. The prospectus supplement relating to the preferred units offered will state the number of units offered, the initial offering price and the market price, the terms of the preference, any ways in which the preferred units will differ from common units, distribution information and any other relevant information.

DESCRIPTION OF SUBORDINATED UNITS

The subordinated units will be a separate class of limited partner interest. The rights of holders of subordinated units to participate in distributions to partners will differ from, and may be subordinated to, the rights of the holders of common units. The prospectus supplement relating to the subordinated units offered will state the number of units offered, the initial offering price and the market price, the terms of the subordination, any ways in which the subordinated units will differ from common units, distribution information and any other relevant information.

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

Atlas Resource Partners, L.P. or its subsidiary, Atlas Energy Holdings Operating Company, LLC, may issue debt securities in one or more series, and Atlas Resource Finance Corporation may be a co-issuer of one or more series of debt securities. Atlas Energy Holdings Operating Company, LLC was formed under the laws of the State of Delaware in 2011, is wholly-owned by Atlas Resources Partners, L.P. Atlas Resource Finance Corporation was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware in 2012, is wholly-owned by Atlas Resource Partners, L.P., has no material assets or any liabilities other than as a co-issuer of debt securities, and its activities are limited to co-issuing debt securities and engaging in other activities incidental thereto. When used in this section Description of the Debt Securities, the terms we, us, our and issuers refer jointly to Atlas Resource Partners, L.P., Atlas Energy Holdings Operating Company, LLC and Atlas Resource Finance Corporation.

If we offer senior debt securities, we will issue them under a senior indenture. If we issue subordinated debt securities, we will issue them under a subordinated indenture. A form of each indenture is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. We have not restated either indenture in its entirety in this description. You should read the relevant indenture because it, and not this description, controls your rights as holders of the debt securities.

General

The terms of each series of debt securities will be established by or pursuant to a resolution of the board of directors of our general partner and detailed or determined in the manner provided in a board of directors resolution, an officers certificate or an indenture. We can issue debt securities that may be in one or more series with the same or various maturities, at par, at a premium or at a discount. We will set forth in a prospectus supplement, including any pricing supplement, relating to any series of debt securities being offered the initial offering price, the aggregate principal amount and the terms of the debt securities, including:

the title of the debt securities;

whether our wholly-owned subsidiaries, Atlas Energy Holdings Operating Company, LLC or Atlas Resource Finance Corporation, will be co-issuers of the debt securities;

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- the price or prices (expressed as a percentage of the aggregate principal amount) at which we will sell the debt securities;
- any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities;
- the date or dates on which we will pay the principal on the debt securities;
- the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable) per annum at which the debt securities will bear interest, the date or dates from which interest will accrue, the date or dates on which interest will commence and be payable and any regular record date for the interest payable on any interest payment date;
- the place or places where the principal of, premium, and interest on the debt securities will be payable;
- the terms and conditions upon which we may redeem the debt securities;
- any obligation we have to redeem or purchase the debt securities pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provisions or at the option of a holder of debt securities; and
- the dates on which and the price or prices at which we will repurchase the debt securities at the option of the holders of debt securities and other detailed terms and provisions of these repurchase obligations.

We may issue debt securities that are exchangeable and/or convertible into our common units or any class or series of preferred units. The terms, if any, on which the debt securities may be exchanged for and/or converted will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Such terms may include provisions for conversion, either mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option, in which case the number of shares of common stock, preferred stock or other securities to be received by the holders of debt securities would be calculated as of a time and in the manner stated in the prospectus supplement.

We may issue debt securities that provide for an amount less than their stated principal amount to be due and payable upon declaration of acceleration of their maturity pursuant to the terms of the indenture. We will provide you with information on the federal income tax considerations and other special considerations applicable to any of these debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Payment of Interest and Exchange

Each debt security will be represented by either one or more global securities registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company, as Depositary, or a nominee of the Depositary (we will refer to any debt security represented by a global debt security as a book-entry debt security), or a certificate issued in definitive registered form (we will refer to any debt security represented by a certificated security as a certificated debt security), as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Certificated Debt Securities

You may transfer or exchange certificated debt securities at the trustee s office or paying agencies in accordance with the terms of the indenture. No service charge will be made for any transfer or exchange of certificated debt securities, but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with a transfer or exchange.

You may transfer certificated debt securities and the right to receive the principal of, premium and interest on certificated debt securities only by surrendering the old certificate representing those certificated debt securities and either we or the trustee will reissue the old certificate to the new holder or we or the trustee will issue a new certificate to the new holder.

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Book-Entry Debt Securities

We may issue the debt securities of a series in the form of one or more book-entry debt securities that would be deposited with a depositary or its nominee identified in the prospectus supplement. We may issue book-entry debt securities in either temporary or permanent form. We will describe in the prospectus supplement the terms of any depositary arrangement and the rights and limitations of owners of beneficial interests in any book-entry debt security.

Provisions Relating only to the Senior Debt Securities

The senior debt securities will rank equally in right of payment with all of our other senior and unsubordinated debt. The senior debt securities will be effectively subordinated, however, to all of our secured debt to the extent of the value of the collateral for that debt. We will disclose the amount of our secured debt in the prospectus supplement.

Provisions Relating only to the Subordinated Debt Securities

Subordinated Debt Securities Subordinated to Senior Indebtedness. The subordinated debt securities will rank junior in right of payment to all of our Senior Indebtedness. Senior Indebtedness will be defined in a supplemental indenture or authorizing resolutions respecting any issuance of a series of subordinated debt securities, and the definition will be set forth in the prospectus supplement.

Payment Blockages. The subordinated indenture will provide that no payment of principal, interest and any premium on the subordinated debt securities may be made in the event:

- we or our property is involved in any voluntary or involuntary liquidation or bankruptcy;
- we fail to pay the principal, interest, any premium or any other amounts on any Senior Indebtedness within any applicable grace period or the maturity of such Senior Indebtedness is accelerated following any other default, subject to certain limited exceptions set forth in the subordinated indenture; or
- any other default on any Senior Indebtedness occurs that permits immediate acceleration of its maturity, in which case a payment blockage on the subordinated debt securities will be imposed.

No Limitation on Amount of Senior Debt. The subordinated indenture will not limit the amount of Senior Indebtedness that we may incur, unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement.

DESCRIPTION OF GUARANTEES OF DEBT SECURITIES

This summary description is not meant to be a complete description of the guarantees of debt securities that we may offer. At the time of an offering and sale of debt securities, this prospectus together with the accompanying prospectus supplement will contain the material terms of the guarantees of the debt securities being offered.

If specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, certain of our subsidiaries may guarantee the debt securities. Guarantees may be secured or unsecured and senior or subordinated. The particular terms of guarantees of a particular issue of debt securities will be described in the related prospectus supplement.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue warrants to purchase debt securities, common units, preferred units, subordinated units or other securities or any combination of the foregoing. We may issue warrants independently or together with other securities. Warrants sold with other securities may be attached to or separate from the other securities. We will issue warrants under one or more warrant agreements between us and a warrant agent that we will name in the prospectus supplement or directly between us and the warrant holder.

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The prospectus supplement relating to any warrants that we may offer will include specific terms relating to the offering. We will file the form of any warrant agreement with the SEC, and you should read the warrant agreement for provisions that may be important to you. The prospectus supplement will include some or all of the following terms:

the title of the warrants;

the aggregate number of warrants offered;

the designation, number and terms of the debt securities, common units, preferred units, subordinated units or other securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants, and procedures by which those numbers may be adjusted;

the exercise price of the warrants;

the dates or periods during which the warrants are exercisable;

the designation and terms of any securities with which the warrants are issued;

if the warrants are issued as a unit with another security, the date, if any, on and after which the warrants and the other security will be separately transferable;

if the exercise price is not payable in U.S. dollars, the foreign currency, currency unit or composite currency in which the exercise price is denominated;

any minimum or maximum amount of warrants that may be exercised at any one time;

any terms, procedures and limitations relating to the transferability, exchange, exercise, amendment or termination of the warrants; and

any adjustments to the terms of the warrants resulting from the occurrence of certain events or from the entry into or consummation by us of certain transactions.

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OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The following is a summary of the material provisions of our partnership agreement. We will provide holders of our securities with a copy of our partnership agreement upon request at no charge.

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

- with regard to distributions of available cash, please read Our Cash Distribution Policy;
- with regard to the transfer of common units, please read Description of Common Units Transfer of Common Units; and
- with regard to allocations of taxable income and taxable loss, please read Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Matters.

Organization and Duration

Our partnership was formed in October 2011 and will have a perpetual existence unless terminated pursuant to the terms of our partnership agreement.

Purpose

Our purpose under the partnership agreement is to engage in any business activity that is approved by our general partner and that lawfully may be conducted by a limited partnership organized under Delaware law; provided, that our general partner will not cause us to engage in any business activity that the general partner determines would cause us to be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxable as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Although our general partner has the ability to cause us and our subsidiaries to engage in activities other than the production of natural gas and oil, our general partner has no current plans to do so and may decline to do so free of any 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. 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.

Cash Distributions

Our partnership agreement specifies the manner in which we will make cash distributions to holders of our common units and other partnership securities as well as to our general partner in respect of its incentive distribution rights. For a description of these cash distribution provisions, please read Our Cash Distribution Policy.

Capital Contributions; No Dilution of Class A Units; One-to-One Ratio Between Class A Units and Common Units

Unitholders are not obligated to make additional capital contributions, except as described below under Limited Liability.

The class A units are entitled to 2% of all distributions that we make prior to our liquidation. The 2% sharing ratio of the class A units will not be reduced if we issue additional equity securities in the future. Because the 2% sharing ratio will not be reduced if we issue additional equity securities, and in order to ensure that each class A unit represents the same percentage economic interest in us as one common unit, if we issue additional common units, we will also issue to our general partner, for no additional consideration and without any requirement to make a capital contribution, an additional number of class A units so that the total number of outstanding class A units after such issuance equals 2% of the sum of the total number of common units and common unit equivalents and class A units after such issuance.

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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 common units. Except as set forth below, the class B and class C preferred units have no voting rights.

In voting their common units, Atlas Energy and its affiliates will have no 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. The holders of a majority of the common units represented in person or by proxy shall constitute a quorum at a meeting of such common unitholders, unless any such action requires approval by holders of a greater percentage of such units in which case the quorum shall be such greater percentage.

The following is a summary of the vote requirements specified for certain matters under our partnership agreement:

Issuance of additional partnership securities	No approval right. See Issuance of Additional Securities.
Amendment of our partnership agreement	Certain amendments may be made by our general partner without the approval of the common unitholders. Other amendments generally require the approval of a unit majority or, if any amendment could adversely affect their rights the approval by a majority of the class B or class C preferred units. See Amendment of the Partnership Agreement.
Merger of our partnership or the sale of all or substantially all of our assets	Unit majority in certain circumstances. See Merger, Consolidation, Conversion, Sale or Other Disposition of Our Assets.
Dissolution of our partnership	Unit majority and the approval by a majority of the class B and class C preferred units. See Termination and Dissolution.
Continuation of our partnership upon dissolution	Unit majority. See Termination and Dissolution.
Withdrawal of our general partner	Prior to March 13, 2022, under most circumstances, the approval of a majority of the common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, is required for the withdrawal of our general partner in a manner that would cause a dissolution of our partnership. See Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner.
Removal of our general partner	Not less than two-thirds of the outstanding common units, including common units held by our general partner and its affiliates. See Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner.
Transfer of the general partner interest	Our general partner may transfer without a vote of our common unitholders all, but not less than all, of its general partner interest in us to an affiliate or another person (other than an individual) 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 common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, is required in other circumstances for a transfer of the general partner interest to a third-party prior to the tenth anniversary of the date of the distribution. See Transfer of General Partner Interest.

Transfer of ownership interests in our general partner	No approval required at any time. See General Partner.	Transfer of Ownership Interests in the

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The holder of our class A units has all voting rights applicable to the general partner.

Applicable Law; Forum, Venue and Jurisdiction

Our partnership agreement is governed by Delaware law. Our partnership agreement requires that, unless we (through the approval of our general partner) consent in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware shall be the sole and exclusive forum for any claims, suits, actions or proceedings:

arising out of or relating in any way to the partnership agreement (including any claims, suits or actions to interpret, apply or enforce the provisions of the partnership agreement or the duties, obligations or liabilities among limited partners or of limited partners to us, or the rights or powers of, or restrictions on, the limited partners or us);

brought in a derivative manner on our behalf;

asserting a claim of breach of a fiduciary duty owed by any director, officer or other employee of us or our general partner, or owed by our general partner, to us or the limited partners;

asserting a claim arising pursuant to any provision of the Delaware Act; or

asserting a claim governed by the internal affairs doctrine;

regardless of whether such claims, suits, actions or proceedings sound in contract, tort, fraud or otherwise, are based on common law, statutory, equitable, legal or other grounds, or are derivative or direct claims. However, if and only if the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware dismisses any such claims, suits, actions or proceedings for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, such claims, suits, actions or proceedings may be brought in another state or federal court sitting in the State of Delaware. By acquiring or purchasing a common unit, a limited partner is irrevocably consenting to these limitations and provisions regarding claims, suits, actions or proceedings and submitting to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware in connection with any such claims, suits, actions or proceedings.

Limited Liability

Assuming that a limited partner does not participate in the control of our business within the meaning of the Delaware Act and otherwise acts in conformity with the provisions of our partnership agreement, the limited partner s liability under the Delaware Act will be limited, subject to possible exceptions, to the amount of capital it is obligated to contribute to us for its common units plus its 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 our general partner,

to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement, or

to take other action under our partnership agreement

constituted participation in the control of our business for purposes of the Delaware Act, then our limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under Delaware law to the same extent as our general partner. This liability would extend to persons who transact business with us and reasonably believe that the limited partner is a general partner. Neither our partnership agreement nor the Delaware Act specifically provides for legal recourse against our general partner if a limited partner were to lose limited liability through any fault of our 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.

Under the Delaware Act, a limited partnership cannot 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

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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. Moreover, under the Delaware Act, a limited partnership may also not make a distribution to a partner upon the winding up of the limited partnership before liabilities of the limited partnership to creditors have been satisfied by payment or the making of reasonable provision for payment thereof. 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 will be liable to the limited partnership for the amount of the distribution for three years. Under the Delaware Act, an assignee who becomes a limited partner is liable for the obligations of his assignor to make contributions to the partnership, except 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.

We currently conduct business in Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia and Wyoming. Limitations on the liability of limited partners for the obligations of a limited partnership have not been clearly established in many jurisdictions. If it were determined that we were conducting business in any state without compliance with the applicable limited partnership statute, or that the right or exercise of the right by the limited partners as a group to remove or replace our general partner, to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement or to take other action under our 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 our general partner under the circumstances. We will operate in a manner that our 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 our unitholders.

It is possible that we will fund acquisitions through the issuance of additional common units or other partnership securities. Holders of any additional common units we issue will be entitled to share equally with the then-existing holders of common units in our distributions of available cash. In addition, the issuance of additional common units or other partnership securities may dilute the value of the interests of the then-existing holders of common units in our net assets. The holders of common units will not have preemptive rights to acquire additional common units or other partnership securities.

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 common units are not entitled. In addition, our partnership agreement does not prohibit the issuance by our subsidiaries of equity securities, which may effectively rank senior to our common units.

The class A units will be entitled to 2% of all distributions that we make prior to our liquidation. The 2% sharing ratio of the class A units will not be reduced if we issue additional equity securities in the future. Because the 2% sharing ratio will not be reduced if we issue additional equity securities, and in order to ensure that each class A unit represents the same percentage economic interest in us as one common unit, if we issue additional common units or units convertible into common units, we will also issue to our general partner, for no additional consideration and

without any requirement to make a capital contribution, an additional number of class A units so that the total number of outstanding class A units after such issuance equals 2% of the sum of the total number of common units, common unit equivalents and class A units after such issuance.

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In addition to the right to receive additional class A units, our general partner will have a limited preemptive right in connection with any issuance by us of additional partnership securities. The right, which the general partner may assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates, will entitle the general partner to purchase additional units of any securities being sold to third parties, on the same terms as such third parties, in an amount up to the amount necessary to maintain the aggregate ownership percentage of the general partner and its affiliates at the same level before and after such issuance.

Amendment of the Partnership Agreement

General. Amendments to our partnership agreement may be proposed only by our general partner. However, our general partner will have no duty or obligation to propose any amendment and may decline to do so free of any duty or obligation whatsoever to us or our limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us or our limited partners. To adopt a proposed amendment, other than the amendments discussed under Amendment of the Partnership Agreement No Unitholder Approval , our general partner is required to 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.

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 be amended upon the approval of the holders of at least 90% of the outstanding units voting together as a single class.

No Unitholder Approval. Our general partner may generally make amendments to our partnership agreement without the approval of any limited partner to reflect:

- a change in our name, the location of our principal place of business, our registered agent or 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 for us to qualify us or continue our qualification as a limited partnership or other entity in which the limited partners have limited liability under the laws of any state or to ensure that we will not be taxed as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes;

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

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 subject to the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Investment Advisers 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 or issuance of additional partnership securities or options, warrants, rights or appreciation rights relating to any partnership securities;

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

any amendment effected, necessitated or contemplated by a merger agreement or plan of conversion 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;

any amendment necessary to require our limited partners to provide a statement, certification or other evidence to us regarding whether such limited partner is subject to U.S. federal income taxation on the income generated by us or regarding such limited partner s nationality or citizenship and to provide for the ability of our general partner to redeem the units of any limited partner who fails to provide such statement, certification or other evidence;

conversions into, mergers with or conveyances to another limited liability entity that is newly formed and has no assets, liabilities or operations at the time of the conversion, merger or conveyance other than those it receives by way of the conversion, merger or conveyance; and

any other amendment substantially similar to any of the matters described above.

In addition, our general partner may amend our partnership agreement, without the approval of the unitholders, if our general partner determines that those amendments:

do not adversely affect the 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 or interdealer quotation system 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 or to implement the tax-related provisions of our partnership agreement; or

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

Unitholder Approval. For amendments of the type not requiring 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 our limited partners or result in our being treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxable as an entity for federal income tax purposes. No other amendments to our partnership agreement will become effective without the approval of holders of at least 90% of the outstanding common units if our general partner determines that such amendment will affect the limited liability of any limited partner under Delaware law.

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 other than to remove the general partner or call a meeting of unitholders is required to be approved by the affirmative vote of limited partners whose aggregate outstanding common units constitute not less than the voting requirement sought to be reduced. Any amendment that would increase the percentage of common units required to remove the general partner or call a meeting of unitholders must be approved by the affirmative vote of limited partners whose aggregate outstanding common units constitute not less than the percentage sought to be increased.

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Merger, Consolidation, Conversion, Sale or Other Disposition of Our Assets

A merger, consolidation or conversion of us requires the prior consent of our general partner. However, our general partner will have no duty or obligation to consent to any merger, consolidation or conversion 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 any other standard imposed by our partnership agreement, the Delaware Act or applicable law.

In addition, the partnership agreement generally prohibits our general partner, without the prior approval by a unit majority, from causing us to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets in a single transaction or a series of related transactions. Our general partner may, however, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or grant a security interest in all or substantially all of our assets without the approval of a unit majority. 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, consolidation or conversion without the prior approval of our unitholders if we are the surviving entity in the transaction, our general partner has received an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters, the transaction will not result in an amendment to the partnership agreement (other than an amendment that the general partner could adopt without the consent of other partners), each of our units will be an identical unit of our partnership following the transaction and the number of partnership securities to be issued does not exceed 20% of our outstanding partnership securities 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 purpose of that conversion, merger or conveyance is to effect a change in our legal form into another limited liability entity, our general partner has received an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters and the general partner determines that the governing instruments of the new entity provide the limited partners and the general partner with substantially the same rights and obligations as contained in the partnership agreement. 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 similar transaction or event.

Termination and Dissolution

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

- the election of our general partner to dissolve us, if approved by a unit majority;
- the entry of a decree of judicial dissolution of our partnership;
- there being no limited partners, unless we are continued without dissolution in accordance with applicable Delaware law; 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 us in accordance with our

partnership agreement or withdrawal or removal following approval and admission of a successor.

Upon a dissolution under the last item 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 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 under Delaware law of any limited partner; and

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neither our partnership nor any of our subsidiaries would be taxed as a corporation or otherwise be taxable as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes upon the exercise of that right to continue (to the extent not already so treated or taxed).

Liquidation and Distribution of Proceeds

Upon our dissolution, unless we are 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 necessary or appropriate liquidate our assets and apply the proceeds of the liquidation as described in Our Cash Distribution Policy. 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 Our General Partner

Except as described below, our general partner has agreed not to withdraw voluntarily as our general partner prior to the tenth anniversary of the date of the distribution, without obtaining the approval of the holders of at least a majority of our outstanding common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, and furnishing an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. On or after the tenth anniversary of the date of the distribution, our general partner may withdraw as our general partner without first obtaining approval from the unitholders by giving 90 days written notice. Notwithstanding the information above, our general partner may withdraw as our general partner without unitholder approval upon 90 days notice to our limited partners if at least 50% of the outstanding common units are held or controlled by one person and its affiliates other than our general partner and its affiliates. In addition, our 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. See Transfer of General Partner Interest.

If our general partner withdraws, other than as a result of a transfer of all or a part of its general partner interest in us, the holders of a unit majority may elect a successor to the withdrawing general partner. If a successor is not elected prior to the effective date of the withdrawal, or is elected but an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters cannot be obtained, we will be dissolved and liquidated, unless within a specified period of time after that withdrawal, the holders of a unit majority elect to continue the partnership by appointing a successor general partner. See Termination and Dissolution.

Our general partner may not be removed unless that removal is approved by the vote of the holders of at least $66\ ^{2}/_{3}\%$ of the outstanding units, 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 unit majority, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates. The ownership of more than $33\ ^{1}/_{3}\%$ of our outstanding common units by our general partner and its affiliates would give them the practical ability to prevent our general partner s removal.

In the event of removal of our general partner under circumstances where cause exists or a withdrawal of our general partner that violates our partnership agreement, a successor general partner will have the option to purchase the class A units and incentive distribution rights of the departing general partner for a cash payment equal to the fair market value of those interests. Under all other circumstances where our general partner withdraws or is removed, the departing general partner will have the option to require the successor general partner to purchase those interests for their fair market value. In each case, fair market value will be determined by agreement between the departing general partner and the successor general partner. If they cannot reach an agreement, an independent expert selected by the departing general partner and the successor general partner will determine the fair market value. If the departing general partner and the successor general partner cannot agree on an expert, then an expert chosen by agreement of the

experts selected by each of them will determine the fair market value.

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If the purchase option is not exercised by either the departing general partner or the successor general partner, the class A units and incentive distribution rights will automatically convert into common units 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 the transfer by our general partner of all, but not less than all, of its class A units 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 to another person, prior to the tenth anniversary of the date of the distribution, without the approval of the holders of at least a majority of our outstanding common units, excluding common 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 common units to one or more persons without unitholder approval.

Transfer of Ownership Interests in the General Partner

The members of our general partner may sell or transfer all or part of their interest in our general partner without the approval of the unitholders.

Transfer of Incentive Distribution Rights

Our general partner or any other holder of incentive distribution rights may transfer any or all of its incentive distribution rights without unitholder approval.

Change of Management Provisions

Our partnership agreement contains specific provisions that are intended to discourage a person or group from attempting to remove Atlas Resource Partners GP, LLC as our general partner or otherwise change the management of our general partner. If any person or group other than our general partner and its affiliates acquires beneficial ownership of 20% or more of our common units, that person or group will lose voting rights on all of its units and the common units will not be considered outstanding for the purposes of noticing meetings, determining the presence of a quorum, calculating required votes and other similar matters. This loss of voting rights does not apply to any person or group that acquires the common units from our general partner or its affiliates, any transferees of that person or group

approved by our general partner or any person or group who acquires the common units directly from us if our general partner notifies such person or group in writing, in advance, that this limitation will not apply.

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Limited Call Right

If at any time our general partner and its affiliates own more than two-thirds of the outstanding common units, our general partner will have the right, which it may assign to any of its affiliates or to us, to acquire all, but not less than all, of the common units held by unaffiliated persons as of a record date selected by our general partner on at least 10 but not more than 60 days notice.

The purchase price is the greater of:

- the highest cash price paid by our general partner or any of its affiliates for any limited partner interests 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 average of the daily closing prices of the limited partner interests of such class over the 20 trading days preceding the date three days before the date the notice is mailed.

As a result of our general partner s right to purchase outstanding limited partner interests, a holder of limited partner interests may have his limited partner interests purchased at a price that may be lower than market prices at various times prior to such purchase or lower than a unitholder may anticipate the market price to be in the future. The federal income tax consequences to a unitholder of the exercise of this call right are the same as a sale by that unitholder of his common units in the market.

Meetings; Voting

Except as described above under Change of Management Provisions, unitholders who are record holders of common units on a 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. Our general partner does not anticipate that any meeting of common unitholders will be called in the foreseeable future.

Any action that is required or permitted to be taken by the common unitholders may be taken either at a meeting of the common unitholders or without a meeting if consents in writing describing the action so taken are signed by holders of the number of common units necessary to authorize or take that action at a meeting. Meetings of the common unitholders may be called by our general partner or by holders of at least 20% of the outstanding common 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 common 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 common units, in which case the quorum will be the greater percentage.

Except as described above under Change of Management Provisions, each record holder will have a vote in accordance with his percentage interest, although additional limited partner interests having different voting rights could be issued. See Issuance of Additional Securities. Common 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.

Any notice, demand, request report, or proxy material required or permitted to be given or made to record holders of common 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 any common units in accordance with our partnership agreement, each transferee of common units shall be admitted as a limited partner with respect to the common units transferred when such transfer and admission is reflected in our books and records. Except as described above under Limited Liability, the common units will be fully paid, and unitholders will not be required to make additional contributions.

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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, we 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 any limited partner or transferee to furnish information about his nationality, citizenship or related status. If a limited partner fails to furnish this information 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, then the limited partner may be treated as a non-citizen assignee. 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.

In addition, in such circumstance, we will have the right to acquire all (but not less than all) of the units held by such limited partner or non-citizen assignee. The purchase price for such units will be the average of the daily closing prices per unit for the 20 consecutive trading days immediately prior to the date set for such purchase, and such purchase price will be paid (in the sole discretion of our general partner) either in cash or by delivery of a promissory note. Any such promissory note will bear interest at the rate of 5% annually and will be payable in three equal annual installments of principal and accrued interest, commencing one year after the purchase date.

Non-Taxpaying Holders; Redemption

If our general partner, with the advice of counsel, determines that our not being treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxable as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes, coupled with the tax status (or lack of proof thereof) of one or more of our limited partners, has, or is reasonably likely to have, a material adverse effect on the maximum applicable rate that can be charged to customers by our subsidiaries, then our general partner may adopt such amendments to our partnership agreement as it determines necessary or advisable to:

- obtain proof of the U.S. federal income tax status of our limited partners (and their owners, to the extent relevant); and

- permit us to redeem the units at their current market price held by any person whose tax status has or is reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on our ability to operate our assets or generate revenues from our assets or who fails to comply with the procedures instituted by our general partner to obtain proof of the U.S. federal income tax status.

A non-taxpaying 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, by reason of their status as such, to the fullest extent permitted by law, from and against all losses, claims or damages arising out of or incurred in connection with our business:

our general partner;

any departing general partner;

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

any person who is or was a manager, managing member, officer, director, employee, agent, fiduciary or trustee of our partnership, our subsidiaries, our general partner, any departing general partner or any affiliate of our partnership, our subsidiaries, our general partner, any departing general partner;

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any person who is or was serving at the request of a general partner or any departing general partner or any affiliate of a general partner or any departing general partner as a manager, managing member officer, director, employee, agent, fiduciary or trustee of another person; and

any person whom the general partner designates as an indemnitee for purposes of our partnership agreement.

Our indemnification obligation arises only if the indemnified person did not act in bad faith or engage in fraud, willful misconduct or, in the case of a criminal matter, knowledge of the indemnified person s unlawful conduct.

Any indemnification under these provisions will be only out of our assets. Our general partner will not be personally liable for the indemnification obligations and will not have any obligation to contribute or loan funds to us in connection with it. Our partnership agreement permits us to 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 the 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 allocated to our general partner by its affiliates. Our general partner is entitled to determine the expenses that are allocable to us, and our partnership agreement does not place any aggregate limit on the amount of such reimbursements.

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 financial and tax reporting purposes, our fiscal year end is December 31.

We will furnish or make available to record holders of common 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 registered public accounting firm. Except for our fourth quarter, we also furnish or make available summary financial information within 90 days after the close of each quarter. We will be deemed to have made any such report available if we file such report with the SEC on EDGAR or make the report available on a publicly available website that we maintain.

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 our unitholders will depend on the cooperation of our unitholders in supplying us with specific information. Every unitholder will receive information to assist it in determining its federal and state tax liability and filing its federal and state income tax returns, regardless of whether it 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 its interest as a limited partner, upon reasonable written demand stating the purpose of such demand and at his own expense, obtain:

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

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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 became a partner;

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

information regarding the status of our business and financial condition.

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 is not in our best interests or which we are required by law or by agreements with third parties to keep confidential.

Registration Rights

In our partnership agreement, we have agreed to register for resale under the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws any common units or other partnership securities proposed to be sold by our general partner, Atlas Energy or any of their respective affiliates if an exemption from the registration requirements is not otherwise available. There is no limit on the number of times that we may be required to file registration statements pursuant to this obligation. We have also agreed to include any securities held by our general partner, Atlas Energy or any of their respective affiliates in any registration statement that we file to offer securities for cash, other than an offering relating solely to an employee benefit plan. These registration rights continue for two years following any withdrawal or removal of our general partner. We are obligated to pay all expenses incidental to the registration, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions.

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OUR CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY

Set forth below is a summary of the significant provisions of our partnership agreement that relate to our cash distributions.

General

The amount of distributions paid under our cash distribution policy and the decision to make any distribution will be determined by our general partner in its discretion, taking into account the terms of our partnership agreement. Our cash distribution policy reflects a basic judgment, given our current asset base, that our unitholders will be better served by the distribution of our available cash (which is defined in our partnership agreement and is net of any expenses and reserves established by our general partner) than by our retaining such available cash. It is the current policy of our general partner that we should increase our level of cash distributions per unit only when, in its judgment, it believes that:

- we have sufficient reserves and liquidity for the proper conduct of our business; and
- we can maintain such an increased distribution level for a sustained period.

The amount of available cash, which is defined in our partnership agreement, will be determined by our general partner after the completion of the distribution and will be based upon recommendations from our management. Because we believe that we will generally finance any expansion capital expenditures and investment capital expenditures from external financing sources, we believe that our investors are best served by our distributing all of our available cash. In addition, because we are not subject to entity-level U.S. federal income tax as a partnership, we have more cash to distribute to you than would be the case if we were subject to U.S. federal income tax. Our cash distribution policy is consistent with the terms of our partnership agreement, which requires that we distribute all of our available cash.

Minimum Quarterly Distributions

We currently intend to distribute to the holders of our common units, class B preferred units and class A units at least a minimum quarterly distribution of $0.40 per unit, or $1.60 per unit per year, and to holders of our class C preferred units $0.51 per unit per quarter, or $2.04 per unit per year, to the extent we have sufficient available cash after we establish appropriate reserves and pay fees and expenses, including payments to our general partner in reimbursement of costs and expenses it incurs on our behalf. Our minimum quarterly distribution is intended to reflect the level of cash that we expect to be available for distribution per common unit, preferred units and class A unit each quarter. There is no guarantee that we will pay the minimum quarterly distribution, or any distribution, in any quarter, and we will be prohibited from making any distributions to unitholders if it would cause an event of default or an event of default is existing under our credit agreement.

It is the current policy of our general partner that we should raise our quarterly cash distribution only when our general partner believes that:

- we have sufficient reserves and liquidity for the proper conduct of our business; and

we can maintain such an increased distribution level for a sustained period.

While this is our current policy, our general partner may alter the policy in the future when and if it determines such alteration to be appropriate.

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Quarterly Distributions of Available Cash

Our partnership agreement requires that we make distributions of all available cash (as defined in our partnership agreement) within 45 days after the end of each quarter, beginning with the quarter ending March 31, 2012, to holders of record on the applicable record date.

For these purposes, available cash generally means, for any of our fiscal quarters:

all cash on hand at the end of the quarter (including amounts available for working capital purposes under a credit facility, commercial paper facility or other similar financing arrangement),

less the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner at the date of determination of available cash for the quarter in order to:

provide for the proper conduct of our business (including reserves for working capital, operating expenses, future capital expenditures and credit needs and potential acquisitions);

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

provide funds for distributions to (1) our unitholders for any one or more of the next four quarters or (2) with respect to our incentive distribution rights (provided that our general partner may not establish cash reserves for future distributions on our common units and class A units unless it determines that the establishment of such reserves will not prevent us from distributing the minimum distribution on all common units and class A units);

plus, if our general partner so determines, all or any portion of 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. Working capital borrowings are borrowings that are made under our credit facility or another arrangement and used solely for working capital purposes or to pay distributions to unitholders.

Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus

General

All cash we distribute to unitholders will be characterized as either operating surplus or capital surplus. Our partnership agreement requires that we distribute available cash from operating surplus differently than available cash from capital surplus.

Definition of Operating Surplus

Operating surplus generally means:

$60 million (as described below); *plus*

all of our cash receipts after the separation, including working capital borrowings but excluding cash from (1) borrowings that are not working capital borrowings, (2) sales of equity and debt securities and (3) sales or other dispositions of assets outside the ordinary course of business; *plus*

working capital borrowings made after the end of a quarter but before the date of determination of operating surplus for the quarter; *plus*

cash distributions paid on equity securities that we may issue after the separation to finance all or a portion of the construction, acquisition, development, replacement or improvement of a capital asset (such as equipment or reserves) during the period beginning on the date that we enter into a binding obligation to commence the construction, acquisition, development or improvement of a capital improvement or replacement of a capital asset and ending on the earlier to occur of the date the capital improvement or capital asset begins producing in paying quantities, the date it is placed into service or the date that it is abandoned or disposed of; *plus*

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cash distributions paid (including incremental incentive distributions) on equity issued to pay the construction period interest on debt incurred (including periodic net payments under related interest rate swap arrangements), or to pay construction period distributions on equity issued, to finance the capital improvements or capital assets referred to above; *less*

our operating expenditures (as defined below); *less*

the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner to provide funds for future operating expenditures; *less*

all working capital borrowings not repaid within 12 months after having been incurred or repaid within such twelve-month period with the proceeds of additional working capital borrowings; *less*

any cash loss realized on disposition of an investment capital expenditure.

If a working capital borrowing, which increases operating surplus, is not repaid during the twelve-month period following the borrowing, it will be deemed repaid at the end of such period, thus decreasing operating surplus at such time. When such working capital borrowing is in fact repaid, it will not be treated as a reduction in operating surplus because operating surplus will have been previously reduced by the deemed repayment.

Operating expenditures is defined in our partnership agreement, and generally means all of our cash expenditures, including but not limited to:

taxes;

reimbursement of expenses to our general partner and its affiliates;

payments made in the ordinary course of business on hedge contracts;

director and officer compensation;

repayment of working capital borrowings;

debt service payments; and

estimated maintenance capital expenditures,

Operating expenditures, however, do not include:

repayment of working capital borrowings previously deducted from operating surplus pursuant to the penultimate bullet point of the definition of operating surplus when the repayment actually occurs;

payments (including prepayments and prepayment penalties) of principal of and premium on indebtedness, other than working capital borrowings;

expansion capital expenditures;

actual maintenance capital expenditures;

investment capital expenditures;

payment of transaction expenses relating to interim capital transactions;

distributions to our unitholders and distributions with respect to our incentive distribution rights; or

repurchases of equity interests except to fund obligations under employee benefit plans.

As described above, operating surplus does not reflect actual cash on hand that is available for distribution to our unitholders. For example, it includes a provision that will enable us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to $60 million of cash that we receive in the future from non-operating sources, such as asset sales, issuances of securities and long-term borrowings that would otherwise be distributed as capital surplus. In addition, the effect of including in the definition of operating surplus certain cash distributions on equity securities would be to increase operating surplus by the amount of the cash distributions. As a result, we may also distribute as operating surplus up to the amount of the cash distributions we receive from non-operating sources.

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None of actual maintenance capital expenditures, investment capital expenditures or expansion capital expenditures are subtracted from operating surplus. Because actual maintenance capital expenditures, investment capital expenditures and expansion capital expenditures include interest payments (and related fees) on debt incurred and distributions on equity issued (including incremental distributions on incentive distribution rights) to finance all of the portion of the construction, acquisition, development, replacement or improvement of a capital asset (such as equipment or reserves) during the period from when we enter into a binding commitment to commence the construction, acquisition, development or improvement of a capital asset or replacement of a capital asset until the earlier to occur of the date any such capital asset is placed into service or the date that it is abandoned or disposed of, such interest payments and equity distributions are also not subtracted from operating surplus (except, in the case of maintenance capital expenditures, to the extent such interest payments and distributions are included in estimated maintenance capital expenditures).

Capital Expenditures

Estimated maintenance capital expenditures reduce operating surplus, but expansion capital expenditures, actual maintenance capital expenditures and investment capital expenditures do not.

Maintenance Capital Expenditures. Maintenance capital expenditures are those capital expenditures we expect to make on an ongoing basis to maintain our current production levels over the long term. We expect that a primary component of maintenance capital expenditures will be capital expenditures associated with the replacement of equipment and oil and natural gas reserves (including non-proved reserves attributable to undeveloped leasehold acreage and other similar assets), whether through the development, exploitation and production of an existing leasehold or the acquisition or development of a new oil or natural gas property, including to offset expected production declines from producing properties. Maintenance capital expenditures will also include interest (and related fees) on debt incurred and distributions on equity issued (including incremental distributions on incentive distribution rights) to finance all or any portion of a replacement asset that is paid in respect of the period beginning on the date that we enter into a binding obligation to commence construction or development of the replacement asset and ending on the earlier to occur of the date the replacement asset is placed into service or the date that it is abandoned or disposed of. Capital expenditures made solely for investment purposes will not be considered maintenance capital expenditures.

Because our maintenance capital expenditures can be irregular, the amount of our actual maintenance capital expenditures may differ substantially from period to period, which could cause similar fluctuations in the amounts of operating surplus, adjusted operating surplus and cash available for distribution to our unitholders if we subtracted actual maintenance capital expenditures from operating surplus. To address this issue, our partnership agreement will require that an estimate of the average quarterly maintenance capital expenditures (including estimated plugging and abandonment costs) necessary to maintain our asset base over the long term be subtracted from operating surplus each quarter as opposed to the actual amounts spent. The amount of estimated maintenance capital expenditures deducted from operating surplus is subject to review and change by the board of directors of our general partner at least once a year. We will make the estimate at least annually and whenever an event occurs that is likely to result in a material adjustment to the amount of future estimated maintenance capital expenditures, such as a major acquisition or the introduction of new governmental regulations that will impact our business. Any adjustment to this estimate will be prospective only.

The use of estimated maintenance capital expenditures in calculating operating surplus will have the following effects:

it will reduce the risk that maintenance capital expenditures in any one quarter will be large enough to render operating surplus less than the minimum quarterly distribution to be paid on all the units for that quarter;

it will increase our ability to distribute as operating surplus cash we receive from non-operating sources;

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in quarters where estimated maintenance capital expenditures exceed actual maintenance capital expenditures, it will be more difficult for us to raise our distributions above the minimum quarterly distribution, because the amount of estimated maintenance capital expenditures will reduce the amount of cash available for distribution to our unitholders, even in quarters where there are no corresponding actual capital expenditures; conversely, the use of estimated maintenance capital expenditures in calculating operating surplus will have the opposite effect for quarters in which actual maintenance capital expenditures exceed our estimated maintenance capital expenditures; and

it will be more difficult for us to raise our distribution above the minimum quarterly distribution and pay incentive distribution rights.

Expansion Capital Expenditures

Expansion capital expenditures are those capital expenditures that we expect will increase the production of our and gas properties over the long term. Examples of expansion capital expenditures include the acquisition of reserves or equipment, the acquisition of new leasehold interests, or the development, exploitation and production of an existing leasehold interest, to the extent such expenditures are incurred to increase the production of our oil and gas properties over the long term. Expansion capital expenditures will also include interest (and related fees) on debt incurred and distributions on equity issued (including incremental distributions on incentive distribution rights) to finance all or any portion of a capital improvement that is paid in respect of the period beginning on the date that we enter into a binding obligation to commence construction or development of the capital improvement and ending on the earlier to occur of the date the capital improvement is placed into service or the date that it is abandoned or disposed of. Capital expenditures made solely for investment purposes will not be considered expansion capital expenditures.

Investment Capital Expenditures

Investment capital expenditures are those capital expenditures that are neither maintenance capital expenditures nor expansion capital expenditures. Investment capital expenditures largely will consist of capital expenditures made for investment purposes. Examples of investment capital expenditures include traditional capital expenditures for investment purposes, such as purchases of securities, as well as other capital expenditures that might be made in lieu of such traditional investment capital expenditures, such as the acquisition of a capital asset for investment purposes or development of our undeveloped properties in excess of the maintenance of our asset base, but which are not expected to expand our asset base for more than the short term.

Capital expenditures that are made in part for maintenance capital purposes and in part for investment capital or expansion capital purposes will be allocated as maintenance capital expenditures, investment capital expenditures or expansion capital expenditure by the board of directors of our general partner based upon its good faith determination.

Definition of Capital Surplus

Capital surplus is defined in our partnership agreement as any distribution of available cash in excess of our cumulative operating surplus. Accordingly, capital surplus would generally be generated by:

borrowings (including sales of debt securities) other than working capital borrowings;

sales of debt and equity securities; and

sales or other dispositions of assets for cash, other than inventory, accounts receivable and other assets disposed of in the ordinary course of business or as part of normal retirement or replacement of assets.

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Characterization of Cash Distributions

We treat all available cash distributed as distributed from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed since we began operations equals our total operating surplus from the date that we began operations until the end of the quarter that immediately preceded the distribution. We will treat any amount distributed in excess of operating surplus, regardless of its source, as capital surplus. As described above, operating surplus includes up to $60 million which does not reflect actual cash on hand that is available for distribution to our unitholders. Rather, it is a provision that will enable us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to this amount of cash we receive in the future from non-operating sources such as asset sales, issuances of securities and borrowings that would otherwise be distributed as capital surplus. We do not currently anticipate that we will make any distributions from capital surplus.

Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus

We will make distributions of available cash from operating surplus for any quarter in the following manner:

first, 2% to the holders of our class A units (which are held by our general partner) and 98% to the holders of our class B preferred units, each pro rata, until each class B preferred unit holder has received $0.40 per outstanding class B preferred unit;

second, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our class C preferred units, each pro rata, until there has been distributed in respect of each class C preferred unit then outstanding the amount specified in the certificate of designation for the class C preferred units;

third, to the holders of the incentive distribution rights, which is initially our general partner, (A) 13/85^{ths} of such amount paid pursuant to second above that is between $0.46 per outstanding unit for such quarter, which we refer to as the first target distribution, and $0.50 per outstanding unit for such quarter, which we refer to as the second target distribution ; (B) 23/75^{ths} of such amount paid pursuant to second above that is between the second target distribution and $0.60 per outstanding unit for such quarter, which we refer to as the third target distribution ; and (C) 48/50^{ths} of such amount paid pursuant to second above that is over the third target distribution for such quarter;

fourth, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, until there has been distributed in respect of each common unit then outstanding an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for such quarter;

fifth, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units and class B preferred units, each pro rata, until there has been distributed in respect of each common unit and class B preferred unit then outstanding an amount equal to the first target distribution for such quarter;

after that, in the manner described in Cash Distribution Policy Incentive Distribution Rights.

Adjusted operating surplus for any period generally means operating surplus generated during that period, less:

1. any net increase in working capital borrowings with respect to that period; and

2. any net decrease in cash reserves for operating expenditures with respect to that period not relating to an operating expenditure made with respect to that period,

and plus:

3. any net decrease in working capital borrowings made with respect to that period;

4. any net increase in cash reserves for operating expenditures with respect to that period required by any debt instrument for the repayment of principal, interest or premium; and

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5. any net decrease made in subsequent periods in cash reserves for operating expenditures initially established with respect to such period to the extent such decrease results in a reduction of adjusted operating surplus in subsequent periods pursuant to item 2 above.

Operating surplus generated during a period is equal to the difference between:

the operating surplus determined at the end of that period; and

the operating surplus determined at the beginning of that period.

Incentive Distribution Rights

Incentive distribution rights represent the right to receive increasing amounts of quarterly distributions of available cash from operating surplus after we have made payments in excess of the first target distribution and the tests described below have been met. Our general partner currently holds all of the incentive distribution rights, but may transfer these rights separately from its general partner interest in us, without the consent of the unitholders.

We will make incentive distributions to our general partner for any quarter in which we have distributed available cash from operating surplus to our unitholders in an amount equal to the first target distribution, as follows:

first, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 85% to the holders of our common units and class B preferred units, each pro rata, and 13% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights, until there has been distributed in respect of each common unit and class B preferred unit then outstanding an amount equal to the second target distribution for such quarter;

second, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 75% to the holders of our common units and class B preferred units, each pro rata, and 23% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights, until there has been distributed in respect of each common unit and class B preferred unit then outstanding an amount equal to the third target distribution for such quarter; and

after that, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 50% to the holders of our common units and class B preferred units, each pro rata, and 48% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights.

The class A units represent a 2% general partner interest in us, and the holder of such units are entitled to 2% of our cash distributions, without any requirement to make a capital contribution to us. The 2% sharing ratio of the class A units will not be reduced if we issue additional common units in the future. Because the 2% sharing ratio will not be reduced if we issue additional common units, and in order to ensure that each class A unit represents the same percentage economic interest in Atlas Resource Partners as one common unit, if we issue additional common units, we will also issue to our general partner, for no additional consideration and without any requirement to make a capital contribution, an additional number of class A units so that the total number of outstanding class A units after such issuance equals 2% of the sum of the total number of common units and class A units after such issuance.

Right to Reset Incentive Distribution Levels

The holder of our incentive distribution rights, which will initially be our general partner, has the right under our partnership agreement to elect to relinquish the right to receive incentive distribution payments based on the initial cash target distribution levels and to reset, at higher levels, the minimum quarterly distribution amount and cash target distribution levels upon which the incentive distribution payments to our general partner would be set. If our general partner transfers all or a portion of our incentive distribution rights in the future, then the holder or holders of a majority of our incentive distribution rights will be entitled to exercise this right.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the general partner does not have the right to reset the minimum quarterly distributions payable to holders of our class B preferred units or class C preferred units without the consent of

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such holders. Upon a reset of the minimum quarterly distribution amount as set forth herein, holders of class B preferred units shall continue to have the right to receive distributions equal to the greater of (i) $0.40 and (ii) the quarterly distribution payable to holders of common units for the most recently completed quarter, in each case multiplied by the number of common units into which such class B preferred unit is then convertible, and holders of class C preferred units shall continue to have the right to receive distributions equal to the greater of (i) $0.51 and (ii) the quarterly distribution payable to holders of common units for the most recently completed quarter, in each case multiplied by the number of common units into which such class C preferred unit is then convertible.

The right to reset the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels upon which the incentive distributions are based may be exercised, without approval of our unitholders or the conflicts committee of the board of directors of our general partner, at any time when we have made cash distributions to the holders of the incentive distribution rights at the highest level of incentive distribution for the prior four consecutive fiscal quarters. The reset minimum quarterly distribution amount and target distribution levels are described below and will be higher than the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels prior to the reset and there will be no incentive distributions paid under the reset target distribution levels. We anticipate that the holder of our incentive distribution rights would exercise this reset right in order to facilitate acquisitions or internal growth projects that would otherwise not be sufficiently accretive to cash distributions per common unit, taking into account the existing levels of incentive distribution payments being made to such holder.

In connection with the resetting of the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels and the corresponding relinquishment of incentive distribution payments based on the target cash distributions prior to the reset, the holder of our incentive distribution rights will be entitled to receive a number of newly issued common units based on a predetermined formula described below that takes into account the cash parity value of the average cash distributions related to the incentive distribution rights received by such holder for the two quarters prior to the reset event, as compared to the average cash distributions per common unit during this period.

The number of common units that the holder of our incentive distribution rights would be entitled to receive from us in connection with a resetting of the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels then in effect would be equal to:

the average amount of cash distributions received by the holder of our incentive distribution rights in respect of such rights during the two consecutive fiscal quarters ended immediately prior to the date of such reset election; *divided by*

the average of the amount of cash distributed per common unit during each of these two quarters.

Following a reset election, the minimum quarterly distribution amount will be reset to an amount equal to the average cash distribution amount per class A unit and common unit for the two fiscal quarters immediately preceding the reset election (which amount we refer to as the reset minimum quarterly distribution) and the target distribution levels will be reset to be correspondingly higher such that we would distribute all of our available cash from operating surplus for each quarter thereafter as follows:

first, 2% to holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, until each holder receives an amount per unit equal to 115% of the reset minimum quarterly distribution for that

quarter;

second, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 85% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 13% to our general partner, until each holder of our class A units and holder of our common units receives an amount per unit equal to 125% of the reset minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter;

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third, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 75% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 23% to our general partner, until each holder of our class A units and holder of our common units receives an amount per unit equal to 150% of the reset minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter; and

thereafter, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 50% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 48% to our general partner.

The holder of our incentive distribution rights will be entitled to cause the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels to be reset on more than one occasion, provided that it may not make a reset election except at a time when it has received incentive distributions for the prior four consecutive fiscal quarters based on the highest level of incentive distributions that it is entitled to receive under our partnership agreement.

Distributions from Capital Surplus

We distribute available cash from capital surplus, if any, in the following manner:

first, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of class B preferred units, pro rata, until a hypothetical holder of a class B preferred unit acquired on the date the class B units were initially issued has received aggregate distributions of available cash that are deemed to be capital surplus in an amount equal to the face value of the class B preferred units;

second, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of class C preferred units, pro rata, until a hypothetical holder of a class C preferred unit acquired on the date the class C units were initially issued has received aggregate distributions of available cash that are deemed to be capital surplus in an amount equal to the face value of the class C preferred units;

third, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, pro rata, until distributions have been paid on each common unit from capital surplus in an aggregate amount equal to the initial unrecovered unit price (as defined below); and

after that, we will distribute all available cash from capital surplus as if it were from operating surplus.

Our partnership agreement treats a distribution from capital surplus as the repayment of an investment in our units, which we refer to as the unrecovered unit price. The initial unrecovered unit price will be equal to the average of the closing prices of an Atlas Resource Partners common unit on the NYSE for the five trading days immediately following the completion of the distribution. Any distributions from capital surplus after the distribution will reduce the unrecovered unit price. In addition, any distribution of capital surplus will also reduce the minimum quarterly distribution, the first target distribution, the second target distribution and the third target distribution, which we refer to in this document as target distribution levels. Each of the target distribution levels will be reduced in connection with a distribution of capital surplus to an amount equal to the then-applicable target distribution level multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the unrecovered unit price immediately prior to such distribution of capital surplus, and the denominator of which is the unrecovered unit price immediately after such distribution of capital surplus.

After the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels have been reduced to zero, we will treat all distributions of available cash from all sources as if they were from operating surplus. Because the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels will have been reduced to zero, our general partner will then be entitled to receive 50% of all distributions of available cash in its capacity as general partner and holder of the incentive distribution rights, in addition to any distributions to which it may be entitled as a holder of units.

Distributions from capital surplus will not reduce the minimum quarterly distribution or target distribution levels for the quarter in which they are distributed.

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Adjustment of Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels

In addition to adjustments made upon a distribution of available cash from capital surplus, we will proportionately adjust the minimum quarterly distribution, target distribution levels and any other amounts calculated on a per unit basis upward or downward, as appropriate, if any combination or subdivision of common units occurs. For example, if a two-for-one split of the common units occurs, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels.

We will not make any adjustment for the issuance of additional common units for cash or property.

We may also adjust the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels if legislation is enacted or if existing law is modified or interpreted in a manner that causes us to become taxable as a corporation or otherwise subject to taxation as an entity for federal, state or local income tax purposes. In this event, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels for each quarter after that time to amounts equal to the product of:

the minimum quarterly distribution and each of the target distribution levels, and

one minus the sum of:

the highest marginal federal income tax rate which could apply to the partnership that is taxed as a corporation plus

the effective overall state and local income tax rate that would have been applicable in the preceding calendar year as a result of the new imposition of the entity level tax, after taking into account the benefit of any deduction allowable for federal income tax purposes for the payment of state and local income taxes, but only to the extent of the increase in rates resulting from that legislation or interpretation.

For example, assuming we are not previously subject to state and local income tax, if we became taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes and subject to a maximum marginal federal, and effective state and local, income tax rate of 40%, then we would reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels to 60% of the amount immediately before the adjustment.

Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation

When we commence dissolution and liquidation, we will sell or otherwise dispose of our assets and adjust the partners capital account balances to reflect any resulting gain or loss. We will first apply the proceeds of liquidation to the payment of our creditors in the order of priority provided in our partnership agreement and by law. Then we will pay $26.03 per unit plus all unpaid distributions to the holders of the class B preferred units, subject to adjustment. Then we will pay $23.10 per unit plus all unpaid distributions to the holders of the class C preferred units, subject to adjustment. After that, we will distribute the proceeds to the other unitholders and our general partner in accordance with their capital account balances, as so adjusted.

We maintain capital accounts in order to ensure that the partnership s allocations of income, gain, loss and deduction are respected under the Internal Revenue Code. The balance of a partner s capital account also determines how much cash or other property the partner will receive on liquidation of the partnership. A partner s capital account is credited with (increased by) the following items:

- the amount of cash and fair market value of any property (net of liabilities) contributed by the partner to the partnership, and
- the partner s share of book income and gain (including income and gain exempt from tax).

A partner s capital account is debited with (reduced by) the following items:

- the amount of cash and fair market value (net of liabilities) of property distributed to the partner, and

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the partner s share of loss and deduction (including some items not deductible for tax purposes).

Partners are entitled to liquidating distributions in accordance with their capital account balances.

Upon our liquidation, any gain, or unrealized gain attributable to assets distributed in kind, will be allocated to the partners in the following manner:

first, to our partners who have negative balances in their capital accounts to the extent of and in proportion to those negative balances;

second, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, until the capital account for each common unit is equal to the sum of:

the unrecovered unit price, and

the amount of the unpaid minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs;

third, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to holders of our common units, each pro rata, until there has been allocated under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

the excess of the first target distribution per unit over the minimum quarterly distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence, less

the cumulative amount per unit of any distribution of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the minimum quarterly distribution per unit that was distributed 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, for each quarter of our existence;

fourth, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 85% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 13% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights, until there has been allocated under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

the excess of the second target distribution per unit over the first target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence, less

the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the first target distribution per unit that was distributed 2% to the holders of our class A units and 85% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 13% to the holder of our incentive

distribution rights for each quarter of our existence; and

fifth, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 75% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 23% to the holder of our incentive distribution rights, until there has been allocated under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

the excess of the third target distribution per unit over the second target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence, less

the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the second target distribution per unit that was distributed 2% to the holders of our class A units and 75% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, and 23% to the holder of our incentive distribution rights for each quarter of our existence; and

after that, 50% to the holders of our common units and 2% to the holders of our class A units, each pro rata, and 48% to the holder of our incentive distribution rights.

Upon our liquidation, any loss will generally be allocated to our general partner and the unitholders in the following manner:

first, 2% to the holders of our class A units and 98% to the holders of our common units, each pro rata, until the capital accounts of the common unitholders have been reduced to zero; and

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after that, 100% to our general partner.

In addition, we will make interim adjustments to the capital accounts at the time we issue additional equity interests or make distributions of property. We will base these adjustments on the fair market value of the interests or the property distributed and we will allocate any 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. In the event that we make positive interim adjustments to the capital accounts, we will allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional equity interests or our distributions of property or upon our liquidation in a manner which results, to the extent possible, in the capital account balances of our general partner equaling the amount which would have been our general partner s capital account balances if we had not made any earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts.

Rationale for Our Cash Distribution Policy

Our cash distribution policy reflects a basic judgment, given our current asset base, that our unitholders will be better served by our distributing our available cash rather than our retaining it. It is the current policy of our general partner that we should increase our level of cash distributions per unit only when, in its judgment, it believes that:

we have sufficient reserves and liquidity for the proper conduct of our business, and

we can maintain such an increased distribution level for a sustained period.

The amount of available cash will be determined by our general partner after the distribution and will be based upon recommendations from our management. Because we believe that we will generally finance any expansion capital expenditures and investment capital expenditures from external financing sources, we believe that our unitholders are best served by our distributing all of our available cash. Our cash distribution policy is consistent with the terms of our partnership agreement, which requires that we distribute all of our available cash quarterly.

Restrictions and Limitations on Our Ability to Make Distributions

We cannot guarantee that unitholders will receive cash distributions from us or that we can or will maintain any increases in our cash distributions. Our distribution policy may be changed at any time and is subject to certain restrictions, including:

Other than the obligation under our partnership agreement to distribute available cash on a quarterly basis, which is subject to our general partner s authority to establish reserves and other limitations, our unitholders have no contractual or other legal right to receive distributions;

Our general partner will have broad discretion to establish reserves for the prudent conduct of our business and for future cash distributions, and the establishment of those reserves could result in a reduction in cash distributions to you from the levels we currently anticipate pursuant to our stated distribution policy. Any determination to establish or increase reserves made by our general partner in good faith will be binding on the unitholders. We intend to reserve a portion of our cash generated from operations to fund our exploration and development capital expenditures. Over a longer period of time, if our general partner does not set aside

sufficient cash reserves or make sufficient cash expenditures to maintain our asset base, we will be unable to pay the minimum quarterly distribution from cash generated from operations and would therefore expect to reduce our distributions. If our asset base decreases and we do not reduce our distributions, a portion of the distributions may be considered a return of part of our unitholders investment in us as opposed to a return on our unitholders investment;

Our ability to make distributions of available cash will depend primarily on our cash flow from operations, which will fluctuate primarily based on commodity prices, production volumes, investor funds raised and the number of wells we drill;

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Even if we do not modify our cash distribution policy, the amount of distributions we pay and the decision to make any distribution will be determined by our general partner, taking into consideration the terms of our partnership agreement, our credit facility and any other debt agreements we may enter into in the future;

Under Section 17-607 of the Delaware 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;

If and to the extent our cash available for distribution materially declines, we may reduce our distribution in order to service or repay our debt or fund expansion capital expenditures;

Our cash distribution policy is subject to restrictions on distributions under our credit facility and may be subject to restrictions under other debt agreements that we may enter into in the future. If we are unable to satisfy these restrictions, or if a default occurs under our credit facility (including a default of financial and other covenants), we would be prohibited from making cash distributions to our unitholders notwithstanding our stated cash distribution policy;

We may lack sufficient cash to pay distributions to our unitholders due to a number of factors, including the amount of natural gas and oil we produce, the price at which we sell our natural gas and oil, the level of our operating costs, our ability to acquire, locate and produce new reserves, results of our hedging activities, the number of wells we drill, the amount of funds we raise through our investment partnerships, the level of our interest expense, principal and interest payments on our outstanding debt, tax expenses, and the level of our capital expenditures. See Risk Factors for information regarding these factors;

Although our partnership agreement requires us to distribute our available cash, our partnership agreement may be amended with the approval of our general partner and a majority of our outstanding common units. As of the date of this prospectus, Atlas Energy owns outstanding common units representing an approximately 36.9% limited partner interest and has the ability to amend our partnership agreement with the approval of our general partner;

Prior to making any distribution on our common units, we will reimburse our general partner and its affiliates for all direct and indirect expenses they incur on our behalf. Our partnership agreement does not set a limit on the amount of expenses for which our general partner and its affiliates may be reimbursed. These expenses include salary, bonus, incentive compensation and other amounts paid to persons who perform services for us or on our behalf and expenses allocated to our general partner by its affiliates. Our partnership agreement provides that our general partner will determine in good faith the expenses that are allocable to us. The reimbursement of expenses and payment of fees, if any, to our general partner and its affiliates will reduce the amount of cash available to pay cash distributions to our unitholders;

If and to the extent our cash available for distribution materially declines, we may reduce our distribution in order to service or repay our debt or fund growth capital expenditures;

Our ability to make distributions to our unitholders depends on the performance of our operating subsidiaries and their ability to distribute cash to us. The ability of our operating subsidiaries to make distributions to us may be restricted by, among other things, the provisions of existing and future indebtedness, applicable state partnership and limited liability company laws and other laws and regulations;

All available cash distributed by us from any source will be treated as distributed from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed by us equals the cumulative operating surplus from the date that we began operations through the end of the quarter immediately preceding that distribution. We anticipate that distributions from operating surplus will generally not represent a return of capital. However, operating surplus, as defined in our partnership agreement, includes certain components that represent non-operating sources of cash, including a $60 million cash basket and working capital borrowings. Consequently, it is possible that distributions from operating surplus may

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represent a return of capital. For example, the $60 million cash basket would allow us to distribute as operating surplus cash proceeds we receive from non-operating sources, such as asset sales, issuances of securities and long-term borrowings, which would represent a return of capital. Distributions representing a return of capital could result in a corresponding decrease in our asset base.

Additionally, any cash distributed by us in excess of operating surplus will be deemed to be capital surplus as the repayment of the initial investment in our units, which is similar to a return of capital. Distributions from capital surplus could result in a corresponding decrease in our asset base. We do not currently anticipate that we will make any distributions from capital surplus.

Our Cash Distribution Policy Limits Our Ability to Grow

Because we distribute our available cash, our growth may not be as significant as businesses that reinvest their available cash to expand ongoing operations. If we issue additional common units or incur debt to fund acquisitions and expansion and investment capital expenditures, the payment of distributions on those additional units or interest on that debt could increase the risk that we will be unable to maintain or increase our per unit distribution level. There are no limitations in our partnership agreement on our ability to issue additional units, including units ranking senior to the common units.

Our Ability to Grow is Dependent on Our Ability to Have Access to External Expansion Capital

Because we expect that we will distribute our available cash from operations to our unitholders in accordance with the terms of our partnership agreement, we expect that we will rely primarily upon external financing sources, including commercial bank borrowings and the issuance of debt and equity securities, to fund any expansion and investment capital expenditures and any acquisitions. As a result, to the extent we are unable to finance growth externally, our cash distribution policy will significantly impair our ability to grow. In addition, because we will distribute all of our available cash, our growth may not be as fast as that of businesses that reinvest their available cash to expand their ongoing operations. To the extent that we issue additional units in connection with any expansion capital expenditures, the payment of distributions on those additional units may increase the risk that we will be unable to maintain or increase our distribution levels. There are no limitations in our partnership agreement on our ability to issue additional units, including units ranking senior to the common units. The incurrence of additional commercial borrowings or other debt to finance our growth strategy would result in increased interest expense, which in turn may impact the available cash that we have to distribute to our unitholders.

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TAX CONSIDERATIONS

This section is a discussion of the material tax considerations that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States and, unless otherwise noted in the following discussion, is the opinion of Ledgewood, P.C., tax counsel to our general partner and us, insofar as it relates to matters of United States federal income tax law and legal conclusions with respect to those matters. This section is based upon current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, existing and proposed regulations and current administrative rulings and court decisions, all of which are subject to change. Later changes in these authorities may cause the tax consequences to vary substantially from the consequences described below.

The following discussion does not address on all federal income tax matters affecting us or the unitholders. Moreover, the discussion focuses on unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States and has only limited application to corporations, estates, trusts, nonresident aliens or other unitholders subject to specialized tax treatment, such as tax-exempt institutions, foreign persons, individual retirement accounts (IRAs), real estate investment trusts (REITs) or mutual funds. Accordingly, we urge you to consult, and depend on, your own tax advisor in analyzing the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences particular to you of the ownership or disposition of common units.

All statements as to matters of law and legal conclusions, but not as to factual matters, contained in this section, unless otherwise noted, are the opinion of Ledgewood and are based on the accuracy of the representations made by us.

We have not received, and will not request, a ruling from the IRS regarding any matter affecting us or prospective unitholders. Instead, we will rely on opinions of Ledgewood. Unlike a ruling, an opinion of counsel represents only that counsel s best legal judgment and does not bind the IRS or the courts. Accordingly, the opinions and statements made here may not be sustained by a court if contested by the IRS. Any contest of this sort with the IRS may materially and adversely impact the market for the common units and the prices at which common units trade. In addition, the costs of any contest with the IRS, principally legal, accounting and related fees, will result in a reduction in cash available for distribution to our unitholders and our general partner and thus will be borne indirectly by our unitholders and our general partner. Furthermore, the tax treatment of us, or of an investment in us, may be significantly modified by future legislative or administrative changes or court decisions. Any modifications may or may not be retroactively applied.

For the reasons described below, Ledgewood has not rendered an opinion with respect to the following specific federal income tax issues:

- the treatment of a unitholder whose common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units (please read Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Treatment of Short Sales);
- whether our monthly convention for allocating taxable income and losses is permitted by existing Treasury Regulations (please read Disposition of Common Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees); and
- whether our method for depreciating Section 743 adjustments is sustainable in certain cases (please read Disposition of Common Units Section 754 Election).

Partnership Status

A partnership is not a taxable entity and incurs no federal income tax liability. Instead, each partner of a partnership is required to take into account its share of items of income, gain, loss and deduction of the partnership in computing its federal income tax liability, regardless of whether cash distributions are made to it by the partnership. Distributions by a partnership to a partner are generally not taxable unless the amount of cash distributed is in excess of the partner s adjusted basis in its partnership interest.

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Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code provides that publicly traded partnerships will, as a general rule, be taxed as corporations. However, an exception, referred to as the qualifying income exception, exists with respect to publicly traded partnerships of which 90% or more of the gross income for every taxable year consists of qualifying income. Qualifying income includes income and gains derived from the transportation, storage, processing and marketing of crude oil, natural gas and products thereof. Other types of qualifying income include interest (other than from a financial business), dividends, gains from the sale of real property and gains from the sale or other disposition of capital assets held for the production of income that otherwise constitutes qualifying income. We estimate that less than 2% of our current income is not qualifying income; however, this estimate could change from time to time. Based upon and subject to this estimate, the factual representations made by us and our general partner and a review of the applicable legal authorities, Ledgewood is of the opinion that at least 90% of our current gross income constitutes qualifying income.

We have not received, and will not seek, a ruling from the IRS and the IRS has made no determination as to our status for federal income tax purposes or whether our operations generate qualifying income under Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code. Instead, we will rely on the opinion of Ledgewood that, based upon the Internal Revenue Code, its regulations, published revenue rulings and court decisions and the representations described below, we will be classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

In rendering its opinion, Ledgewood has relied on factual representations made by us and our general partner. The representations made by us and our general partner upon which Ledgewood has relied are:

- Neither we nor our operating partnership or any operating subsidiary has elected or will elect to be treated as a corporation; and

- For each taxable year, more than 90% of our gross income will be income that Ledgewood has opined or will opine is qualifying income within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code.

If we fail to meet the qualifying income exception, other than a failure that is determined by the IRS to be inadvertent and that is cured within a reasonable time after discovery, we will be treated as if we had transferred all of our assets, subject to liabilities, to a newly formed corporation, on the first day of the year in which we fail to meet the qualifying income exception, in return for stock in that corporation, and then distributed that stock to the unitholders in liquidation of their interests in us. This contribution and liquidation should be tax-free to unitholders and us so long as we, at that time, do not have liabilities in excess of the tax basis of our assets. Thereafter, we would be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes.

If we were taxable as a corporation in any taxable year, either as a result of a failure to meet the qualifying income exception or otherwise, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction would be reflected only on our tax return rather than being passed through to the unitholders, and our net income would be taxed to us at corporate rates. In addition, any distribution made to a unitholder would be treated as either taxable dividend income, to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, or, in the absence of earnings and profits, a nontaxable return of capital, to the extent of the unitholder s tax basis in his common units, or taxable capital gain, after the unitholder s tax basis in his common units is reduced to zero. Accordingly, taxation of us as a corporation would result in a material reduction in a unitholder s cash flow and after-tax return and thus would likely result in a substantial reduction of the value of the units.

The discussion below is based on Ledgewood s opinion that we will be classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

Limited Partner Status

Unitholders who have become our limited partners will be treated as our partners for federal income tax purposes. Counsel is also of the opinion, based upon and in reliance upon those same representations set forth under Partnership Status, that

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assignees who have executed and delivered transfer applications and are awaiting admission as limited partners, and

unitholders whose common units are held in street name or by a nominee and who have the right to direct the nominee in the exercise of all substantive rights attendant to the ownership of their common units,

will be treated as our partners for federal income tax purposes. As there is no direct authority addressing assignees of common units who are entitled to execute and deliver transfer applications and thereby become entitled to direct the exercise of attendant rights, but who fail to execute and deliver transfer applications, Counsel s opinion does not extend to these persons. Furthermore, a purchaser or other transferee of common units who does not execute and deliver a transfer application may not receive some federal income tax information or reports furnished to record holders of common units unless the common units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application for those common units.

A beneficial owner of common units whose units have been transferred to a short seller to complete a short sale would appear to lose his or her status as a partner with respect to such units for federal income tax purposes. See Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Treatment of Short Sales.

Income, gain, deductions or losses would not appear to be reportable by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes, and any cash distributions received by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes would therefore be fully taxable as ordinary income. These holders should consult their own tax advisors with respect to their status as our partners for federal income tax purposes.

Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership

Flow-through of Taxable Income. We do not pay any federal income tax. Instead, each unitholder is required to report on his or her income tax return his or her allocable share of our income, gains, losses and deductions without regard to whether we make cash distributions to that unitholder. Consequently, we may allocate income to our unitholders although we have made no cash distribution to them. Each unitholder will be required to include in income his or her allocable share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our taxable year ending with or within his or her taxable year.

Treatment of Distributions. Our distributions generally will not be taxable for federal income tax purposes to the extent of a unitholder s tax basis in his or her common units immediately before the distribution. Our cash distributions in excess of that tax basis generally will be considered to be gain from the sale or exchange of the common units, taxable in accordance with the rules described under Disposition of Common Units below. Any reduction in a unitholder s share of our liabilities for which no partner, including our general partner, bears the economic risk of loss, known as nonrecourse liabilities, will be treated as a distribution of cash to that unitholder. To the extent our distributions cause a unitholder s at risk amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year, the unitholder must recapture any losses deducted in previous years. See Limitations on Deductibility of Our Losses.

A decrease in a unitholder s percentage interest in us because of our issuance of additional common units will decrease his or her share of our nonrecourse liabilities, and thus will result in a corresponding deemed distribution of cash. A non-pro rata distribution of money or property may result in ordinary income to a unitholder, regardless of his or her tax basis in our common units, if the distribution reduces his or her share of our unrealized receivables, including depreciation recapture, or substantially appreciated inventory items, both as defined in Section 751 of the Internal Revenue Code, known collectively as Section 751 assets. To that extent, a unitholder will be treated as having been distributed his or her proportionate share of the Section 751 assets and having exchanged those assets with us in return

for the non-pro rata portion of the actual distribution

made to him or her. This latter deemed exchange will generally result in the unitholder s realization of ordinary income under Section 751(b) of the Internal Revenue Code. That income will equal the excess of:

the non-pro rata portion of that distribution over

his or her tax basis for the share of Section 751 assets deemed relinquished in the exchange.

Ratio of Taxable Income to Distributions. In prior taxable years, unitholders received cash distributions that exceeded the amount of taxable income allocated to the unitholders. This excess was partially the result of depreciation deductions, but was primarily the result of special allocations to our general partner of taxable income earned by our operating subsidiary which caused a corresponding reduction in the amount of taxable income allocable to us. Since these special allocations increased our general partner s capital account, the distribution it would receive upon our liquidation will be increased and distributions to unitholders would be correspondingly reduced. It is possible that upon liquidation common unitholders will recognize taxable income in excess of liquidation distributions.

Tax Rates. Under current law, the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income of individuals is 39.6% 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 20%. In addition, there is a 3.8% Medicare tax on certain investment income earned by individuals. For these purposes, investment income generally includes a unitholder s allocable share of our income and gain realized by a unitholder from a sale of units. The tax will be imposed on the lesser of (1) the unitholder s net income from all of its investments, or (2) the amount by which the unitholder s modified adjusted gross income exceeds $250,000 (if the unitholder is married and filing jointly), $125,000 (if the unitholder is married and filing separately), and $200,000 (for all others).

Alternative Minimum Tax. Although we do not expect to generate significant tax preference items or adjustments, each unitholder will be required to take into account his distributive share of any items of our income, gain, deduction or loss for purposes of the alternative minimum tax.

Basis of Common Units. A unitholder s initial tax basis for his or her common units will be the amount he or she paid for the common units plus his or her share of our nonrecourse liabilities. That basis will be increased by his or her share of our income and by any increases in his or her share of our nonrecourse liabilities. That basis will be decreased, but not below zero, by our distributions to him or her, by his or her share of our losses, by any decreases in his or her share of our nonrecourse liabilities and by his or her share of our expenditures that are not deductible in computing taxable income and are not required to be capitalized.

Limitations on Deductibility of Our Losses. The deduction by a unitholder of his or her share of our losses will be limited to the tax basis in his or her units and, in the case of an individual unitholder or a corporate unitholder that is subject to the at risk rules (for example, if more than 50% of the value of its stock is owned directly or indirectly by five or fewer individuals or some tax-exempt organizations), to the amount for which the unitholder is considered to be at risk with respect to our activities, if that is less than its tax basis. A unitholder must recapture losses deducted in previous years to the extent that distributions cause his at risk amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year. Losses disallowed to a unitholder or recaptured as a result of these limitations will carry forward and will be allowable to the extent that his tax basis or at risk amount, whichever is the limiting factor, is subsequently increased. Upon the taxable disposition of a unit, any gain recognized by a unitholder can be offset by losses that were previously suspended by the at risk limitation but may not be offset by losses suspended by the basis limitation. Any excess loss above that gain previously suspended by the at risk or basis limitations is no longer utilizable.

In general, a unitholder will be at risk to the extent of the tax basis of his or her units, excluding any portion of that basis attributable to his or her share of our nonrecourse liabilities, reduced by any amount of money he or she borrows to acquire or hold the units, if the lender of those borrowed funds owns an interest in us, is related to the unitholder or can look only to the units for repayment. A unitholder s at risk amount will increase or decrease

as the tax basis of the unitholder s units increases or decreases, other than tax basis increases or decreases attributable to increases or decreases in his or her share of our nonrecourse liabilities.

The passive loss limitations generally provide that individuals, estates, trusts and some closely-held corporations and personal service corporations can deduct losses from passive activities, which are generally activities in which the taxpayer does not materially participate, only to the extent of the taxpayer s income from those passive activities. The passive loss limitations are applied separately with respect to each publicly-traded partnership. Consequently, any passive losses we generate will only be available to offset our passive income generated in the future and will not be available to offset income from other passive activities or investments, including our investments or your investments in other publicly-traded partnerships, or salary or active business income. Passive losses that are not deductible because they exceed a unitholder s share of our income may be deducted in full when the unitholder disposes of his or her entire investment in us in a fully taxable transaction with an unrelated party. The passive activity loss rules are applied after other applicable limitations on deductions, including the at risk rules and the basis limitation.

A unitholder s share of our net income may be offset by any of our suspended passive losses, but it may not be offset by any other current or carryover losses from other passive activities, including those attributable to other publicly-traded partnerships.

Limitations on Interest Deductions. The deductibility of a non-corporate taxpayer s investment interest expense is generally limited to the amount of that taxpayer s net investment income. As noted, a unitholder s share of our net passive income will be treated as investment income for this purpose. In addition, a unitholder s share of our portfolio income will be treated as investment income. Investment interest expense includes:

- interest on indebtedness properly allocable to property held for investment;
- our interest expense attributed to portfolio income; and
- the portion of interest expense incurred to purchase or carry an interest in a passive activity to the extent attributable to portfolio income.

The computation of a unitholder s investment interest expense will take into account interest on any margin account borrowing or other loan incurred to purchase or carry a unit. Net investment income includes gross income from property held for investment and amounts treated as portfolio income under the passive loss rules, less deductible expenses, other than interest, directly connected with the production of investment income, but generally does not include gains attributable to the disposition of property held for investment.

Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deductions. In general, if we have a net profit, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated among our general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us. At any time that incentive distributions are made to our general partner, gross income will be allocated to it to the extent of these distributions. See Ratio of Taxable Income to Distributions. If we have a net loss for the entire year, the amount of that loss will generally be allocated first to our general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their particular percentage interests in us to the extent of their positive capital accounts and, second, to our general partner.

As required by the Internal Revenue Code some items of our income, deduction, gain and loss will be allocated to account for the difference between the tax basis and fair market value of property contributed to us by our general partner referred to in this discussion as contributed property, and to account for the difference between the fair market value of our assets and their carrying value on our books at the time of this offering. The effect of these allocations to a unitholder purchasing common units will be essentially the same as if the tax basis of our assets were equal to their fair market value as of the date of this prospectus. In addition, specified items of recapture income will be allocated to the extent possible to the partner who was allocated the deduction giving rise to the treatment of that gain as recapture income in order to minimize the recognition of ordinary income by some unitholders.

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Finally, although we do not expect that our operations will result in the creation of negative capital accounts, if negative capital accounts nevertheless result, items of our income and gain will be allocated in an amount and manner sufficient to eliminate the negative balance as quickly as possible.

Ledgewood is of the opinion that, with the exception of the issues described in Disposition of Common Units Section 754 Election and Disposition of Common Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees, allocations under our partnership agreement will be recognized for federal income tax purposes in determining a partner s share of an item of our income, gain, loss or deduction.

Entity-Level Collections. If we are required or elect under applicable law to pay any federal, state or local income tax on behalf of any unitholder or our general partner or any former unitholder, we are authorized to pay those taxes from our funds. That payment, if made, will be treated as a distribution of cash to the person on whose behalf the payment was made. If the payment is made on behalf of a person whose identity cannot be determined, we are authorized to treat the payment as a distribution to all current unitholders and our general partner. We are authorized to amend the partnership agreement in the manner necessary to maintain uniformity of intrinsic tax characteristics of units and to adjust later distributions, so that after giving effect to these distributions, the priority and characterization of distributions otherwise applicable under the partnership agreement is maintained as nearly as is practicable. Payments by us as described above could give rise to an overpayment of tax on behalf of a unitholder in which event he could file a claim for credit or refund.

Treatment of Short Sales. A unitholder whose units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of units may be considered as having disposed of ownership of those units. If so, the unitholder would no longer own units for federal income tax purposes during the period of the loan and may recognize gain or loss from the disposition. As a result, during this period:

- any of our income, gain, deduction or loss with respect to those units would not be reportable by the unitholder;
- any cash distributions we make to that unitholder with respect to those units would be fully taxable; and
- all of those distributions would appear to be treated as ordinary income.

Unitholders desiring to assure ownership of their units for tax purposes and avoid these consequences should modify any applicable brokerage account agreements to prohibit their brokers from borrowing their units. The IRS has announced that it is actively studying issues relating to the tax treatment of short sales of partnership interests. See also Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss. Because the IRS has not announced the results of its study and there is no authority addressing the treatment of short sales of partnership interests, Ledgewood is unable to opine on the treatment of such short sales.

Tax Treatment of Operations

Accounting Method and Taxable Year. We use the accrual method of accounting and the tax year ending December 31 for federal income tax purposes. Each unitholder must include in income his or her share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our taxable year(s) ending within or with his or her taxable year. In addition, a unitholder who has a taxable year ending on a date other than December 31, and who disposes of all of his or her units following the close

of our taxable year but before the close of his or her taxable year, must include his or her share of our income, gain, loss and deduction in income for his or her taxable year, with the result that he or she will be required to report income for his or her taxable year for his or her share of more than one year of our income, gain, loss and deduction.

Tax Basis, Depreciation and Amortization. The tax basis of our assets will be used for purposes of computing depreciation and cost recovery deductions and, ultimately, gain or loss on the disposition of these assets. The federal income tax burden associated with the difference between the fair market value of property

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contributed and the tax basis established for that property will be borne by our general partner and the unitholders. See Tax Treatment of Unitholders Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction.

To the extent allowable, we may elect to use the depreciation and cost recovery methods that will result in the largest deductions being taken in the early years after assets are placed in service. We are not entitled to any amortization deductions with respect to any goodwill conveyed to us on formation. Property we acquire or construct is depreciated using accelerated methods permitted by the Internal Revenue Code.

If we dispose of depreciable property by sale, foreclosure, or otherwise, all or a portion of any gain, determined by reference to the amount of depreciation previously deducted and the nature of the property, may be subject to the recapture rules and taxed as ordinary income rather than capital gain. Similarly, a unitholder who has taken cost recovery or depreciation deductions with respect to our property may be required to recapture those deductions as ordinary income upon a sale of his units. See Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction and Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss.

Uniformity of Units. We must maintain economic and tax uniformity of the units to all holders. A lack of tax uniformity can result from a literal application of Treasury Regulation Sections 1.167(c)-1(a)(6) and 1.197-2(g)(3). Any resulting non-uniformity could have a negative impact on the value of the common units by reducing the tax deductions available to a purchaser of units. See Disposition of Common Units Section 754 Election.

We intend to continue to depreciate or amortize the Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the value of contributed property in a way that will avoid non-uniformity of tax treatment among unitholders. See Disposition of Common Units Section 754 Election. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may adopt a different position in an effort to maintain uniformity. This could result in lower annual depreciation and amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to some unitholders and risk the loss of depreciation and amortization deductions not taken in the year that these deductions are otherwise allowable. The IRS may challenge any method of depreciating the Section 743(b) adjustment we adopt. If such a challenge were made and sustained, the uniformity of units might be affected, and the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions. See Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss.

Valuation of Our Properties. The federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of units depends in part on our estimates of the relative fair market values of our assets. Although we may from time to time consult with professional appraisers regarding valuation matters, we make many of the relative fair market value estimates ourselves. These estimates are subject to challenge and will not be binding on the IRS or the courts. If the estimates of fair market value are later found to be incorrect, the character and amount of items of income, gain, loss or deductions previously reported by unitholders might change, and unitholders might be required to adjust their tax liability for prior years and incur interest and penalties with respect to such adjustments.

Disposition of Units

Recognition of Gain or Loss. Gain or loss will be recognized on a sale of units equal to the difference between the amount realized and the unitholder s tax basis in the units sold. A unitholder s amount realized will be measured by the sum of the cash or the fair market value of other property received plus his or her share of our nonrecourse liabilities. Because the amount realized includes a unitholder s share of our nonrecourse liabilities, the gain recognized on the sale of units could result in a tax liability in excess of any cash received from the sale.

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Prior distributions from us in excess of cumulative net taxable income for a common unit that decreased a unitholder s tax basis in that common unit will, in effect, become taxable income if the common unit is sold at a price greater than the unitholder s tax basis in that common unit, even if the price is less than his original cost.

Should the IRS successfully contest our method of depreciating or amortizing the Section 743(b) adjustment, described under Disposition of Common Units Section 754 Election, attributable to contributed property, a unitholder could realize additional gain from the sale of units than had our method been respected. In that case, the unitholder may have been entitled to additional deductions against income in prior years but may be unable to claim them, with the result to him of greater overall taxable income than appropriate. Due to the lack of final regulations, Ledgewood is unable to opine as to the validity of the convention but believes a contest by the IRS is unlikely because a successful contest could result in substantial additional deductions to other unitholders.

Except as noted below, gain or loss recognized by a unitholder, other than a dealer in units, on the sale or exchange of a unit held for more than one year will generally be taxable as capital gain or loss. Capital gain recognized by an individual on the sale of units held more than 12 months will generally be taxed at a maximum rate of 20% plus the 3.8% Medicare tax. However, a portion of this gain or loss, which will likely be substantial, will be separately computed and taxed as ordinary income under Section 751 of the Internal Revenue Code to the extent attributable to assets giving rise to depreciation recapture or other unrealized receivables or to inventory items we own. Ordinary income attributable to unrealized receivables, inventory items and depreciation recapture may exceed net taxable gain realized upon the sale of a unit and may be recognized even if there is a net taxable loss realized on that sale. Thus, a unitholder may recognize both ordinary income and a capital loss upon a disposition of units. Net capital loss may offset no more than $3,000 of ordinary income in the case of individuals and may only be used to offset capital gain in the case of corporations.

The IRS has ruled that a partner who acquires interests in a partnership in separate transactions must combine those interests and maintain a single adjusted tax basis. Upon a sale or other disposition of less than all of those interests, a portion of that tax basis must be allocated to the interests sold using an equitable apportionment method. Although the ruling is unclear as to how the holding period of these interests is determined once they are combined, Treasury regulations allow a selling unitholder, who can identify units transferred with an ascertainable holding period, to use the actual holding period of the units transferred. Thus, according to the ruling, a unitholder will not be able to select high or low basis common units to sell, as would be the case with corporate stock, but may designate specific common units sold for purposes of determining the holding period of units transferred. A unitholder electing to use the actual holding period of units transferred must consistently use that identification method for all subsequent sales or exchanges of units. A unitholder considering the purchase of additional common units or a sale of common units purchased in separate transactions should consult his tax advisor as to the possible consequences of this ruling and application of the Treasury regulations.

Specific provisions of the Internal Revenue Code affect the taxation of some financial products and securities, including partnership interests, by treating a taxpayer as having sold an appreciated partnership interest, one in which gain would be recognized if it were sold, assigned or terminated at its fair market value, if the taxpayer or related persons enter into:

a short sale;

an offsetting notional principal contract; or

a futures or forward contract with respect to the partnership interest or substantially identical property. Moreover, if a taxpayer has previously entered into a short sale, an offsetting notional principal contract or a futures or forward contract with respect to the partnership interest, the taxpayer will be treated as having sold that position if the taxpayer or a related person then acquires the partnership interest or substantially identical

property. The Secretary of Treasury is also authorized to issue regulations that treat a taxpayer that enters into transactions or positions that have substantially the same effect as the preceding transactions as having constructively sold the financial position.

Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees. Our taxable income and losses are determined annually, prorated on a monthly basis and apportioned among the unitholders in proportion to the number of units owned by each of them as of the opening of the New York Stock Exchange on the first business day of the month. However, gain or loss realized on a sale or other disposition of our assets other than in the ordinary course of business is allocated among the unitholders as of the opening of the New York Stock Exchange on the first business day of the month in which that gain or loss is recognized. As a result, a unitholder transferring units may be allocated income, gain, loss and deduction accrued after the date of transfer.

The use of this method may not be permitted under existing Treasury regulations. Accordingly, Ledgewood is unable to opine on the validity of this method of allocating income and deductions between transferors and transferees of units. If this method is not allowed under the Treasury Regulations, or only applies to transfers of less than all of the unitholder s interest, our taxable income or losses might be reallocated among the unitholders. Under our partnership agreement, we are authorized to revise our method of allocation between transferors and transferees, as well as among partners whose interests otherwise vary during a taxable period, to conform to a method permitted under future Treasury regulations.

A unitholder who owns units at any time during a quarter and who disposes of them before the record date set for a cash distribution for that quarter will be allocated a share of our income, gain, loss and deductions attributable to that quarter but will not be entitled to receive that cash distribution.

Section 754 Election. We intend to make the election permitted by Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code. That election is irrevocable without the consent of the IRS. The election generally permits us to adjust a common unit purchaser s tax basis in our assets (inside basis) to reflect his or her purchase price. This election does not apply to a person who purchases common units directly from us. The adjustment belongs to the purchaser and not to other unitholders. For purposes of this discussion, a partner s inside basis in our assets will be considered to have two components:

his or her share of our tax basis in our assets (common basis) and

his or her Section 743(b) adjustment to that basis.

Treasury regulations under Section 743 of the Internal Revenue Code require, if the remedial allocation method is adopted (which we have), a portion of the adjustment attributable to recovery property to be depreciated over the remaining cost recovery period for built-in gain. Under Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), an adjustment attributable to property subject to depreciation under Section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code rather than cost recovery deductions under Section 168 is generally required to be depreciated using either the straight-line method or the 150% declining balance method. A literal application of these different rules result in lack of uniformity. Under our partnership agreement, our general partner is authorized to adopt a position intended to preserve the uniformity of units even if that position is not consistent with the Treasury Regulations. See Tax Treatment of Operations Uniformity of Units.

We intend to depreciate the portion of a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the value of property previously contributed to us, to the extent of any unamortized book-tax disparity, using a rate of depreciation or amortization derived from the depreciation or amortization method and useful life applied to the common basis of the property. If this contributed property is not amortizable, we will treat that portion as non-amortizable. This method is consistent with the regulations under Section 743. This method, however, is arguably inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6) and Treasury Regulation Section 1.197-2(g)(3), neither of which is expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets. To the extent this Section 743(b) adjustment exceeds that amount, we will apply the rules described in the Treasury Regulations

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and legislative history. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may adopt a different position which could result in lower annual depreciation or amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to specified unitholders. See Tax Treatment of Operations Uniformity of Units.

The allocation of the Section 743(b) adjustment among our assets must be made in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS could seek to allocate some or all of any Section 743(b) adjustment to goodwill not so allocated by us. Goodwill, as an intangible asset, is generally amortizable over a longer period of time or under a less accelerated method than our tangible assets.

A Section 754 election is advantageous if the transferee s tax basis in his or her units is higher than the units share of the aggregate tax basis of our assets immediately before the transfer. In that case, as a result of the election, the transferee would have a higher tax basis in his or her share of our assets for purposes of calculating, among other items, his or her depreciation and depletion deductions and share of any gain or loss on a sale of our assets. Conversely, a Section 754 election is disadvantageous if the transferee s tax basis in his or her units is lower than the units share of the aggregate tax basis of our assets immediately before the transfer. Thus, the fair market value of the units may be affected either favorably or adversely by the election.

The calculations involved in the Section 754 election are complex and we will make them on the basis of assumptions as to the value of our assets and other matters. There is no assurance that the determinations we make will not be successfully challenged by the IRS and that the deductions resulting from them will not be reduced or disallowed altogether. Should the IRS require a different basis adjustment to be made, and should, in our opinion, the expense of compliance exceed the benefit of the election, we may seek permission from the IRS to revoke our Section 754 election. If permission is granted, a subsequent purchaser of units may be allocated more income than he would have been allocated had the election not been revoked.

Notification Requirements. A unitholder who sells or exchanges units is required to notify us in writing of that sale or exchange within 30 days after the sale or exchange. We are required to notify the IRS of that transaction and to furnish information to the transferor and transferee. However, these reporting requirements do not apply to a sale by an individual who is a citizen of the United States and who effects the sale or exchange through a broker. Additionally, a transferor and a transferee of a unit will be required to furnish statements to the IRS, filed with their income tax returns for the taxable year in which the sale or exchange occurred, that describe the amount of the consideration received for the unit that is allocated to our goodwill or going concern value. Failure to satisfy these reporting obligations may lead to the imposition of substantial penalties.

Dissolutions and Terminations

Upon our dissolution, our assets will be sold and any resulting gain or loss will be allocated among our general partner and the unitholders. See Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Allocation of Income, Gain Loss and Deductions. We will distribute all cash to our general partner and unitholders in liquidation in accordance with their positive capital account balances. See Our Partnership Agreement Cash Distribution Policy Distributions of Cash on Liquidation in the accompanying prospectus.

We will be considered to have terminated for tax purposes if there is a sale or exchange of 50% or more of the total interests in our capital and profits within a 12-month period. Our termination would result in the closing of our taxable year for all unitholders. In the case of a unitholder reporting on a taxable year other than a fiscal year ending December 31, the closing of our taxable year might result in more than 12 months of our taxable income or loss being includable in his taxable income for the year of termination. See Tax Treatment of Operations Accounting Method and Taxable Year. We would be required to make new tax elections after a termination, including a new election under

Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code, and a termination could result in a deferral of our deductions for depreciation. A termination could also result in penalties if we were unable to determine that the termination had occurred. Moreover, a termination might either accelerate the application of, or subject us to, any tax legislation enacted before the termination.

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Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors

Ownership of units by employee benefit plans, other tax-exempt organizations, nonresident aliens, foreign corporations, other foreign persons and regulated investment companies raises issues unique to those investors and, as described below, may have substantially adverse tax consequences.

Employee benefit plans and most other organizations exempt from federal income tax, including individual retirement accounts and other retirement plans, are subject to federal income tax on unrelated business taxable income. Virtually all of our taxable income allocated to a unitholder which is a tax-exempt organization will be unrelated business taxable income and thus will be taxable to that unitholder.

A regulated investment company or mutual fund is required to derive 90% or more of its gross income from interest, dividends and gains from the sale of stocks or securities or foreign currency or specified related sources. The American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 generally treats income from the ownership of a qualified publicly traded partnership as qualified income to a regulated investment company. We expect that we will meet the definition of a qualified publicly traded partnership. Accordingly, we anticipate that all of our income will be treated as qualified income to a regulated investment company.

Non-resident aliens and foreign corporations, trusts or estates that own units will be considered to be engaged in business in the United States on account of ownership of our units. As a consequence they will be required to file federal tax returns reporting their share of our income, gain, loss or deduction and pay federal income tax at regular rates on any net income or gain. Generally, a partnership is required to pay a withholding tax on the portion of the partnership s income that is effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business and which is allocable to foreign partners. Under rules applicable to publicly traded partnerships, we will withhold at the highest applicable effective tax rate on cash distributions made to foreign unitholders. Each foreign unitholder must obtain a taxpayer identification number from the IRS and submit that number to our transfer agent on a Form W-8 BEN or W-8 BEN-E in order to obtain credit for the taxes withheld.

Because a foreign corporation that owns units will be treated as engaged in a United States trade or business, that corporation may be subject to United States branch profits tax at a rate of 30%, in addition to regular federal income tax, on its share of our income and gain, as adjusted for changes in its U.S. net equity, which are effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business. That tax may be reduced or eliminated by an income tax treaty between the United States and the country in which the foreign corporate unitholder is a qualified resident. In addition, this type of unitholder is subject to special information reporting requirements under Section 6038C of the Internal Revenue Code.

Under a ruling of the IRS, a foreign unitholder who sells or otherwise disposes of a unit will be subject to federal income tax on gain realized on the disposition of that unit to the extent that this gain is effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the foreign unitholder. Apart from the ruling, a foreign unitholder will not be taxed or subject to withholding upon the disposition of a unit if he has owned less than 5% in value of the units during the five-year period ending on the date of the disposition and if the units are regularly traded on an established securities market at the time of the disposition.

Administrative Matters

Information Returns and Audit Procedures. We furnish to each unitholder, within 90 days after the close of each calendar year, specific tax information, including a Schedule K-1, which describes his or her share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our preceding taxable year. In preparing this information, which is generally not reviewed

by counsel, we take various accounting and reporting positions, some of which have been mentioned earlier, to determine the unitholder s share of income, gain, loss and deduction. We cannot assure you that those accounting and reporting positions will yield a result that conforms with the requirements of the

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Internal Revenue Code, regulations, or administrative interpretations of the IRS. We also cannot assure you that the IRS will not successfully contend in court that those accounting and reporting positions are impermissible. Any challenge by the IRS could negatively affect the value of the units.

The IRS may audit our federal income tax information returns. Adjustments resulting from any such audit may require each unitholder to adjust a prior year s tax liability, and possibly may result in an audit of that unitholder s own return. Any audit of a unitholder s return could result in adjustments not related to our returns as well as those related to our returns.

Partnerships generally are treated as separate entities for purposes of federal tax audits, judicial review of administrative adjustments by the IRS and tax settlement proceedings. The tax treatment of partnership items of income, gain, loss and deduction are determined in a partnership proceeding rather than in separate proceedings with the partners. The Internal Revenue Code provides for one partner to be designated as the tax matters partner for these purposes. The partnership agreement appoints our general partner as our tax matters partner.

The tax matters partner will make some elections on our behalf and on behalf of unitholders. In addition, the tax matters partner can extend the statute of limitations for assessment of tax deficiencies against unitholders for items in our returns. The tax matters partner may bind a unitholder with less than a 1% profits interest in us to a settlement with the IRS unless that unitholder elects, by filing a statement with the IRS, not to give that authority to the tax matters partner. The tax matters partner may seek judicial review, by which all the unitholders are bound, of a final partnership administrative adjustment and, if the tax matters partner fails to seek judicial review, judicial review may be sought by any unitholder having at least a 1% interest in profits and by unitholders having in the aggregate at least a 5% profits interest. However, only one action for judicial review will go forward, and each unitholder with an interest in the outcome may participate.

A unitholder must file a statement with the IRS identifying the treatment of any item on his federal income tax return that is not consistent with the treatment of the item on our return. Intentional or negligent disregard of the consistency requirement may subject a unitholder to substantial penalties.

Nominee Reporting. Persons who hold an interest in us as a nominee for another person are required to furnish to us:

the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the beneficial owner and the nominee;

whether the beneficial owner is

a person that is not a United States person;

a foreign government, an international organization or any wholly owned agency or instrumentality of either of the foregoing; or

a tax-exempt entity;

the amount and description of units held, acquired or transferred for the beneficial owner; and

specific information including the dates of acquisitions and transfers, means of acquisitions and transfers, and acquisition cost for purchases, as well as the amount of net proceeds from sales.

Brokers and financial institutions are required to furnish additional information, including whether they are United States persons and specific information on units they acquire, hold or transfer for their own account. A penalty of $50 per failure, up to a maximum of $100,000 per calendar year, is imposed by the Internal Revenue Code for failure to report that information to us. The nominee is required to supply the beneficial owner of the units with the information furnished to us.

Reportable Transactions. If we were to engage in a reportable transaction, we (and possibly you and others) would be required to make a detailed disclosure of the transaction to the IRS. A transaction may be a reportable transaction based upon any of several factors, including the fact that it is a type of transaction publicly

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identified by the IRS as a listed transaction or that it produces certain kinds of losses in excess of $2 million. Our participation in a reportable transaction could increase the likelihood that our federal income tax information return (and possibly your tax return) is audited by the IRS. See Information Returns and Audit Procedures.

Moreover, if we were to participate in a reportable transaction with a significant purpose to avoid or evade tax, or in any listed transaction, you may be subject to the following provisions of the Internal Revenue Code:

- accuracy-related penalties with a broader scope, significantly narrower exceptions and potentially greater amounts than described below at Accuracy-related Penalties,
- for those persons otherwise entitled to deduct interest on federal tax deficiencies, nondeductibility of interest on any resulting tax liability, and
- in the case of a listed transaction, an extended statute of limitations.

We do not expect to engage in any reportable transactions.

Accuracy-related Penalties. 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 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.

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 ($10,000 for most corporations). The amount of any understatement subject to penalty generally is reduced if any portion is attributable to a position adopted on the return:

- for which there is, or was, substantial authority or
- as to which there is a reasonable basis and the pertinent facts of that position are disclosed on the return.

If any item of income, gain, loss or deduction allocated to unitholders might result in that kind of an understatement of income for which no substantial authority exists, we must 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 apply to tax shelters, a term that in this context does not appear to include us.

A substantial valuation misstatement exists if the value of any property, or the adjusted 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 adjusted basis. No penalty is imposed unless the portion of the underpayment attributable to a substantial valuation misstatement exceeds $5,000. If the valuation claimed on a return is 200% or more than the current valuation, the penalty imposed increases to 40%.

Registration as a Tax Shelter. We registered as a tax shelter under the law in effect at the time of our initial public offering and were assigned tax shelter registration number 99344000008. Issuance of a tax shelter registration number to us does not indicate that investment in us or the claimed tax benefits have been reviewed, examined or approved by the IRS. The American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 repealed the tax shelter registration rules and replaced them with a new reporting regime. However, IRS Form 8271, as revised after the American Jobs Creation Act, nevertheless requires a unitholder to continue to report our tax shelter registration number on the unitholder s tax return for any year in which the unitholder claims any deduction, loss or other benefit, or reports any income, with respect to our common units. The IRS also appears to take the position that a unitholder

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who sells or transfers our common units after the American Jobs Creation Act must continue to provide our tax shelter registration number to the transferee. Unitholders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the application of the tax shelter registration rules.

State, Local and Other Tax Considerations

In addition to federal income taxes, you will be subject to other taxes, including state and local income taxes, unincorporated business taxes, and estate, inheritance or intangible taxes that may be imposed by the various jurisdictions in which we do business or own property. Although an analysis of those various taxes is not presented here, each prospective unitholder should consider their potential impact on his or her investment in us. We currently own property or do business in Colorado, Indiana, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia. Each of these states, except Texas, currently imposes a personal income tax. We may also own property or do business in other states in the future. A unitholder will be required to file state income tax returns and to pay state income taxes in some or all of these states in which we do business or own property and may be subject to penalties for failure to comply with those requirements. In some states, tax losses may not produce a tax benefit in the year incurred and also may not be available to offset income in subsequent taxable years. Some of the states may require us, or we may elect, to withhold a percentage of income from amounts to be distributed to a unitholder who is not a resident of the state. Withholding, the amount of which may be greater or less than a particular unitholder s income tax liability to the state, generally does not relieve a nonresident unitholder from the obligation to file an income tax return. Amounts withheld may be treated as if distributed to unitholders for purposes of determining the amounts distributed by us. See Tax Consequences of Ownership Entity-Level Collections. Based on current law and our anticipated future operations, our general partner anticipates that any amounts required to be withheld will not be material.

It is the responsibility of each unitholder to investigate the legal and tax consequences, under the laws of pertinent states and localities, of his or her investment in us. Accordingly, each prospective unitholder should consult, and must depend upon, his or her own tax counsel or other advisor with regard to those matters. Further, it is the responsibility of each unitholder to file all state and local, as well as United States federal tax returns that may be required of him or her. Ledgewood has not rendered an opinion on the state or local tax consequences of an investment in us.

Investment by Employee Benefit Plans

An investment in us by an employee benefit plan is subject to additional considerations because the investments of these plans are subject to the fiduciary responsibility and prohibited transaction provisions of ERISA and restrictions imposed by Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code. For these purposes the term employee benefit plan includes, but is not limited to, qualified pension, profit-sharing and stock bonus plans, Keogh plans, simplified employee pension plans and tax deferred annuities or IRAs established or maintained by an employer or employee organization. Among other things, consideration should be given to:

- whether the investment is prudent under Section 404(a)(1)(B) of ERISA;
- whether, in making the investment, the plan will satisfy the diversification requirements of Section 404(a)(1)(C) of ERISA; and

whether the investment will result in recognition of unrelated business taxable income by the plan and, if so, the potential after-tax investment return.

The person with investment discretion with respect to the assets of an employee benefit plan, often called a fiduciary, should determine whether an investment in us is authorized by the appropriate governing instrument and is a proper investment for the plan.

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Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code prohibit employee benefit plans, and also IRAs that are not considered part of an employee benefit plan, from engaging in specified transactions involving plan assets with parties that are parties in interest under ERISA or disqualified persons under the Internal Revenue Code with respect to the plan.

In addition to considering whether the purchase of common units is a prohibited transaction, a fiduciary of an employee benefit plan should consider whether the plan will, by investing in us, be deemed to own an undivided interest in our assets, with the result that our general partner also would be a fiduciary of the plan and our operations would be subject to the regulatory restrictions of ERISA, including its prohibited transaction rules, as well as the prohibited transaction rules of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Department of Labor regulations provide guidance with respect to whether the assets of an entity in which employee benefit plans acquire equity interests would be deemed plan assets under some circumstances. Under these regulations, an entity s assets would not be considered to be plan assets if, among other things,

the equity interests acquired by employee benefit plans are publicly offered securities, i.e., the equity interests are widely held by 100 or more investors independent of the issuer and each other, freely transferable and registered under some provisions of the federal securities laws;

the entity is an operating company, i.e., it is primarily engaged in the production or sale of a product or service other than the investment of capital either directly or through a majority-owned subsidiary or subsidiaries; or

there is no significant investment by benefit plan investors, which is defined to mean that less than 25% of the value of each class of equity interest, disregarding some interests held by our general partner, its affiliates, and some other persons, is held by the employee benefit plans referred to above, IRAs and other employee benefit plans not subject to ERISA, including governmental plans.

Our assets should not be considered plan assets under these regulations because we satisfy the first requirement above.

Plan fiduciaries contemplating a purchase of common units should consult with their own counsel regarding the consequences under ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code in light of the serious penalties imposed on persons who engage in prohibited transactions or other violations.

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PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities registered hereby through underwriters or dealers in firm commitment underwritings.

The securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the offered securities will be subject to certain conditions. The underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the offered securities if any of the securities are purchased. Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

The debt securities, when first issued, will have no established trading market. Any underwriters to whom debt securities are sold for public offering and sale may make a market in such debt securities, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for any such debt securities.

The debt securities of the series offered may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange. No assurances can be given that there will be a market for the debt securities.

Underwriters and dealers that participate in the distribution of the securities may be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act, and any discounts or commissions received by them from us and any profit on the resale of the securities by them may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. Any underwriters will be identified and their compensation will be described in a prospectus supplement.

We may have agreements with the underwriters to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute with respect to payments which the underwriters may be required to make because of those liabilities.

Underwriters and dealers or their affiliates may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us or our affiliates in the ordinary course of their businesses.

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LEGAL MATTERS

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the validity of the securities being offered hereby is being passed upon for us by Ledgewood, P.C.

EXPERTS

Our consolidated combined financial statements as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2012, and management s assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated by reference in this prospectus, have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the reports of Grant Thornton LLP, independent registered public accountants, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The audited combined financial statements of Atlas Energy E&P Operations incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Atlas Resource Partners, L.P. for the year ended December 31, 2011 have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the report of Grant Thornton LLP, independent registered public accountants, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The Statements of Combined Revenues and Direct Operating Expenses of Oil and Gas Properties Acquired by Atlas Resource Partners, L.P. for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2011, have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent auditors, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The audited financial statements of Titan Operating, LLC for each of the three years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2011, have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of Rylander, Clay & Opitz LLP, independent registered accounting firm, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The balance sheet of DTE Gas Resources, LLC as of December 31, 2011, and the statements of operations, equity and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2011 incorporated by reference in this prospectus have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the report of Grant Thornton LLP, independent certified public accountants, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The Statements of Combined Revenues and Direct Expenses of Oil and Gas Properties acquired by Atlas Resource Partners, L.P. from EP Energy for the period January 1, 2012 to May 24, 2012, the period May 25, 2012 to December 31, 2012, and the year ended December 31, 2011, incorporated by reference in this prospectus have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the report of Grant Thornton LLP, independent public accountants, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

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UNITS

% CLASS E CUMULATIVE REDEEMABLE

PERPETUAL PREFERRED UNITS

(Liquidation Preference $25.00 per Unit)

Joint Bookrunners

MLV & Co.

Ladenburg Thalmann

National Securities Corporation

Northland Capital Markets

U.S. Capital Advisors

, 2015