#### SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P.

Form 10-K

February 26, 2016

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to

Commission file number 1-31219

#### SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 23-3096839

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

organization)

3807 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, PA

(Address of principal executive offices)

19073
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (866) 248-4344

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class

Name of each exchange on which registered

Common Units representing limited partnership

New York Stock Exchange

interests

Senior Notes 6.125%, due May 15, 2016 New York Stock Exchange Senior Notes 5.50%, due February 15, 2020 New York Stock Exchange Senior Notes 4.40%, due April 1, 2021 New York Stock Exchange Senior Notes 4.65%, due February 15, 2022 New York Stock Exchange Senior Notes 3.45%, due January 15, 2023 New York Stock Exchange Senior Notes 4.25%, due April 1, 2024 New York Stock Exchange Senior Notes 5.95%, due December 1, 2025 New York Stock Exchange Senior Notes 6.85%, due February 15, 2040 New York Stock Exchange Senior Notes 6.10%, due February 15, 2042 New York Stock Exchange Senior Notes 4.95%, due January 15, 2043 New York Stock Exchange

Senior Notes 5.30%, due April 1, 2044

New York Stock Exchange
Senior Notes 5.35%, due May 15, 2045

New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes  $\circ$  No "

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes "No  $\circ$ 

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ý No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (Section 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ý No "

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment of this Form 10-K. "Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "non-accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filerý Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer " (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes "No ý

The aggregate value of the Common Units held by non-affiliates of the registrant (treating all executive officers and directors of the registrant and holders of 10 percent or more of the Common Units outstanding (including the General Partner of the registrant, Sunoco Partners LLC, as if they may be affiliates of the registrant)) was \$7.0 billion as of June 30, 2015, based on \$38.03 per unit, the closing price of the Common Units as reported on the New York Stock Exchange on that date. At February 25, 2016, the number of the registrant's Common and Class B Units outstanding were 272,701,754 and 9,416,196, respectively.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE: NONE

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

| PART I    |                                                                                       | <u>2</u>             |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| ITEM 1.   | BUSINESS                                                                              | <u>2</u><br><u>2</u> |
| ITEM 1A.  | RISK FACTORS                                                                          | <u> 19</u>           |
| ITEM 1B.  | UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS                                                             | 35<br>35             |
| ITEM 2.   | PROPERTIES                                                                            | <u>35</u>            |
| ITEM 3.   | LEGAL PROCEEDINGS                                                                     | <u>36</u>            |
| ITEM 4.   | MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES                                                               | <u>37</u>            |
| PART II   |                                                                                       | <u>38</u>            |
| ITEM 5.   | MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED                                        | <u>38</u>            |
|           | SECURITYHOLDER MATTERS AND PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES                             |                      |
| ITEM 6.   | SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA                                                               | <u>40</u>            |
| ITEM 7.   | MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS | <u>45</u>            |
| ITEM 7A.  | QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK                            | <u>64</u>            |
| ITEM 8.   | FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA                                           | <u>65</u>            |
| ITEM 9.   | CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON                                      | 105                  |
| 11 EN 9.  | ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE                                                   | 10.                  |
| ITEM 9A.  | CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES                                                               | 105                  |
| ITEM 9B.  | OTHER INFORMATION                                                                     | <u>105</u>           |
| PART III  |                                                                                       | 106                  |
| ITEM 10.  | DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE                                | 106                  |
| ITEM 11.  | EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION                                                                | 111                  |
| ITEM 12.  | SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND                                   | 125                  |
| 11EWI 12. | MANAGEMENT AND RELATED SECURITYHOLDER MATTERS                                         | <u>135</u>           |
| ITEM 13.  | CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR                          | R <sub>138</sub>     |
| 11211113. | INDEPENDENCE                                                                          |                      |
| ITEM 14.  | PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES                                                | <u>140</u>           |
| PART IV   |                                                                                       | <u>141</u>           |
| ITEM 15.  | EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES                                            | 141                  |

#### Forward-Looking Statements

This annual report on Form 10-K discusses our goals, intentions and expectations as to future trends, plans, events, results of operations or financial condition, or states other information relating to us, based on the current beliefs of our management as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, our management. Words such as "may," "anticipates," "believes," "expects," "estimates," "planned," "scheduled" or similar phrases or expressions identify forward-looking statements. Although we believe these forward-looking statements are reasonable, they are based upon a number of assumptions, any or all of which may ultimately prove to be inaccurate. These statements are subject to numerous assumptions, uncertainties and risks that may cause future results to be materially different from the results projected, forecasted, estimated or budgeted, including, but not limited to the following:

Our ability to successfully consummate announced acquisitions or expansions and integrate them into our existing business operations;

Delays related to construction of, or work on, new or existing facilities and the issuance of applicable permits; Changes in the supply of, or demand for crude oil, natural gas liquids ("NGLs") and refined products that impact demand for our pipeline, terminalling and storage services;

Changes in the short-term and long-term demand for crude oil, NGLs and refined products we buy and sell;

An increase in the competition encountered by our pipelines, terminals and acquisition and marketing operations; Changes in the financial condition or operating results of joint ventures or other holdings in which we have an equity ownership interest;

Changes in the general economic conditions in the United States;

Changes in laws and regulations to which we are subject, including federal, state, and local taxes, safety, environmental and employment laws;

Changes in regulations governing the composition of the products that we transport, terminal and store;

Improvements in energy efficiency and development of technology resulting in reduced demand for refined petroleum products;

Our ability to manage growth and/or control costs;

The effect of changes in accounting principles and tax laws, and interpretations of both;

Global and domestic economic repercussions, including disruptions in the crude oil, NGLs and refined petroleum products markets, from terrorist activities, international hostilities and other events, and the government's response thereto;

Changes in the level of operating expenses and hazards related to operating our facilities (including equipment malfunction, explosions, fires, spills and the effects of severe weather conditions);

The occurrence of operational hazards or unforeseen interruptions for which we may not be adequately insured;

The age of, and changes in the reliability and efficiency of our operating facilities;

Changes in the expected level of capital, operating, or remediation spending related to environmental matters;

Changes in insurance markets resulting in increased costs and reductions in the level and types of coverage available; Risks related to labor relations and workplace safety;

Non-performance by or disputes with major customers, suppliers or other business partners;

• Changes in our tariff rates implemented by federal and/or state government regulators;

The amount of our debt, which could make us vulnerable to adverse general economic and industry conditions, limit our ability to borrow additional funds, place us at competitive disadvantages compared to competitors that have less debt, or have other adverse consequences;

Restrictive covenants in our credit agreements;

Changes in our, or our general partner's, credit ratings, as assigned by ratings agencies;

The condition of the debt and equity capital markets in the United States, and our ability to raise capital in a cost-effective way;

Performance of financial institutions impacting our liquidity, including those supporting our credit facilities;

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The effectiveness of our risk management activities, including the use of derivative financial instruments to hedge commodity risks;

Changes in interest rates on our outstanding debt, which could increase the costs of borrowing; and The costs and effects of legal and administrative claims and proceedings against us or any entity in which we have an ownership interest, and changes in the status of, or the initiation of new litigation, claims or proceedings, to which we, or any entity in which we have an ownership interest, are a party.

These factors are not necessarily all of the important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any of our forward-looking statements. Other unknown or unpredictable factors could also have material adverse effects on future results. We undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information or future events.

#### PART I

As used in this document, unless the context otherwise indicates, the terms "we," "us," and "our" means Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. ("SXL" or the "Partnership"), one or more of our operating subsidiaries, or all of them as a whole.

#### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

(a) General Development of Business

We are a publicly traded Delaware limited partnership that owns and operates a logistics business, consisting of a geographically diverse portfolio of complementary pipeline, terminalling, and acquisition and marketing assets which are used to facilitate the purchase and sale of crude oil, natural gas liquids ("NGLs") and refined products. Sunoco Partners LLC, a Pennsylvania limited liability company and the general partner of Sunoco Logistics Partners, is a consolidated subsidiary of Energy Transfer Partners, L.P., a publicly traded Delaware limited partnership ("ETP"). The principal executive offices of Sunoco Partners LLC, our general partner, are located at 3807 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, PA 19073 (telephone (866) 248-4344). Our website address is www.sunocologistics.com. During the fourth quarter 2015, we realigned our reporting segments as a result of the continued investment in our organic growth capital program which has served to increase the integration that exists between our assets that service each commodity. This has also resulted in a shift in Management's strategic decision making process, resource allocation methodology, and assessment of our financial results. The updated reporting segments are: Crude Oil, Natural Gas Liquids and Refined Products. The new segmentation will provide our investors with a more meaningful view of our business that is consistent with that of Management. For the purpose of comparability, all prior year segment disclosures have been recast to conform to the current year presentation. Such recasts have no impact on previously reported consolidated earnings.

(b) Financial Information about Segments

See Part II, Item 8. "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data."

(c) Narrative Description of Business

We are a Delaware limited partnership which is principally engaged in the transport, terminalling and storage of crude oil, NGLs and refined products. In addition to logistics services, we also own acquisition and marketing assets which are used to facilitate the purchase and sale of crude oil, NGLs and refined products. Our portfolio of geographically diverse assets earns revenues in 35 states located throughout the United States. Our reporting segments are as follows: The Crude Oil segment provides transportation, terminalling and acquisition and marketing services to crude oil markets throughout the southwest, midwest and northeastern United States. Included within the segment is approximately 5,900 miles of crude oil trunk and gathering pipelines in the southwest and midwest United States and equity ownership interests in three crude oil pipelines. Our crude oil terminalling services operate with an aggregate storage capacity of approximately 28 million barrels, including approximately 24 million barrels at our Gulf Coast terminal in Nederland, Texas and approximately 3 million barrels at our Fort Mifflin terminal complex in Pennsylvania. Our crude oil acquisition and marketing activities utilize our pipeline and terminal assets, our proprietary fleet crude oil tractor trailers and truck unloading facilities, as well as third-party assets, to service crude oil markets principally in the mid-continent United States.

The Natural Gas Liquids segment transports, stores, and executes acquisition and marketing activities utilizing a complementary network of pipelines, storage and blending facilities, and strategic off-take locations that provide access to multiple NGLs markets. The segment contains approximately 900 miles of NGLs pipelines, primarily related to our Mariner systems located in the northeast and southwest United States. Terminalling services are facilitated by approximately 5 million barrels of NGLs storage capacity, including approximately 1 million barrels of storage at our Nederland, Texas terminal facility and 3 million barrels at our Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania terminal facility (the "Marcus Hook Industrial Complex"). This segment also carries out our NGLs blending activities, including utilizing our patented butane blending technology.

The Refined Products segment provides transportation and terminalling services, through the use of approximately 1,800 miles of refined products pipelines and approximately 40 active refined products marketing terminals. Our marketing terminals are located primarily in the northeast, midwest and southeast United States, with approximately 8 million barrels of refined products storage capacity. The Refined Products segment includes our Eagle Point facility in New Jersey, which has approximately 6 million barrels of refined products storage capacity. The segment also includes our equity ownership interests in four refined products pipeline companies. The segment also performs terminalling activities at our Marcus Hook Industrial Complex. The Refined Products segment utilizes our integrated pipeline and terminalling assets, as well as acquisition and marketing activities, to service refined products markets in several regions of the United States.

Our primary business strategies focus on generating stable cash flows, increasing pipeline and terminal throughput, utilizing our acquisition and marketing assets to maximize value, pursuing economically accretive organic growth opportunities and improving operational efficiencies. We believe that the effective execution of these strategies will result in continued increases in distributions to our unitholders.

In 2015, we continued to expand our business with the commencement of operations on several organic growth projects related to our three commodity strategies. Additionally, we acquired equity ownership interests in two crude oil pipeline projects which will provide connectivity with our existing pipeline and terminalling assets upon commencement of operations. We also continued to expand our NGLs platform with continued progress on the previously announced Mariner projects.

We are subject to competition from third parties in all of our operations. In addition, our businesses make use of a portfolio of complementary crude oil, NGLs and refined products pipelines, terminalling, and acquisition and marketing assets. While this integration creates opportunities and synergies within our operations, assets are sometimes repurposed among our business lines to maximize their utility and profitability. We will continue to utilize our assets in a manner that favors our consolidated results.

#### Crude Oil

Our Crude Oil segment consists of an integrated set of pipeline, terminalling, and acquisition and marketing assets that service the movement of crude oil from producers to end-user markets.

We completed the following transactions in the Crude Oil segment since December 31, 2010:

In October 2015, we obtained a 30 percent ownership interest in the Bakken pipeline project through acquisition of an ownership interest in the Bakken Holdings Company LLC. The Bakken pipeline consists of existing and newly constructed pipelines that are expected to provide aggregate takeaway capacity of approximately 450 thousand barrels per day ("bpd") of crude oil from the Bakken/Three Forks production area in North Dakota to key refinery and terminalling hubs in the midwest and Gulf Coast, including our Nederland terminal. The ultimate takeaway capacity target for the Bakken pipeline is 570 thousand bpd. The project is jointly owned by ETP and Phillips 66. Commercial operations are expected to commence in the fourth quarter 2016.

In July 2015, we obtained a 30 percent ownership interest in the Bayou Bridge Pipeline, LLC ("Bayou Bridge"), which consists of newly constructed pipeline that will deliver crude oil from Nederland, Texas to refinery markets in Louisiana. The project is jointly owned with ETP and Phillips 66. Commercial operations are expected to begin in the first quarter 2016.

In December 2014 and January 2015, we acquired an additional 39.7 percent ownership interest in the West Texas Gulf Pipe Line Company ("West Texas Gulf") which originates in Colorado City and delivers to destinations in Goodrich and Longview, Texas. The acquisition resulted in a wholly-owned interest in this strategic crude oil pipeline.

In May 2014, we acquired a crude oil purchasing and marketing business from EDF Trading North America, LLC ("EDF"). The purchase consisted of a crude oil acquisition and marketing business and related assets which handle 20 thousand bpd. The acquisition included a promissory note that was convertible to an equity interest in the Price River Terminal rail facility.

In May 2014, we acquired a 55 percent economic and voting interest in Price River Terminal, LLC ("PRT"), a rail facility in Wellington, Utah. As the Partnership acquired a controlling financial interest in PRT, the entity is reflected as a consolidated subsidiary of the Partnership from the acquisition date. The terms of the acquisition provide PRT's

noncontrolling interest holders the option to sell their interests to the Partnership at a price defined in the purchase agreement.

In August 2011, we acquired a crude oil acquisition and marketing business from Texon L.P. ("Texon") which consists of a 75 thousand bpd crude oil purchasing business and gathering assets in 16 states, primarily in the mid-continent United States.

## Crude Oil Pipelines

The crude oil pipelines consist of approximately 5,900 miles of crude oil trunk and gathering pipelines in the southwest and midwest United States, including our wholly-owned interest in West Texas Gulf and a controlling financial interest in Mid-Valley Pipeline Company ("Mid-Valley"). Additionally, we have equity ownership interests in three crude oil pipelines. Our pipelines provide access to several trading hubs, including the largest trading hub for crude oil in the United States located in Cushing, Oklahoma, and other trading hubs located in Midland, Colorado City and Longview, Texas. Our crude oil pipelines also deliver to and connect with other pipelines that deliver crude oil to a number of refineries.

Revenues throughout our crude oil pipeline systems are generated from tariffs paid by shippers utilizing our transportation services. These tariffs are filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commissions ("FERC") and other state regulatory agencies, as applicable.

The table below summarizes the average daily number of barrels of crude oil and other feedstocks transported on our crude oil pipelines in each of the years presented:

|                                                       | Year Ended December 31, |       |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|
|                                                       | 2015                    | 2014  | 2013  |
| Crude oil pipelines throughput (thousands of bpd) (1) | 2,218                   | 2,125 | 1,866 |

(1) Excludes amounts attributable to equity ownership interests which are not consolidated. Southwest United States Pipelines

Our Southwest pipelines include crude oil trunk pipelines and crude oil gathering pipelines in Texas. This includes our Permian Express 2 pipeline project which provides takeaway capacity from the Permian Basin, with origins in multiple locations in Western Texas: Midland, Garden City and Colorado City. With an initial capacity of approximately 200 thousand barrels per day, Permian Express 2 began delivery to multiple refiners and markets in the third quarter 2015. In connection with this project, we entered into an agreement with Vitol, Inc. to form SunVit Pipeline LLC ("SunVit"), with each party owning a 50 percent interest. SunVit originates in Midland, Texas and runs to Garden City, Texas, where it connects into our Permian Express 2 pipeline system. The SunVit pipeline also commenced operations in the third quarter 2015.

We own and operate a crude oil pipeline and gathering system in Oklahoma. We have the ability to deliver substantially all of the crude oil gathered on our Oklahoma system to Cushing. We are one of the largest purchasers of crude oil from producers in the state, and our crude oil acquisition and marketing activities business is the primary shipper on our Oklahoma crude oil system.

# Midwest United States Pipelines

We have a controlling financial interest in the Mid-Valley pipeline system which originates in Longview, Texas and passes through Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Ohio, and terminates in Samaria, Michigan. This pipeline provides crude oil to a number of refineries, primarily in the midwest United States. In addition, we own a crude oil pipeline that runs from Marysville, Michigan to Toledo, Ohio, and a truck injection point for local production at Marysville. This pipeline receives crude oil from the Enbridge Mainline Pipeline system for delivery to refineries located in Toledo, Ohio and to Marathon's Samaria, Michigan tank farm, which supplies its refinery in Detroit, Michigan.

#### Crude Oil Terminals

The table below summarizes the total average daily crude oil throughput at our crude oil terminals in each of the years presented:

|                                                   | Year Ended December 31, |       |       |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|
|                                                   | 2015                    | 2014  | 2013  |
| Crude oil terminals throughput (thousands of bpd) | 1,401                   | 1,403 | 1,210 |
| Nederland                                         |                         |       |       |

The Nederland terminal, located on the Sabine-Neches waterway between Beaumont and Port Arthur, Texas, is a large marine terminal providing storage and distribution services for refiners and other large transporters of crude oil and NGLs. The terminal receives, stores, and distributes crude oil and bunker oils (used for fueling ships and other marine vessels), and has a total crude oil storage capacity of approximately 24 million barrels in approximately 130 aboveground storage tanks with individual capacities of up to 660 thousand barrels.

The Nederland terminal can receive crude oil at each of its five ship docks and three barge berths. The five ship docks are capable of receiving over 2 million barrels of crude oil per day. In addition to our crude oil pipelines, the terminal can also receive crude oil through a number of third-party pipelines, including the Department of Energy ("DOE"). The DOE pipelines connect the terminal to the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve's West Hackberry caverns at Hackberry, Louisiana and Big Hill near Winnie, Texas, which have an aggregate storage capacity of approximately 375 million barrels.

The Nederland terminal can deliver crude oil via pipeline, barge, ship, rail or truck. In total, the terminal is capable of delivering over 2 million barrels of crude oil per day to our crude oil pipelines or a number of third-party pipelines, including the DOE. The Nederland terminal generates crude oil revenues primarily by providing term or spot storage services and throughput capabilities to a number of customers.

#### Fort Mifflin

The Fort Mifflin terminal complex is located on the Delaware River in Philadelphia and includes the Fort Mifflin terminal, the Hog Island wharf, the Darby Creek tank farm and connecting pipelines. Revenues are generated at the Fort Mifflin terminal complex by charging fees based on throughput.

The Fort Mifflin terminal contains two ship docks with freshwater drafts and a total storage capacity of approximately 570 thousand barrels. Crude oil enters the Fort Mifflin terminal primarily from marine vessels on the Delaware River. One Fort Mifflin dock is designed to handle crude oil from very large crude carrier-class ("VLCC") tankers and smaller crude oil vessels. The other dock can accommodate only smaller crude oil vessels.

The Hog Island wharf is located next to the Fort Mifflin terminal on the Delaware River and receives crude oil via two ship docks, one of which can accommodate crude oil tankers and smaller crude oil vessels, and the other of which can accommodate some smaller crude oil vessels.

The Darby Creek tank farm is a crude oil storage terminal for the Philadelphia refinery, which is operated by Philadelphia Energy Solutions ("PES") under a joint venture with Sunoco, Inc. ("Sunoco"). This facility has a total storage capacity of approximately 3 million barrels. Darby Creek receives crude oil from the Fort Mifflin terminal and Hog Island wharf via our pipelines. The tank farm then stores the crude oil and transports it to the Philadelphia refinery via our pipelines.

## **Eagle Point**

The Eagle Point terminal is located in Westville, New Jersey and consists of docks, truck loading facilities and a tank farm. The docks are located on the Delaware River and can accommodate three marine vessels (ships or barges) to receive and deliver crude oil to outbound ships and barges. The tank farm has a total active crude oil storage capacity of approximately 1 million barrels and can receive crude oil via barge, pipeline and rail, and deliver via barge, truck or pipeline, providing customers with access to various markets. The terminal generates revenue primarily by charging fees based on throughput, blending services and storage.

## Crude Oil Acquisition and Marketing

These activities include the acquisition and marketing of crude oil, primarily in the mid-continent United States. The operations are conducted using our assets, which include approximately 375 crude oil transport trucks and approximately 140 crude oil truck unloading facilities, as well as third-party truck, rail and marine assets. Specifically, our crude oil acquisition and marketing activities include:

purchasing crude oil at both the wellhead from producers, and in bulk from aggregators at major pipeline interconnections and trading locations;

storing inventory during contango market conditions (when the price of crude oil for future delivery is higher than current prices);

buying and selling crude oil of different grades, at different locations in order to maximize value; transporting crude oil using our pipelines, terminals and trucks or, when necessary or cost effective, pipelines, terminals or trucks owned and operated by third parties; and

marketing crude oil to major integrated oil companies, independent refiners and resellers through various types of sale and exchange transactions.

The crude oil acquisition and marketing activities generate substantial revenue and cost of products sold as a result of the significant volume of crude oil bought and sold. While the absolute price levels of crude oil significantly impact revenue and cost of products sold, such price levels normally do not bear a relationship to gross profit. As a result, period-to-period variations in revenue and cost of products sold are not generally meaningful in analyzing the variation in gross profit for the crude oil acquisition and marketing activities. The operating results are dependent on our ability to sell crude oil at a price in excess of our aggregate cost. Our operations are affected by overall levels of supply and demand for crude oil and relative fluctuations in market-related indices. Generally, we expect a base level of earnings from our crude oil acquisition and marketing activities that may be optimized and enhanced when there is a high level of market volatility, favorable basis differentials, and/or a steep contango or backwardated structure. Although we implement risk management processes to provide general stability in our margins, these margins are not fixed and will vary from period to period.

We mitigate most of our pricing risk on purchase contracts by selling crude oil for an equal term on a similar pricing basis. We also mitigate most of our volume risk by entering into sales agreements, generally at the same time that purchase agreements are executed, at similar volumes. As a result, volumes sold are generally equal to volumes purchased. We do not acquire and hold futures contracts or other derivative products for the purpose of speculating on crude oil price changes, as these activities could expose us to significant losses.

## Crude Oil Purchases and Exchanges

In a typical producer's operation, crude oil flows from the wellhead to a separator where the petroleum gases are removed. After separation, the producer treats the crude oil to remove water, sediment, and other contaminants and then moves it to an on-site storage tank. When the tank is full, the producer contacts our field personnel to purchase and transport the crude oil to market. The crude oil in the producer's tanks is then either delivered directly or transported via truck to our pipeline or to a third-party pipeline. The trucking services are performed either by our truck fleet or a third-party trucking operation.

Crude oil purchasers who buy from producers compete on the basis of price and the ability to provide highly responsive services. Our management believes that our ability to offer competitive pricing and high-quality field and administrative services to producers is a key factor in our ability to maintain our volume of lease purchased crude oil and to obtain new volume.

We also enter into exchange agreements to enhance margins throughout the acquisition and marketing process. When opportunities arise to increase our margin or to acquire a grade of crude oil that more nearly matches our delivery requirements or the preferences of our refinery customers, we exchange our physical crude oil with third parties. Generally, we enter into exchanges to acquire crude oil of a desired quality in exchange for a common grade crude oil or to acquire crude oil at locations that are closer to our end markets, thereby reducing transportation costs. Generally, we enter into contracts with producers at market prices for a term of one year or less, with a majority of the transactions on a 30-day renewable basis. For the year ended December 31, 2015, we purchased 365 thousands of barrels per day, from approximately 4 thousand producers, who operate approximately 62 thousand active leases. We

also undertook 491 thousand barrels per day of exchanges and bulk purchases during the same period.

The following table shows our average daily volume for crude oil lease purchases and sales, and other exchanges and bulk purchases for the years presented:

|                                    | Year Ended December 31, |      |      |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|
|                                    | 2015                    | 2014 | 2013 |
|                                    | (in thousands of bpd)   |      |      |
| Lease purchases:                   |                         |      |      |
| Available for sale                 | 361                     | 378  | 332  |
| Exchanged                          | 4                       | 14   | 7    |
| Other exchanges and bulk purchases | 491                     | 481  | 410  |
| Total Purchases                    | 856                     | 873  | 749  |
| Bulk Sales                         | 471                     | 483  | 419  |
| Exchanges:                         |                         |      |      |
| Purchased at the lease             | 4                       | 14   | 7    |
| Other                              | 369                     | 372  | 321  |
| Total Sales                        | 844                     | 869  | 747  |

Crude oil commodity prices have historically been volatile and cyclical. Profitability from our acquisition and marketing activities is dependent on our ability to sell crude oil at prices in excess of our aggregate cost. Our operations are not directly affected by the absolute level of crude oil prices, but are affected by overall levels of supply and demand for crude oil and relative fluctuations in market-related indices. Generally, we expect a base level of earnings from our acquisition and marketing activities, which may be optimized and enhanced when there is a high level of market volatility. Integration between our crude oil acquisition and marketing assets, pipelines, and terminal facilities allows us to further improve upon earnings during periods when there are favorable basis differentials between various types of products. Additionally, we are able to increase our base level of earnings when there is a steep contango or backwardated market structure.

During periods when supply exceeds the demand for crude oil in the near term, the market for crude oil is often in contango, meaning that the price of crude oil for future deliveries is higher than the price for current deliveries. A contango market generally has a negative impact on our lease gathering margins, but is favorable to commercial strategies associated with tankage. Access to our crude oil storage facilities during a contango market allows us to improve our lease gathering margins by simultaneously purchasing crude oil inventories at current prices for storage and selling forward at higher prices for future delivery.

When there is a higher demand than supply of crude oil in the near term, the market is backwardated, meaning that the price of crude oil for future deliveries is lower than the price for current deliveries. A backwardated market has a positive impact on our lease gathering margins because crude oil gatherers can capture a premium for prompt deliveries. In this environment, there is little incentive to store crude oil, as current prices are above delivery prices in the futures markets. In a backwardated market, increased lease gathering margins provide an offset to reduced use of storage capacity.

The periods between a backwardated market and a contango market are referred to as transition periods. Depending on the overall duration of these transition periods, how we have allocated our assets to particular strategies and the time length of our crude oil purchase and sale contracts and storage lease agreements, these transition periods may have either an adverse or beneficial effect on our aggregate segment profit. A prolonged transition from a backwardated market to a contango market, or vice versa (essentially, a market without pronounced backwardation or contango), represents the most difficult environment for our marketing activities.

## Crude Oil Trucking

We own approximately 140 crude oil truck unloading facilities in the mid-continent United States with the majority located on our pipeline systems. Approximately 620 crude oil truck drivers are employed by an affiliate of our general partner and we own and operate a proprietary fleet of approximately 375 crude oil transport trucks. The crude oil truck drivers pick up crude oil at producer sites and transport it to both our truck unloading facilities and third-party unloading facilities for shipment on our pipelines and third-party pipelines. Third-party trucking firms are also

retained to transport crude oil to certain facilities.

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#### Natural Gas Liquids

Our Natural Gas Liquids segment transports, stores, and executes acquisition and marketing activities utilizing an integrated network of pipeline assets, storage and blending facilities, and strategic off-take locations that provide access to multiple NGL markets.

Since December 31, 2010, we completed the following acquisitions in our Natural Gas Liquids segment: In April 2013, we acquired Sunoco's Marcus Hook Industrial Complex and related assets. The acquisition included terminalling and storage assets with a capacity of approximately 2 million barrels of NGLs storage capacity in underground caverns.

# **NGLs Pipelines**

This segment includes approximately 900 miles of NGLs pipelines, primarily related to our Mariner systems in the northeast and southwest United States.

The table below summarizes the average daily number of barrels of NGLs transported on our pipelines in each of the years presented:

|                                              | Year Ended December 31, |      |      |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|
|                                              | 2015                    | 2014 | 2013 |
| NGLs pipelines throughput (thousands of bpd) | 209                     | 33   | 9    |

Our Mariner East project transports NGLs from the Marcellus and Utica Shale areas in Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Eastern Ohio to destinations in Pennsylvania, including our Marcus Hook Industrial Complex on the Delaware River, where they are processed, stored and distributed to local, domestic and waterborne markets. The first phase of the project, referred to as Mariner East 1, consisted of interstate and intrastate propane and ethane service and commenced operations in the fourth quarter of 2014 and the first quarter of 2016, respectively. The second phase of the project, referred to as Mariner East 2, will expand the total takeaway capacity to 345 thousand barrels per day for interstate and intrastate propane, ethane and butane service, and is expected to commence operations in the first half of 2017.

In the fourth quarter 2014, we commenced operations on the Mariner South pipeline. The Mariner South pipeline is part of a joint project with Lone Star NGL LLC ("Lone Star") to deliver export-grade propane and butane products from Lone Star's Mont Belvieu, Texas storage and fractionation complex to our marine terminal in Nederland, Texas. The pipeline has a capacity of approximately 200 thousand barrels per day and can be scaled depending on shipper interest.

The Mariner West pipeline provides transportation of ethane products from the Marcellus Shale processing and fractionating areas in Houston, Pennsylvania to Marysville, Michigan and the Canadian border. Mariner West commenced operations in the fourth quarter 2013, with capacity to transport approximately 50 thousand barrels per day of NGLs and other products.

Revenues on our NGLs pipelines are generated from tariffs paid by shippers utilizing our transportation services. These tariffs are filed with FERC and other state and Canadian regulatory agencies, as applicable.

#### **NGLs Terminals**

Our NGLs terminals generate revenue primarily by charging fees based on throughput, blending services and storage. The table below summarizes the total average daily throughput for our NGLs terminals in each of the years presented:

Vear Ended December 31

|                                              | Teal Effect December 51, |      |      |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------|------|
|                                              | 2015                     | 2014 | 2013 |
| NGLs terminals throughput (thousands of bpd) | 184                      | 40   | 31   |
| 37 1 1 1                                     |                          |      |      |

#### Nederland

In addition to crude oil activities, the Nederland terminal also provides approximately 1 million barrels of storage and distribution services for NGLs in connection with the Mariner South pipeline project referred to above, which commenced operations in December 2014. The project provides transportation of propane and butane products from the Mont Belvieu region to the Nederland terminal, where such products can be delivered via ship.

#### Marcus Hook Industrial Complex

We acquired the Marcus Hook Industrial Complex from an affiliated entity in the second quarter 2013. The acquisition included terminalling and storage assets, with a capacity of approximately 3 million barrels of NGL storage capacity in underground caverns, and related commercial agreements. The facility can receive NGLs via marine vessel, pipeline, truck and rail, and can deliver via marine vessel, pipeline and truck. In addition to providing NGLs storage and terminalling services to both affiliates and third-party customers, the Marcus Hook Industrial Complex currently serves as an off-take outlet for our Mariner East 1 pipeline, and will provide similar off-take capabilities for the Mariner East 2 pipeline when it commences operations. Inkster

The Inkster terminal, located near Detroit, Michigan, contains eight salt caverns with a total storage capacity of approximately 1 million barrels of NGLs. We use the Inkster terminal's storage in connection with our Toledo North pipeline system and for the storage of NGLs from local producers and a refinery in Western Ohio. The terminal can receive and ship by pipeline in both directions and has a truck loading and unloading rack.

## NGLs Acquisition & Marketing

Our NGLs acquisition and marketing activities include the acquisition, blending, marketing and selling of such products at our various terminals and third-party facilities. Since the acquisition of our butane blending business in 2010, we have continued to expand our butane blending service platform by installing our blending technology at certain of our terminals and third-party facilities, as well as the continued development of the Marcus Hook Industrial Complex. The operating results of our NGLs acquisition and marketing activities are dependent on our ability to execute sales in excess of the aggregate cost, and therefore we structure our acquisition and marketing operations to optimize the sources and timing of purchases and minimize the transportation and storage costs. In order to manage exposure to volatility in the price of NGLs, our policy is to (i) only purchase products for which sales contracts have been executed or for which ready markets exist, (ii) structure sales contracts so that price fluctuations do not materially impact the margins earned, and (iii) not acquire and hold physical inventory, futures contracts or other derivative instruments for the purpose of speculating on commodity price changes. However, we do utilize a seasonal hedge program involving swaps, futures and other derivative instruments to mitigate the risk associated with unfavorable market movements in the price of NGLs products. These derivative contracts act as a hedging mechanism against the volatility of prices.

#### Refined Products

Our Refined Products segment provides transportation and terminalling services using an integrated network of pipeline assets and refined products terminals, which are also utilized to facilitate acquisition and marketing activities. The segment also includes equity ownership interests in four refined products pipelines.

Since December 31, 2010, we completed the following acquisitions in our Refined Products segment:

In March 2014, we exercised rights to acquire an additional ownership in Explorer Pipeline Company ("Explorer") for \$42 million, increasing the Partnership's ownership interest from 9.4 to 13.3 percent.

In May 2011, we acquired an 83.8 percent equity interest in Inland from an affiliated entity and Shell Oil Company. The pipeline connects three refineries in Ohio to terminals and major markets within the state. As we have a controlling financial interest in Inland, the joint venture is reflected as a consolidated subsidiary in our consolidated financial statements. We assumed operatorship of the pipeline in 2012.

## **Refined Products Pipelines**

We own and operate approximately 1,800 miles of refined products pipelines in several regions of the United States. The pipelines primarily provide transportation in the northeast, midwest, and southwest United States markets. The segment includes our controlling financial interest in Inland.

The mix of products delivered varies seasonally, with gasoline demand peaking during the summer months, and demand for heating oil and other distillate fuels peaking in the winter. In addition, weather conditions in the areas served by our refined products pipelines affect both the demand for, and the mix of, the refined products delivered through the pipelines, although historically, any overall impact on the total volume shipped has been short-term. The products transported in these pipelines include multiple grades of gasoline, and middle distillates, such as heating oil, diesel and jet fuel. Rates for shipments on our products pipelines are regulated by the FERC and other state regulatory agencies, as applicable.

During the first quarter 2015, we commenced operations on the Allegheny Access pipeline project, which transports refined products from the midwest to eastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania markets at a capacity of up to 85 thousand barrels per day with the possibility to increase capacity to meet further demands.

The following table shows the average shipments on the refined products pipelines system in each of the years presented:

|                                                              | Year Ended December 31, |      |      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|
|                                                              | 2015                    | 2014 | 2013 |
| Refined products pipelines throughput (thousands of bpd) (1) | 492                     | 456  | 492  |

(1) Excludes amounts attributable to equity ownership interests which are not consolidated.

In addition to our consolidated pipeline assets, we own equity interests in several common carrier refined products pipelines, summarized in the following table:

| Pipeline                          | SXL Equity Ownership | Approximate Pipeline Mileage |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Explorer Pipeline Company (1)     | 13.3%                | 1,850                        |
| Yellowstone Pipe Line Company (2) | 14.0%                | 700                          |
| West Shore Pipe Line Company (3)  | 17.1%                | 650                          |
| Wolverine Pipe Line Company (4)   | 31.5%                | 700                          |

The system, which is operated by Explorer employees, originates from the refining centers of Beaumont, Port Arthur and Houston, Texas, and extends to Chicago, Illinois, with delivery points in the Houston, Dallas/Fort Worth, Tulsa, St. Louis, and Chicago areas. Explorer charges market-based rates for all its tariffs.

The system, which is operated by Phillips 66, originates from the Billings, Montana refining center and extends to (2) Moses Lake, Washington, with delivery points along the way. Tariff rates are regulated by the FERC for interstate shipments and the Montana Public Service Commission for intrastate shipments in Montana.

The system, which is operated by Buckeye Partners, L.P., originates from the Chicago, Illinois refining center and extends to Madison and Green Bay, Wisconsin, with delivery points along the way. West Shore charges market-based tariff rates in the Chicago area.

(4)

(1)

The system, which is operated by Wolverine employees, originates from Chicago, Illinois and extends to Detroit, Grand Haven and Bay City, Michigan, with delivery points along the way. Wolverine charges market-based rates for tariffs at the Detroit, Jackson, Niles, Hammond and Lockport destinations.

#### **Refined Products Terminals**

Our active refined products terminals receive refined products from pipelines, barges, railcars, and trucks and distribute them to third parties and certain of our affiliates, who in turn deliver them to end-users and retail outlets. Terminals play a key role in moving product to the end-user markets by providing the following services: storage; distribution; blending to achieve specified grades of gasoline and middle distillates; and other ancillary services that include the injection of additives and the filtering of jet fuel. These terminals facilitate the movement of refined products to or from storage or transportation systems, such as a pipeline, to other transportation systems, such as trucks or other pipelines. Of our approximately 40 refined products terminals, each facility typically consists of multiple storage tanks and is equipped with automated truck loading equipment that is operational 24 hours a day. This automated system provides controls over allocations, credit, and carrier certification.

Our refined products terminals derive revenues from terminalling fees paid by customers. A fee is charged for receiving products into the terminal and delivering them to trucks, barges, or pipelines. In addition to terminalling fees, our refined products terminals generate revenues by charging customers fees for blending services, including certain ethanol and biodiesel blending, injecting additives, and filtering jet fuel. Our refined products pipelines provide supply to the majority of our refined products terminals, with third-party pipelines and barges supplying the remainder.

The table below summarizes the total average daily throughput for the refined products terminals in each of the years presented:

|                                                          | Year Ended December 31, |      |      |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|
|                                                          | 2015                    | 2014 | 2013 |
| Refined products terminals throughput (thousands of bpd) | 534                     | 497  | 525  |

The following table outlines the number of active refined products marketing terminals and storage capacity by state:

| State         | Number of Terminals | Storage Capacity |
|---------------|---------------------|------------------|
|               |                     | (thousands       |
|               |                     | of barrels)      |
| Indiana       | 1                   | 206              |
| Louisiana     | 1                   | 161              |
| Maryland      | 1                   | 710              |
| Massachusetts | 1                   | 1,144            |
| Michigan      | 3                   | 760              |
| New Jersey    | 3                   | 650              |
| New York (1)  | 4                   | 920              |
| Ohio          | 7                   | 957              |
| Pennsylvania  | 13                  | 1,743            |
| Texas         | 4                   | 548              |
| Virginia      | 1                   | 403              |
| Total         | 39                  | 8,202            |

We have a 45 percent ownership interest in a terminal at Inwood, New York and a 50 percent ownership interest in a terminal that we operate in Syracuse, New York. The storage capacities included in the table represent the proportionate share of capacity attributable to our ownership interests in these terminals.

#### Eagle Point

In additional to crude oil service, the Eagle Point terminal can accommodate three marine vessels (ships or barges) to receive and deliver refined products to outbound ships and barges. The tank farm has a total active refined products storage capacity of approximately 6 million barrels, and provides customers with access to the facility via barge, pipeline and rail. The terminal can deliver via barge, truck or pipeline, providing customers with access to various markets. The terminal generates revenue primarily by charging fees based on throughput, blending services and storage.

## Marcus Hook Industrial Complex

The Marcus Hook Industrial Complex can receive refined products via marine vessel, pipeline, truck and rail, and can deliver via marine vessel, pipeline and truck.

#### Marcus Hook Tank Farm

The Marcus Hook Tank Farm has a total refined products storage capacity of approximately 2 million barrels of refined products storage. The tank farm historically served Sunoco's Marcus Hook refinery and generated revenue from the related throughput and storage. In 2012, the main processing units at the refinery were idled in connection with Sunoco's exit from its refining business. The terminal continues to receive and deliver refined products via pipeline and now primarily provides terminalling services to support movements on our refined products pipelines. Refined Products Acquisition and Marketing

Our refined products acquisition and marketing activities include the acquisition, marketing and selling of bulk refined products such as gasoline products and distillates. These activities utilize our refined products pipeline and terminal assets, as well as third-party assets and facilities. The operating results of our refined products acquisition and marketing activities are dependent on our ability to execute sales in excess of the aggregate cost, and therefore we structure our acquisition and marketing operations to optimize the sources and timing of purchases and minimize the transportation and storage costs. In order to manage exposure to volatility in refined products prices, our policy is to (i) only purchase products for which sales contracts have been executed or for which ready markets exist, (ii) structure sales contracts so that price fluctuations do not materially impact the margins earned, and (iii) not acquire and hold physical inventory, futures contracts or other derivative instruments for the purpose of speculating on commodity price changes. However, we do utilize a hedge program involving swaps, futures and other derivative instruments to mitigate the risk associated with unfavorable market movements in the price of refined products. These derivative contracts act as a hedging mechanism against the volatility of prices.

## Pipeline and Terminal Control Operations

Almost all of our pipelines are operated via satellite, microwave, and frame relay communication systems from central control rooms located in Sugar Land, Texas and Montello, Pennsylvania. The Sugar Land control center primarily monitors and controls our crude oil pipelines, and the Montello control center primarily monitors and controls our NGLs and refined products pipelines. The Nederland terminal has its own control center.

The control centers operate with Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition, or SCADA, systems that continuously monitor real time operational data, including throughput, flow rates, and pressures. In addition, the control centers monitor alarms and throughput balances. The control centers operate remote pumps, motors and valves associated with the delivery of throughput products. The computer systems are designed to enhance leak-detection capabilities, sound automatic alarms if operational conditions occur outside of pre-established parameters, and provide for remote-controlled shutdown of pump stations on the pipelines. Pump stations and meter-measurement points along our pipelines are linked by satellite or telephone communication systems for remote monitoring and control, which reduces the requirement for full-time on-site personnel at most of these locations.

#### Competition

## **Pipeline Operations**

Our pipelines face competition from a number of sources, including major oil companies and other common carrier pipelines. Generally, pipelines are the lowest-cost method for long-haul commodity movements. Therefore, the most significant competitors for large volume shipments are other pipelines. Competition among pipelines is based primarily on access to commodity supply, market demand, and transportation charges offered for commodity movements. In addition, in areas where additional infrastructure is needed to accommodate production needs, we compete with other pipeline providers to offer the necessary transportation services to meet market demand. Our management believes that high capital requirements, environmental considerations, and the difficulty in acquiring rights-of-way and related permits make it difficult for other companies to build competing pipelines in certain areas served by our pipelines. As a result, competing pipelines are likely to be built only in those cases in which strong market demand and attractive tariff rates support additional capacity in an area.

In addition to competition from other pipelines, we face competition from trucks and rail that deliver products in a number of areas that we serve. While their costs may not be competitive for longer hauls or large volume shipments, these sources of transportation compete effectively for incremental and marginal volume in many areas where such means of transportation are prevalent.

# **Terminalling Services**

Terminal facilities compete based on pricing, accessibility to supply and distribution locations and flexibility of the terminal facility's service offering. Our terminal facilities service the crude oil, NGLs and refined products markets in the southwest, midwest and northeast United States.

Throughput at our Nederland terminal includes both crude oil and NGLs. The primary competitors of the Nederland terminal are its refinery customers' docks and other terminal facilities located in the Beaumont, Texas area with similar capabilities to distribute these commodities to the end-user markets.

Our Marcus Hook Industrial Complex has the capability to handle the processing, storage and distribution of crude oil, NGLs and refined products and has access to local, domestic and waterborne markets. An increase in competition for the facility could result from the development of a facility providing similar service offerings.

Our refined products marketing terminals located in the northeast, midwest and southwest United States compete with other independent terminals on price, versatility, and services provided. The competition primarily comes from integrated petroleum companies, refining and marketing companies, independent terminal companies, and distribution companies with marketing and trading activities.

The majority of the throughput at our crude oil terminal facilities in the northeast relates to refining operations at PES's Philadelphia refinery. In 2012, we entered into a 10-year agreement to provide terminalling services to PES at the Fort Mifflin terminal complex. For further information, see Item 7. "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations-Agreements with Related Parties."

# Acquisition and Marketing Activities

Our competitors for our acquisition and marketing of crude oil, NGLs and refined products include other petroleum products pipeline companies, major integrated oil companies and their marketing affiliates, independent gatherers, banks that have established trading platforms, and brokers and marketers of varying sizes, financial resources and experience. Some of these competitors have capital resources many times greater than ours, and control or have access to greater supplies of the specific commodities that we market. Competitive factors that impact our acquisition and marketing activities include price and contract flexibility, regional pricing differentials, availability of commodity supply and demand, quantity and quality of services offered, and accessibility to end markets. Our acquisition and marketing of NGLs includes butane blending services. Our patents provide us with the exclusive use and control over the technology utilized to provide these services to our customers.

#### Safety Regulation

A majority of our pipelines are subject to United States Department of Transportation ("DOT") regulations and to regulations under comparable state statutes relating to the design, installation, testing, construction, operation, replacement and management of pipeline facilities.

DOT regulations require operators of hazardous liquid interstate pipelines to develop and follow a program to assess the integrity of all pipeline segments that could affect designated "high consequence areas," including: high population areas, drinking water and ecological resource areas that are unusually sensitive to environmental damage from a pipeline release, and commercially navigable waterways. We have prepared our own written Integrity Management Program, identified the line segments that could impact high consequence areas, and completed a full assessment of these segments as prescribed by the regulations.

We are confident that our pipeline operations are in substantial compliance with applicable DOT regulations and comparable state requirements. However, an increase in expenditures may be needed in the future to comply with higher industry and regulatory safety standards. Such expenditures cannot be estimated accurately at this time, but we do not believe they would likely have a material adverse effect relative to our results of operations, financial position or expected cash flows.

# **Environmental Regulation**

#### General

Our operations are often subject to complex federal, state, and local laws and regulations relating to the protection of health and the environment, including laws and regulations which govern the handling and release of crude oil and other liquid hydrocarbon materials, some of which are discussed below. Violations of environmental laws or regulations can result in the imposition of significant administrative, civil and criminal fines and penalties and, in some instances, injunctions banning or delaying certain activities. Our management believes we are in substantial compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations. However, these laws and regulations are subject to frequent change at the federal, state and local levels, and the legislative and regulatory trend has been to place increasingly stringent limitations on activities that may affect the environment.

There are also risks of accidental releases into the environment associated with our operations, such as releases of crude oil or hazardous substances from our pipelines or storage facilities. To the extent an event is not covered by our insurance policies, such accidental releases could subject us to substantial liabilities arising from emergency response, environmental cleanup and restoration costs, claims made by neighboring landowners and other third parties for personal injury and property damage, and fines or penalties for any related violations of environmental laws or regulations.

Sunoco indemnifies us for 100 percent of all losses from environmental liabilities related to the assets contributed to SXL arising prior to, and asserted within 21 years of, February 8, 2002, the date of our initial public offering ("IPO"). Sunoco's share of liability for claims asserted thereafter will decrease by 10 percent each year through the thirtieth year following the IPO date. For example, for a claim asserted during the twenty-third year after the closing of the IPO, Sunoco would be required to indemnify the Partnership for 80 percent of its loss. There is no monetary cap on this indemnification from Sunoco. In addition, this indemnification applies to the following, purchased from Sunoco subsequent to the IPO: interests in the Mesa Pipeline System, Mid-Valley, West Texas Gulf, Inland, Marcus Hook Industrial Complex, as well as the Eagle Point Tank Farm and various other assets. Any remediation liabilities not covered by this indemnity will be our responsibility.

We have agreed to indemnify Sunoco and its affiliates for events and conditions associated with the operation of the contributed assets occurring after the IPO date and for environmental and toxic tort liabilities related to these assets to the extent Sunoco is not required to indemnify us. Total future costs for environmental remediation activities will depend upon, among other things, the extent of impact at each site; the timing and nature of required remedial actions; the technology available; and the determination of our liability at multi-party sites. As of December 31, 2015, all material environmental liabilities incurred by, and known to, us are either covered by the environmental indemnification or reserved for by us in our consolidated financial statements.

#### Air Emissions

Our operations are subject to the Clean Air Act, as amended, and comparable state and local statutes. We will be required to incur certain capital expenditures in the next several years for air pollution control equipment in connection with maintaining or obtaining permits and approvals addressing air emission related issues. In addition, the federal government has enacted regulations relating to restrictions on emissions of greenhouse gases ("GHG"). At this time, our operations do not fall under any of the current GHG regulations. While the effect of these current regulations will not impact our operations, the federal, regional or state laws or regulations limiting emissions of GHGs in the United States could adversely affect the demand for crude oil, NGLs or refined products transportation and storage services, as well as contribute to increased compliance costs or additional operating restrictions.

Our customers are also subject to, and similarly affected by, environmental regulations. These include federal and state actions to develop programs for the reduction of GHG emissions as well as proposals that would create a cap and trade system that would require companies to purchase carbon emission allowances for emissions at manufacturing facilities and emissions caused by the use of the fuels sold. In addition, the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") indicated that it intends to regulate carbon dioxide emissions. As a result of these regulations, our customers could be required to make significant capital expenditures, operate refineries at reduced levels, and pay significant penalties. It is uncertain what our customers' responses to these emerging issues will be. Those responses could reduce throughput in our pipelines and terminals, and impact our cash flows and ability to make distributions or satisfy debt obligations. Hazardous Substances and Waste

In the course of ordinary operations, we may generate waste that falls within the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Acts' ("CERCLA"), also known as Superfund, definition of a "hazardous substance" and, as a result, we may be jointly and severally liable under CERCLA for all or part of the costs required to clean up sites at which these hazardous substances have been released into the environment. Costs for any such remedial actions, as well as any related claims, could have a material adverse effect on our maintenance capital expenditures and operating expenses to the extent not all are covered by the indemnity from Sunoco. For more information, please see "Environmental Remediation."

We also generate solid wastes, including hazardous wastes that are subject to the requirements of the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), and comparable state statutes. We are not currently required to comply with a substantial portion of the RCRA requirements because our operations generate minimal quantities of hazardous wastes. However, it is possible that additional wastes, which could include wastes currently generated during our operating activities, will in the future be designated as "hazardous wastes." Hazardous wastes are subject to more rigorous and costly disposal requirements than non-hazardous wastes. Any changes in the regulations could have a material adverse effect on our maintenance capital expenditures and operating expenses.

We currently own or lease properties where hydrocarbons are being or have been handled for many years. These properties and wastes disposed thereon may be subject to CERCLA, RCRA, and comparable state laws. Under these laws, we could be required to remove or remediate previously disposed wastes (including wastes disposed of or released by prior owners or operators), to clean up contaminated property (including contaminated groundwater), or to perform remedial operations to prevent future contamination.

We have not been identified by any state or federal agency as a potentially responsible party in connection with the transport and/or disposal of any waste products to third-party disposal sites.

Water

Our operations can result in the discharge of regulated substances, including crude oil, NGLs or refined products. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, also known as the Clean Water Act, and comparable state laws impose restrictions and strict controls regarding the discharge of regulated substances into state waters or waters of the United States. Where applicable, our facilities have the required discharge permits.

The Oil Pollution Act subjects owners of covered facilities to strict joint and potentially unlimited liability for removal costs and other consequences of a release of oil, where the release is into navigable waters, along shorelines or in the exclusive economic zone of the United States. Spill prevention control and countermeasure requirements of the Clean Water Act and some state laws require that containment dikes and similar structures be installed to help prevent the impact on navigable waters in the event of a release. The Department of Transportation Pipeline Hazardous Materials

Administration, the EPA, or various state regulatory agencies have approved our oil spill emergency response plans, and our management believes we are in substantial compliance with these laws.

In addition, some states maintain groundwater protection programs that require permits for discharges or operations that may impact groundwater conditions. Our management believes that compliance with existing permits and compliance with foreseeable new permit requirements will not have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial position or expected cash flows.

## **Environmental Remediation**

Contamination resulting from releases of crude oil, NGLs and refined products is not unusual within the petroleum pipeline industry. Historic releases along our pipelines, gathering systems, and terminals as a result of past operations have resulted in impacts to the environment, including soil and groundwater. Site conditions, including soil and groundwater, are being evaluated at a number of properties where operations may have resulted in releases of hydrocarbons and other wastes. Sunoco has agreed to indemnify us from environmental and toxic tort liabilities related to the assets contributed to the extent such liabilities existed or arose from operation of these assets prior to the closing of the February 2002 IPO and are asserted within 30 years after the closing of the IPO. This indemnity will cover the costs associated with performance of the assessment, monitoring, and remediation programs, as well as any related claims and penalties. See "Environmental Regulation-General."

We have experienced releases for which we are not covered by an indemnity from Sunoco, and for which we are responsible for necessary assessment, remediation, and/or monitoring activities. We have also purchased certain pipeline and terminal assets for which we assume remediation responsibilities. Our management estimates that the total aggregate cost of performing the currently anticipated assessment, monitoring, and remediation activities at these sites is not material in relation to our operations, financial position or cash flows at December 31, 2015. We have implemented an extensive inspection program to prevent releases of crude oil, NGLs or refined products into the environment from our pipelines, gathering systems, and terminals. Any damages and liabilities incurred due to future environmental releases from our assets have the potential to substantially affect our business and our ability to generate the cash flows necessary to make distributions or satisfy debt obligations.

## Rate Regulation

## General Interstate Regulation

Interstate common carrier pipeline operations are subject to rate regulation by the FERC under the Interstate Commerce Act, the Energy Policy Act of 1992, and related rules and orders. The Interstate Commerce Act requires that tariff rates for petroleum pipelines be "just and reasonable" and not unduly discriminatory. This statute also permits interested persons to challenge proposed new or changed rates and authorizes the FERC to suspend the effectiveness of such rates for up to seven months and to investigate such rates. If, upon completion of an investigation, the FERC finds that the new or changed rate is unlawful, it is authorized to require the carrier to refund revenues in excess of the prior tariff during the term of the investigation. The FERC also may investigate, upon complaint or on its own motion, rates that are already in effect and may order a carrier to change its rates prospectively. Upon an appropriate showing, a shipper may obtain reparations for damages sustained for a period of up to two years prior to the filing of a complaint.

The FERC generally has not investigated interstate rates on its own initiative when those rates, like those we charge, have not been the subject of a protest or a complaint by a shipper. However, the FERC could investigate our rates at the urging of a third party if the third party is either a current shipper or has a substantial economic interest in the tariff rate level. Although no assurance can be given that the tariffs charged by us ultimately will be upheld if challenged, management believes that the tariffs now in effect for our pipelines are in compliance with the rates allowed under current FERC guidelines.

We have been approved by the FERC to charge market-based rates in most of the refined products locations served by our pipeline systems. In those locations where market-based rates have been approved, we are able to establish rates that are based upon competitive market conditions.

## **Intrastate Regulation**

Some of our pipeline operations are subject to regulation by the Railroad Commission of Texas ("Texas RRC"), the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("PA PUC") and other state regulatory agencies, as applicable. The operations of our joint venture interests are also subject to regulation in the states in which they operate. The applicable state statutes require that pipeline rates be nondiscriminatory and provide no more than a fair return on the

aggregate value of the pipeline property used to render services. State commissions generally have not initiated an investigation of rates or practices of petroleum pipelines in the absence of shipper complaints. Complaints to state agencies have been infrequent and are usually resolved informally. Although management cannot be certain that our intrastate rates ultimately would be upheld if challenged, we believe that, given this history, the tariffs now in effect are not likely to be challenged or, if challenged, are not likely to be ordered to be reduced.

## Title to Properties

Substantially all of our pipelines were constructed on rights-of-way granted by the apparent record owners of the property and, in limited instances, these rights-of-way are revocable at the election of the grantor. Several rights-of-way for the pipelines and other real property assets are shared with other pipelines and other assets owned by affiliates of Sunoco and by third parties. In many instances, lands over which rights-of-way have been obtained are subject to prior liens that have not been subordinated to the right-of-way grants. We have obtained permits from public authorities to cross over or under, or to lay facilities in or along, watercourses, county roads, municipal streets, and state highways and, in some instances, these permits are revocable at the election of the grantor. We have also obtained permits from railroad companies to cross over or under lands or rights-of-way, many of which are also revocable at the grantor's election. In some cases, property for pipeline purposes was purchased in fee. In some states and under some circumstances, we have the right of eminent domain to acquire rights-of-way and lands necessary for the common carrier pipelines. The previous owners of the applicable pipelines may not have commenced or concluded eminent domain proceedings for some rights-of-way.

Some of the leases, easements, rights-of-way, permits, and licenses acquired by us or transferred to us upon the closing of the IPO require the consent of the grantor to transfer these rights, which in some instances is a governmental entity. We have obtained or are in the process of obtaining third-party consents, permits, and authorizations sufficient for the transfer of the assets necessary to operate the business in all material respects. In our opinion, with respect to any consents, permits, or authorizations that have not been obtained, the failure to obtain them will not have a material adverse effect on the operation of our business.

We have satisfactory title to substantially all of the assets contributed in connection with the IPO. Although titles to these properties are subject to encumbrances in some cases, such as customary interests generally retained in connection with acquisition of real property, liens for environmental contamination, taxes and other burdens, easements, or other restrictions, management believes that none of these burdens materially detract from the value of the properties or will materially interfere with their use in the operation of our business. Employees

We have no employees. To carry out the operations of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., our general partner and its affiliates employed approximately 2,500 people at December 31, 2015 who provide direct support to the operations. Labor unions or associations represented approximately 1,225 of these employees at December 31, 2015.

(d) Financial Information about Geographical Areas

We do not have significant amounts of revenue or segment profit or loss attributable to international activities.

(e) Available Information

We make available, free of charge on our website, www.sunocologistics.com, periodic reports that we file with the Securities Exchange Commission ("SEC"), including our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and amendments to those reports, as soon as reasonably practicable after such materials are electronically filed with, or furnished to, the SEC.

#### ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

We believe that the following risk factors address the known material risks related to our business, partnership structure and debt obligations, as well as the material tax risks to our common unitholders. If any of the following risks were to actually occur, our business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows, as well as any related benefits of owning our securities, could be materially and adversely affected.

Energy Transfer Partners, L.P. ("ETP") is the controlling member of our general partner interest and receives all of our incentive distribution rights. Additionally, ETP owns 67.1 million common units and 9.4 million Class B units, which represents a 27.1 percent limited partner ownership interest in the Partnership. We are a consolidated subsidiary of ETP.

The risk factor information presented below reflects the impacts of these transactions, including the change in the general partner ownership, and the ongoing business implications.

## RISKS RELATED TO OUR BUSINESS

If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow, our ability to pay quarterly distributions to our common unitholders at current levels or to increase our quarterly distributions in the future, could be materially impaired.

Our ability to pay quarterly distributions depends primarily on cash flow, including cash flow from financial reserves and credit facilities, and not solely on profitability, which is affected by non-cash items. As a result, we may pay cash distributions during periods when we record net losses and may be unable to pay cash distributions during periods when we record net income. Our ability to generate sufficient cash from operations is largely dependent on our ability to successfully manage our businesses which may also be affected by economic, financial, competitive, and regulatory factors that are beyond our control. To the extent we do not have adequate cash reserves, our ability to pay quarterly distributions to our common unitholders at current levels could be materially impaired.

An increase in interest rates may cause the market price of our units to decline.

Like all equity investments, an investment in our units is subject to certain risks. In exchange for accepting these risks, investors may expect to receive a higher rate of return than would otherwise be obtainable from lower-risk investments. Accordingly, as interest rates rise, the ability of investors to obtain higher risk-adjusted rates of return by purchasing government-backed debt securities may cause a corresponding decline in demand for riskier investments generally, including yield-based equity investments such as publicly traded limited partnership interests. Reduced demand for our units resulting from investors seeking other investment opportunities may cause the trading price of our units to decline.

A material decrease in demand driven by unfavorable crude oil prices could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

The volume of crude oil transported through our integrated pipelines, terminal facilities and acquisition and marketing assets depends on the availability of attractively priced crude oil produced or received in the areas served by our assets. A period of sustained crude oil price declines, as experienced in 2014 and 2015, could lead to a decline in drilling activity, production and import levels in these areas. Similarly, a period of sustained increases in the price of crude oil supplied from any of these areas, as compared to alternative sources of crude oil available to our customers, could materially reduce demand for crude oil in the these areas. In either case, the volumes of crude oil transported through our pipelines, terminal facilities and acquisition and marketing assets could decline, and it could likely be difficult to secure alternative sources of attractively priced crude supply in a timely fashion or at all. If we are unable to replace any significant volume declines with additional volumes from other sources, our results of operations, financial position or cash flows could be materially and adversely affected.

A material decrease in demand resulting from unfavorable natural gas liquids ("NGLs") prices could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

Any significant and prolonged change in the actual or expected demand for NGLs could have an adverse impact on the volumes transported through our pipelines and/or terminals, or bought and sold through our acquisition and marketing assets. Changes in demand could result from additional regulatory restrictions on the extraction of NGLs that would significantly increase the cost of extraction and procurement; changes in technology affecting the mix of energy products available; or changes in laws, regulations, or costs related to exportation. Any material decrease in demand could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

A sustained decrease in demand for refined products in the markets served by our pipelines and terminals could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

The following are material factors that could lead to a sustained decrease in market demand for refined products: a sustained recession or other adverse economic conditions that result in lower purchases of refined petroleum products:

higher refined products prices due to an increase in the market price of crude oil, changes in economic conditions, or other factors:

higher fuel taxes or other governmental or regulatory actions that increase, directly or indirectly, the cost of gasoline or other refined products;

a shift by consumers to more fuel-efficient or alternative fuel vehicles or an increase in fuel economy, whether as a result of technological advances by manufacturers, pending legislation proposing to mandate higher fuel economy, or otherwise; and

a temporary or permanent material increase in the price of refined products as compared to alternative sources of refined products available to our customers.

Any reduction in throughput capacity available to our shippers, including our crude oil, NGLs and refined products acquisition and marketing businesses, on either our pipelines or interconnecting third-party pipelines could cause a reduction of volumes transported through our pipelines and our terminals.

Users of our pipelines and terminals are dependent upon our pipelines, as well as connections to third-party pipelines, to receive and deliver crude oil, NGLs and refined products. Any interruptions or reduction in the capabilities of our pipelines or these interconnecting pipelines due to testing, line repair, reduced operating pressures, or other causes would result in reduced volumes transported through our pipelines or our terminals. If additional shippers begin transporting volume over interconnecting pipelines, the allocations to our existing shippers on these interconnecting pipelines could be reduced, which also could reduce volumes transported through our pipelines or our terminals. Allocation reductions of this nature are not infrequent and are beyond our control. Any such interruptions or allocation reductions that, individually or in the aggregate, are material or continue for a sustained period of time could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

Similarly, our crude oil, NGLs and refined products acquisition and marketing businesses are dependent upon our pipelines and third-party pipelines to transport their products. Any material interruptions or allocations that affect the ability of those businesses to transport products, or the cost of such transportation, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

If we are unable to complete capital projects at their expected costs and/or in a timely manner, or if the market conditions assumed in our project economics deteriorate, our results of operations, financial condition, or cash flows could be affected materially and adversely.

Delays or cost increases related to capital spending programs involving construction of new facilities (or improvements and repairs to our existing facilities) could adversely affect our ability to achieve forecasted operating results. Although we evaluate and monitor each capital spending project and try to anticipate difficulties that may arise, such delays or cost increases may arise as a result of factors that are beyond our control, including:

denial or delay in issuing requisite regulatory approvals and/or permits;

unplanned increases in the cost of construction materials or labor;

disruptions in transportation of modular components and/or construction materials;

severe adverse weather conditions, natural disasters, or other events (such as equipment malfunctions, explosions,

fires, releases) affecting our facilities, or those of vendors and suppliers;

shortages of sufficiently skilled labor, or labor disagreements resulting in unplanned work stoppages;

changes in market conditions impacting long lead-time projects;

market-related increases in a project's debt or equity financing costs; and

nonperformance by, or disputes with, vendors, suppliers, contractors, or sub-contractors involved with a project.

Our forecasted operating results also are based upon our projections of future market fundamentals that are not within our control, including changes in general economic conditions, availability to our customers of attractively priced alternative supplies of crude oil, NGLs and refined products and overall customer demand.

An impairment of goodwill and intangible assets could reduce our earnings.

At December 31, 2015, our consolidated balance sheet reflected \$1.36 billion of goodwill and \$718 million of intangible assets. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States require us to test goodwill for impairment on an annual basis or when events or circumstances occur, indicating that goodwill might be impaired. Long-lived assets, such as intangible assets with finite useful lives, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. If we determine that any of our goodwill or intangible assets were impaired, we would be required to take an immediate non-cash charge to earnings with a correlative effect on partners' capital and balance sheet leverage as measured by debt to total capitalization. For additional information on our goodwill impairment test, see Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements included in Item 8. "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data."

Future acquisitions and expansions may increase substantially the level of our indebtedness and contingent liabilities, and we may be unable to integrate them effectively into our existing operations.

We evaluate and acquire assets and businesses that we believe complement or diversify our existing assets and businesses. Acquisitions may require substantial capital or a substantial increase in indebtedness. If we consummate any future material acquisitions, our capitalization and results of operations may change significantly.

Acquisitions and business expansions involve numerous risks, including difficulties in the assimilation of the assets and operations of the acquired businesses, inefficiencies and difficulties that arise because of unfamiliarity with new assets, new geographic areas and the businesses associated with them. Further, unexpected costs and challenges may arise whenever businesses with different operations or management are combined and we may experience unanticipated delays in realizing the benefits of an acquisition. In some cases, we have indemnified the previous owners and operators of acquired assets.

Following an acquisition, we may discover previously unknown liabilities associated with the acquired business for which we have no recourse under applicable indemnification provisions. In addition, the terms of an acquisition may require us to assume certain prior known or unknown liabilities for which we may not be indemnified or have adequate insurance.

Our operations are subject to operational hazards and unforeseen interruptions for which we may not be adequately insured.

Our operations, and those of our customers and suppliers, may be subject to operational hazards or unforeseen interruptions such as natural disasters, adverse weather, accidents, fires, explosions, hazardous materials releases, and other events beyond our control. If one or more of the facilities that we own, or any third-party facilities that we receive from or deliver to, are damaged by any disaster, accident, catastrophe or other event, our operations could be significantly interrupted. These interruptions might involve a loss of equipment or life, injury, extensive property damage, or maintenance and repair outages. The duration of the interruption will depend on the seriousness of the damages or required repairs. We may not be able to maintain or obtain insurance to cover these types of interruptions, or in coverage amounts desired, at reasonable rates. In some instances, certain insurance could become unavailable or available only for reduced amounts of coverage. Any event that interrupts the revenues generated by our operations, or which causes us to make significant expenditures not covered by insurance, could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

We have various credit terms with virtually all of our customers, and our customers have varying degrees of creditworthiness. Although we evaluate the creditworthiness of each of our customers, we may not always be able to fully anticipate or detect deterioration in their creditworthiness and overall financial condition, which could expose us to an increased risk of nonpayment or other default under our contracts and other arrangements with them. In the event that a material customer or customers default on their payment obligations to us, this could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

Mergers among our customers and competitors could result in lower volumes being shipped on our pipelines or products stored in or distributed through our terminals, or reduced marketing margins and/or volumes. Mergers between existing customers could provide strong economic incentives for the combined entities to utilize their existing systems instead of ours in those markets where the systems compete. As a result, we could lose some or all of the volumes and associated revenues from these customers and we could experience difficulty in replacing those lost volumes and revenues, which could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

Rate regulation or market conditions may not allow us to recover the full amount of increases in our costs. Additionally, a successful challenge to our rates could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

The primary rate-making methodology of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") is price indexing. We use this methodology in many of our interstate markets. In an order issued in December 2010, the FERC announced that, effective July 1, 2011, the index would equal the change in the producer price index for finished goods plus 2.65 percent (previously, the index was equal to the change in the producer price index for finished goods plus 1.3 percent). This index is to be in effect through July 2016. In an order issued December 2015, the FERC announced that, effective July 1, 2016, the index would equal the change in the producer price index for finished goods plus 1.23 percent. This index is to be effective through July 2021. If the changes in the index result in a rate reduction or are not large enough to fully reflect actual increases to our costs, our financial condition could be adversely affected. If the index results in a rate increase that is substantially in excess of the pipeline's actual cost increases, or it results in a rate decrease that is substantially less than the pipeline's actual cost decrease, the rates may be protested, and, if successful, result in the lowering of the pipeline's rates. The FERC's rate-making methodologies may limit our ability to set rates based on our true costs or may delay the use of rates that reflect increased costs. Under the Energy Policy Act of 1992, certain interstate pipeline rates were deemed just and reasonable or "grandfathered." On our FERC-regulated pipelines, most of our revenues are derived from such grandfathered rates. A person challenging a grandfathered rate must, as a threshold matter, establish a substantial change since the date of enactment of the Act, in either the economic circumstances or the nature of the service that formed the basis for the rate. If the FERC were to find a substantial change in circumstances, then the existing rates could be subject to detailed review. There is a risk that some rates could be found to be in excess of levels justified by our cost of service. In such event, the FERC would order us to reduce rates prospectively and could order us to pay reparations to shippers. Reparations could be required for a period of up to two years prior to the date of filing the complaint in the case of rates that are not grandfathered and for the period starting with the filing of the complaint in the case of grandfathered rates.

In addition, a state commission could also investigate our intrastate rates or terms and conditions of service on its own initiative or at the urging of a shipper or other interested party. If a state commission found that our rates exceeded levels justified by our cost of service, the state commission could order us to reduce our rates.

Potential changes to current rate-making methods and procedures may impact the federal and state regulations under which we will operate in the future. In addition, if the FERC's petroleum pipeline rate-making methodology changes, the new methodology could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows. Our operations are subject to federal, state, and local laws and regulations relating to environmental protection and operational safety that could require substantial expenditures.

Our pipelines, gathering systems, and terminal operations are subject to increasingly strict environmental and safety laws and regulations. The transportation and storage of crude oil, NGLs and refined products result in a risk that crude oil, NGLs and refined products, and other hydrocarbons may be suddenly or gradually released into the environment, potentially causing substantial expenditures for a response action, significant government penalties, liability to government agencies for natural resource damages, personal injury, or property damage to private parties, and significant business interruption. We own or lease a number of properties that have been used to store or distribute crude oil, NGLs and refined products for many years. Many of these properties also have been previously owned or operated by third parties whose handling, disposal, or release of hydrocarbons and other wastes were not under our control, and for which, in some cases, we have indemnified the previous owners and operators.

Our pipeline operations are subject to regulation by the Department of Transportation ("DOT"), under the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration ("PHMSA"), pursuant to which PHMSA has established requirements relating to the design, installation, testing, construction, operation, replacement and management of pipeline facilities. Moreover, PHMSA, through the Office of Pipeline Safety, has promulgated rules requiring pipeline operators to develop integrity management programs to comprehensively evaluate their pipelines, and take measures to protect pipeline segments located in what the rule refers to as "high consequence areas." Activities under these integrity management programs involve the performance of internal pipeline inspections, pressure testing or other effective means to assess the integrity of these regulated pipeline

segments, and the regulations require prompt action to address integrity issues raised by the assessment and analysis. Integrity testing and assessment of all of these assets will continue, and the potential exists that results of such testing and assessment could cause us to incur even greater capital and operating expenditures for repairs or upgrades deemed necessary to ensure the continued safe and reliable operation of our pipelines.

In addition, we are subject to a number of federal and state laws and regulations, including Occupational Safety and Health Administration, ("OSHA") and comparable state statutes, the purposes of which are to protect the health and safety of workers, both generally and within the pipeline industry. In addition, the OSHA hazard communication standard, the EPA, community right-to-know regulations under Title III of the federal Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act and comparable state statutes require that information be maintained concerning hazardous materials used or produced in our operations and that such information be provided to employees, state and local government authorities and citizens. We are also subject to OSHA Process Safety Management regulations, which are designed to prevent or minimize the consequences of catastrophic releases of toxic, reactive, flammable or explosive chemicals. These regulations apply to any process which involves a chemical at or above specified thresholds or any process which involves flammable liquid or gas, pressurized tanks, caverns or wells. Flammable liquids stored in atmospheric tanks below their normal boiling points without the benefit of chilling or refrigeration are exempt. Failure to comply with these laws and regulations may result in assessment of administrative, civil and criminal penalties, imposition of cleanup and site restoration costs and liens and, to a lesser extent, issuance of injunctions to limit or cease operations. We may be unable to recover these costs through increased revenues.

Our business is subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations that govern the product quality specifications of the petroleum products that we store and transport.

The petroleum products that we store and transport are sold by our customers for consumption into the public market. Various federal, state and local agencies have the authority to prescribe specific product quality specifications to commodities sold into the public market. Changes in product quality specifications could reduce our throughput volume, require us to incur additional handling costs or require the expenditure of significant capital. In addition, different product specifications for different markets impact the fungibility of products transported and stored in our pipeline systems and terminal facilities and could require the construction of additional storage to segregate products with different specifications. We may be unable to recover these costs through increased revenues.

In addition, the operations of our butane blending services are reliant upon gasoline vapor pressure specifications. Significant changes in such specifications could reduce butane blending opportunities, which would affect our ability to market our butane blending service licenses and would ultimately affect our ability to recover the costs incurred to acquire and integrate our butane blending assets.

Climate change legislation or regulations restricting emissions of "greenhouse gases" could result in increased operating costs and reduced demand for our services.

The U.S. Senate has considered legislation to restrict U.S. emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases ("GHG") that may contribute to global warming and climate change. Many states, either individually or through multi-state regional initiatives, have begun implementing legal measures to reduce GHG emissions. The U.S. House of Representatives has previously approved legislation to establish a "cap-and-trade" program, whereby the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") would issue a capped and steadily declining number of tradable emissions allowances to certain major GHG emission sources so they could continue to emit GHGs into the atmosphere. The cost of such allowances would be expected to escalate significantly over time, making the combustion of carbon-based fuels (e.g., refined petroleum products, oil and natural gas) increasingly expensive. Beginning in 2011, EPA regulations required specified large domestic GHG sources to report emissions above a certain threshold occurring after January 1, 2010. Our facilities are not subject to this reporting requirement since our GHG emissions are below the applicable threshold. In addition, the EPA has proposed new regulations, under the federal Clean Air Act, that would require a reduction in GHG emissions from motor vehicles and could trigger permit review for GHG emissions from certain stationary sources. It is not possible at this time to predict how pending legislation or new regulations to address GHG emissions would impact our business. However, the adoption and implementation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations limiting GHG emissions in the U.S. could adversely affect the demand for our crude oil, NGLs or refined products transportation and storage services, and result in increased compliance costs, reduced

volumes or additional operating restrictions.

Terrorist attacks aimed at our facilities could adversely affect our business.

The U.S. government has issued warnings that energy assets, specifically the nation's pipeline and terminal infrastructure, may be the future targets of terrorist organizations. Any terrorist attack at our facilities, those of our customers and, in some cases, those of other pipelines, refineries, or terminals could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

Our risk management policies cannot eliminate all commodity risk, and our use of hedging arrangements could result in financial losses or reduce our income. In addition, any non-compliance with our risk management policies could result in significant financial losses.

We follow risk management practices designed to minimize commodity risk, and engage in hedging arrangements to reduce our exposure to fluctuations in the prices of certain products we market. These hedging arrangements expose us to risk of financial loss in some circumstances, including when the counterparty to the hedging contract defaults on its contract obligations, or when there is a change in the expected differential between the underlying price in the hedging agreement and the actual prices received. In addition, these hedging arrangements may limit the benefit we would otherwise receive from increases in prices for such products.

We have adopted risk management policies designed to manage risks associated with our businesses. However, these policies cannot eliminate all price-related risks, and there is also the risk of non-compliance with such policies. We cannot make any assurances that we will detect and prevent all violations of our risk management practices and policies, particularly if deception or other intentional misconduct is involved. Any violations of our risk management practices or policies by our employees or agents could result in significant financial losses.

We do not own all of the land on which our pipelines and facilities are located, and we lease certain facilities and equipment, which subjects us to the possibility of increased costs to retain necessary land use which could disrupt our operations.

We do not own all of the land on which certain of our pipelines and facilities are located, and we are, therefore, subject to the risk of increased costs to maintain necessary land use. We obtain the rights to construct and operate certain of our pipelines and related facilities on land owned by third parties and governmental agencies for a specific period of time. Our loss of these rights, through our inability to renew rights-of-way contracts on acceptable terms, or increased costs to renew such rights could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. In addition, we are subject to the possibility of increased costs under our rental agreements with landowners, primarily through rental increases and renewals of expired agreements.

Whether we have the power of eminent domain for our pipelines varies from state to state, depending upon the type of pipeline (e.g., common carrier), type of products shipped on the pipeline and the laws of the particular state. In either case, we must compensate landowners for the use of their property and, in eminent domain actions, such compensation may be determined by a court. Our inability to exercise the power of eminent domain could negatively affect our business if we were to lose the right to use or occupy the property on which our pipelines are located. Additionally, certain facilities and equipment (or parts thereof) used by us are leased from third parties for specific periods. Our inability to renew equipment leases or otherwise maintain the right to utilize such facilities and equipment on acceptable terms, or the increased costs to maintain such rights, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and cash flows.

A portion of our general and administrative services have been outsourced to outside service providers. Fraudulent activity or misuse of proprietary data involving our outsourcing partners could expose us to additional liability. We utilize both affiliated entities and third parties in the processing of our information and data. Breaches of our security measures or the accidental loss, inadvertent disclosure or unapproved dissemination of proprietary information, or sensitive or confidential data about us or our customers, including the potential loss or disclosure of such information or data as a result of fraud or other forms of deception, could expose us to a risk of loss, or misuse of this information, result in litigation and potential liability for us, lead to reputational damage, increase our compliance costs, or otherwise harm our business.

Cybersecurity breaches and other disruptions could compromise our information and expose us to liability, which would cause our business and reputation to suffer.

In the ordinary course of our business, we collect and store sensitive data, including intellectual property, our proprietary business information and that of our customers, suppliers and business partners, and personal identification information of our employees, in our data centers and on our networks. The secure processing, maintenance and transmission of this information is critical to our operations and business strategy. Despite our security measures, our information technology and infrastructure may be vulnerable to attacks by hackers or breached due to employee error, malfeasance or other disruptions. Any such breach could compromise our networks and the information stored there could be accessed, publicly disclosed, lost or stolen. Any such access, disclosure or other loss of information could result in legal claims or proceedings, liability under laws that protect the privacy of personal information, regulatory penalties, disruption of our operations, damage to our reputation, and cause a loss of confidence in our products and services, which could adversely affect our business.

Our operations could be disrupted if our information systems fail, causing increased expenses and/or loss of sales. Our business is highly dependent on financial, accounting and other data processing systems and other communications and information systems. We process a large number of transactions on a daily basis and rely upon the proper functioning of computer systems. If a key system was to fail or experience unscheduled downtime for any reason, even if only for a short period, our operations and financial results could be affected adversely. Our systems could be damaged or interrupted by a security breach, fire, flood, power loss, telecommunications failure or similar event. We have a formal disaster recovery plan in place, but this plan may not entirely prevent delays or other complications that could arise from an information systems failure. Our business interruption insurance may not compensate us adequately for losses that may occur.

Our business could be affected adversely by union disputes and strikes or work stoppages by our unionized employees.

As of December 31, 2015, approximately 49 percent of our workforce was covered by a number of collective bargaining agreements with various terms and dates of expiration. There can be no assurances that we will not experience a work stoppage in the future as a result of labor disagreements. Any work stoppages could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

We do not control, and therefore may not be able to cause or prevent certain actions by, certain of our joint ventures. Certain of our joint ventures have their own governing boards, and we may not control all of the decisions of those boards. Consequently, it may be difficult or impossible for us to cause the joint venture entity to take actions that we believe would be in our or the joint venture's best interests. Likewise, we may be unable to prevent actions of the joint venture.

#### RISKS RELATED TO OUR PARTNERSHIP STRUCTURE

Our general partner's discretion in determining the level of cash reserves may adversely affect our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

Our partnership agreement provides that our general partner may reduce our operating surplus by establishing cash reserves to provide funds for our future operating expenditures. In addition, the partnership agreement provides that our general partner may reduce available cash by establishing cash reserves for the proper conduct of our business, to comply with applicable law or agreements to which we are a party or to provide funds for future distributions to our unitholders in any one or more of the next four quarters. These cash reserves will affect the amount of cash available for current distribution to our unitholders.

Even if unitholders are dissatisfied, they have limited rights under the partnership agreement to remove our general partner without its consent, which could lower the trading price of the common units.

The partnership agreement also contains provisions limiting the ability of unitholders to call meetings or to acquire information about our operations, as well as other provisions limiting the unitholders' ability to influence the manner or direction of management. Unlike the holders of common stock in a corporation, unitholders have only limited voting rights on matters affecting our business and, therefore, limited ability to influence management's decisions regarding our business. Unitholders did not elect our general partner or its board of directors and will have no right to elect our general partner or its board of directors of our general partner is chosen by ETP, the controlling member of our general partner. Furthermore, if the unitholders are dissatisfied with the performance of our general partner, they will have little ability to remove our general partner. As a result of these limitations, the price at which the common units trade could be diminished because of the absence or reduction of a control premium in the trading price.

Our general partner may, in its sole discretion, approve the issuance of partnership securities and specify the terms of such partnership securities.

Pursuant to our partnership agreement, our general partner has the ability, in its sole discretion and without the approval of the unitholders, to approve the issuance of securities by the Partnership at any time and to specify the terms and conditions of such securities. The securities authorized to be issued may be issued in one or more classes or series, with such designations, preferences, rights, powers and duties (which may be senior to existing classes and series of partnership securities), as shall be determined by our general partner, including:

- •the right to share in the Partnership's profits and losses;
- the right to share in the Partnership's distributions;
- the rights upon dissolution and liquidation of the Partnership;
- whether, and the terms upon which, the Partnership may redeem the securities;
- whether the securities will be issued, evidenced by certificates and assigned or transferred; and
- the right, if any, of the security to vote on matters relating to the Partnership, including matters relating to the relative rights, preferences and privileges of such security.

Please see "We may issue additional common units without unitholder approval, which would dilute our unitholders' ownership interests." below.

The control of our general partner may be transferred to a third party without unitholder consent.

Our general partner has the right to transfer its general partner interest to a third party in a merger or in a sale of all or substantially all of its assets without the consent of the unitholders. Furthermore, there is no restriction in the partnership agreement on the ability of the owner of our general partner from transferring its ownership interest in the general partner to a third party. The new owner of our general partner would then be in a position to replace the board of directors and officers of the general partner with its own appointees.

Conflicts of interest may arise between us and ETP as they are the controlling owner of our general partner, which, due to limited fiduciary responsibilities, may permit ETP and its affiliates to favor their own interests to the detriment of our unitholders.

ETP is the controlling owner of our general partner interest and owns 27.1 percent of our limited partnership interests, including ownership of our outstanding Class B units. Conflicts may arise between the interests of ETP and its affiliates (including our general partner), and our interests and those of our unitholders. As a result of these conflicts, our general partner may favor its own interests and the interests of its affiliates (including ETP) over the interests of our unitholders. Our partnership agreement provides that our general partner may resolve any conflicts of interest involving us and our general partner and its affiliates, and any resolution of a conflict of interest by our general partner that is "fair and reasonable" to us will be deemed approved by all partners, including the unitholders, and will not constitute a breach of the partnership agreement These conflicts may include, among others, the following situations: ETP and its affiliates may engage in competition with us. Neither our partnership agreement nor any other agreement requires ETP to pursue a business strategy that favors us or utilizes our assets, and our general partner may consider the interests of parties other than us, such as ETP, in resolving conflicts of interest; under our partnership agreement, our general partner's fiduciary duties are restricted, and our unitholders have only limited remedies available in the event of conduct constituting a potential breach of fiduciary duty by our general

partner;
our general partner determines the amount and timing of asset purchases and sales, capital expenditures,
borrowings, issuance of additional partnership securities, and reserves, each of which can affect the amount of
cash available for distribution to our unitholders and the amount received by our general partner in respect of

its incentive distribution rights ("IDRs");

our general partner determines which costs incurred by ETP and its affiliates are reimbursable by us; and our partnership agreement does not restrict our general partner from causing us to pay it or its affiliates for services rendered, or from entering into additional contractual arrangements with any of these entities on our behalf, so long as the terms of any additional contractual arrangements are fair and reasonable to us; and our general partner controls the enforcement of obligations owed to us by our general partner and its affiliates.

We are a holding company. We conduct our operations through our subsidiaries and depend on cash flow from our subsidiaries to pay distributions to our unitholders and service our debt obligations.

We are a holding company. We conduct our operations through our subsidiaries. As a result, our cash flow and ability to pay distributions to our unitholders and to service our debt is dependent upon the earnings of our subsidiaries. In addition, we are dependent on the distribution of earnings, loans or other payments from our subsidiaries to us. Any payment of dividends, distributions, loans or other payments from our subsidiaries to us could be subject to statutory or contractual restrictions. Payments to us by our subsidiaries also will be contingent upon the profitability of our subsidiaries. If we are unable to obtain funds from our subsidiaries we may not be able to pay distributions to our unitholders or pay interest or principal on our debt securities when due.

Our general partner may cause us to borrow funds in order to make cash distributions, even where the purpose or effect of the borrowing benefits the general partner or its affiliates.

ETP is the controlling owner of our general partner and also owns 27.1 percent of our limited partnership interests, including our outstanding Class B units, and all of our IDRs. Our general partner may cause us to borrow funds from affiliates of ETP or from third parties in order to pay cash distributions to our unitholders and to our general partner, including distributions with respect to our general partner's IDRs.

Our general partner has a limited call right that may require our unitholders to sell their common units at an undesirable time or price.

If at any time our general partner and its affiliates own more than 80 percent of the common units, our general partner will have the right, but not the obligation, 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 at a price not less than their then-current market price. As a result, unitholders may be required to sell their common units at an undesirable time or price, may not receive a return on the investment, and may incur a tax liability upon the sale.

We may issue additional common units without unitholder approval, which would dilute our unitholders' ownership interests.

We may issue an unlimited number of common units or other limited partner interests, including limited partner interests that rank senior to our common units, without the approval of our unitholders. The issuance of additional common units, or other equity securities of equal or senior rank, will decrease the proportionate ownership interest of existing unitholders and reduce the amount of cash available for distribution to our common unitholders and may adversely affect the market price of our common units.

A unitholder may not have limited liability if a state or federal court finds that we are not in compliance with the applicable statutes or that unitholder action constitutes control of our business.

The limitations on the liability of holders of limited partner interests for the obligations of a limited partnership have not been clearly established in some states. A unitholder could be held liable in some circumstances for our obligations to the same extent as a general partner if a state or federal court determined that:

we had been conducting business in any state without complying with the applicable limited partnership statute; or the right or the exercise of the right by the unitholders as a group to remove or replace our general partner, to approve some amendments to the partnership agreement, or to take other action under the partnership agreement constituted participation in the "control" of our business.

Under applicable state law, our general partner has unlimited liability for our obligations, including our debts and environmental liabilities, if any, except for our contractual obligations that are expressly made without recourse to our general partner.

In addition, Section 17-607 of the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act provides that under some circumstances a unitholder may be liable to us for the amount of a distribution for a period of three years from the date of the distribution.

#### RISKS RELATED TO OUR DEBT

References under this heading to "we," "us," and "our" mean Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. We may not be able to obtain funding, or obtain funding on acceptable terms, to meet our future capital needs. Global market and economic conditions have been, and continue to be, volatile. The debt and equity capital markets have been impacted by, among other things, significant write-offs in the financial services sector and the re-pricing of credit risk in the broadly syndicated market.

As a result, the cost of raising money in the debt and equity capital markets could be higher and the availability of funds from those markets could be diminished if we seek access to those markets. Accordingly, we cannot be certain that additional funding will be available, if needed and to the extent required, on acceptable terms. If additional funding is not available when needed, or is available only on unfavorable terms, we may be unable to implement our business plan, enhance our existing business, complete acquisitions or otherwise take advantage of business opportunities, or respond to competitive pressures, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and results of operations.

Restrictions in our debt agreements may prevent us from engaging in some beneficial transactions or paying distributions to unitholders.

As of December 31, 2015, our total outstanding indebtedness was \$5.54 billion, excluding net unamortized fair value adjustments, bond discounts and debt issuance costs. Our payment of principal and interest on the debt will reduce the cash available for distribution on our units, as will our obligation to repurchase the senior notes upon the occurrence of specified events involving a change in control of our general partner. In addition, we are prohibited by our credit facilities and the senior notes from making cash distributions during an event of default, or if the payment of a distribution would cause an event of default under any of our debt agreements. Our leverage and various limitations in our credit facilities and senior notes may reduce our ability to incur additional debt, engage in some transactions, and capitalize on acquisition or other business opportunities. Any subsequent refinancing of our current debt or any new debt could have similar or greater restrictions.

We could incur a substantial amount of debt in the future, which could prevent us from fulfilling our debt obligations. We are permitted to incur additional debt, subject to certain limitations under our revolving credit facilities and, in the case of secured debt, under the indenture governing the notes. If we incur additional debt in the future, our increased leverage could, for example:

make it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations under our debt securities or other indebtedness and, if we fail to comply with the requirements of the other indebtedness, could result in an event of default under our debt securities or such other indebtedness;

require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to required payments on indebtedness, thereby reducing the availability of cash flow from working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate activities;

limit our ability to obtain additional financing in the future for working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate activities;

limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry in which we operate; detract from our ability to successfully withstand a downturn in our business or the economy, generally; and place us at a competitive disadvantage against less leveraged competitors.

Our notes and related guarantees are effectively subordinated to any secured debt of ours or the guarantor, as well as to any debt of our non-guarantor subsidiaries, and, in the event of our bankruptcy or liquidation, holders of our notes will be paid from any assets remaining after payments to any holders of our secured debt.

Our notes and related guarantees are general unsecured senior obligations of us and the guarantor, respectively, and effectively subordinated to any secured debt that we or the guarantor may have to the extent of the value of the assets securing that debt. The indentures permit the guarantor and us to incur secured debt provided certain conditions are met. Our notes are effectively subordinated to the liabilities of any of our subsidiaries unless such subsidiaries guarantee such notes in the future.

If we are declared bankrupt or insolvent, or are liquidated, the holders of our secured debt will be entitled to be paid from our assets securing their debt before any payment may be made with respect to our notes. If any of the preceding

events occur, we may not have sufficient assets to pay amounts due on our secured debt and our notes.

We do not have the same flexibility as other types of organizations to accumulate cash, which may limit cash available to service our debt or to repay debt at maturity.

Our partnership agreement requires us to distribute 100 percent of our available cash to our general partner and Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. within 45 days following the end of every quarter. The Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. partnership agreement requires it to distribute 100 percent of its available cash to its unitholders of record within 45 days following the end of every quarter. Available cash with respect to any quarter is generally all of our or Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s, as applicable, cash on hand at the end of such quarter, less cash reserves for certain purposes. The controlling owner of our general partner and the board of directors of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s general partner will determine the amount and timing of such distributions and have broad discretion to establish and make additions to our or Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s reserves, as applicable, or the reserves of our or Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s operating subsidiaries, as applicable, as they determine are necessary or appropriate. As a result, we and Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. do not have the same flexibility as corporations or other entities that do not pay dividends or that have complete flexibility regarding the amounts they will distribute to their equity holders. Although our payment obligations to our partners are subordinate to our payment obligations on our debt, the timing and amount of our quarterly distributions to our partners could significantly reduce the cash available to pay the principal, premium (if any), and interest on our notes.

Rising short-term interest rates could increase our financing costs and reduce the amount of cash we generate. As of December 31, 2015, we had \$562 million of floating-rate debt outstanding. Rising short-term rates could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

Any reduction in our credit ratings or in ETP's credit ratings could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and liquidity.

We currently maintain an investment grade rating by Moody's, S&P and Fitch Ratings. However, our current ratings may not remain in effect for any given period of time and a rating may be lowered or withdrawn entirely by a rating agency if, in its judgment, circumstances in the future so warrant. If Moody's, S&P or Fitch Ratings were to downgrade our long-term rating, particularly below investment grade, our borrowing costs could significantly increase, which would adversely affect our financial results, and our potential pool of investors and funding sources could decrease. Further, due to our relationship with ETP, any downgrade in ETP's credit ratings could also result in a downgrade in our credit ratings. Ratings from credit agencies are not recommendations to buy, sell or hold our securities, and each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating.

#### TAX RISKS TO OUR COMMON UNITHOLDERS

Our tax treatment depends on our status as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, as well as our not being subject to a material amount of entity level taxation by individual states. If the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") treats us as a corporation or we become subject to a material amount of entity level taxation for state tax purposes, it would substantially reduce the amount of cash available for distribution to unitholders.

The anticipated after-tax economic benefit of an investment in the common units depends largely on our being treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. We have not requested, and do not plan to request, a ruling from the IRS on this matter. Despite the fact that we are a limited partnership under Pennsylvania law, we would be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes unless we satisfy a "qualifying income" requirement. We believe that we satisfy the qualifying income requirement based on our current operations. Failing to meet this requirement or a change in current law could cause us to be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes or otherwise subject us to taxation as an entity.

If we were treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, we would pay federal income tax at the corporate tax rate, and likely would pay state income tax at varying rates. Distributions to unitholders generally would be taxed again as corporate distributions, and none of our income, gains, losses or deductions would flow through to unitholders. Therefore, treatment of us as a corporation would result in a material reduction in anticipated cash flow and after-tax return to unitholders, likely causing a substantial reduction in the value of our common units. Our partnership agreement provides that if a law is enacted or existing law is modified or interpreted in a manner that subjects us to taxation as a corporation or otherwise subjects us to entity-level taxation for federal, state or local income tax purposes, the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution amounts may be adjusted to reflect the impact of that law on us. At the state level, several states have been evaluating ways to subject partnerships to entity-level taxation through the imposition of state income, franchise, or other forms of taxation. Imposition of a similar tax on us in the jurisdictions in which we operate or in other jurisdictions to which we may expand could substantially reduce our case available for distribution to our unitholders.

On November 2, 2015, President Obama signed into law the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (the "Act"). The Act includes significant changes to the rules governing the audits of entities that are treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes. The new rules under the Act, which are effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2017, repeal and replace the regimes under current the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act ("TEFRA") audit provisions for partnerships.

Under the new streamlined audit procedures, a partnership would be responsible for paying the imputed underpayment of tax resulting from the audit adjustments in the adjustment year even though partnerships are "pass-through entities." However, as an alternative to paying the imputed underpayment of tax at the partnership level, a partnership may elect to provide the audit adjustment information to the reviewed year partners, whom in turn would be responsible for paying the imputed underpayment of tax in the adjustment year.

Should a partnership not elect to pass the audit adjustments on to its partners, the partnerships imputed underpayment generally would be determined at the highest rate of tax in effect for the reviewed year. Currently, the highest rate of tax would be 39.6 percent for individual taxpayers. However, the Act authorizes the Treasury to establish procedures whereby the imputed underpayment amount may be modified to more accurately reflect the amount owed, if the partnership can substantiate a lower tax rate or demonstrate a portion of the imputed underpayment amount is allocable to a partner that would not owe tax (a tax exempt entity) or a partner has already paid the tax. It is not yet clear how state and local tax authorities will respond to the new regime. The Partnership is closely monitoring the development and issuance of regulations or other additional guidance under the new partnership audit regime. The sale or exchange of 50 percent or more of our capital and profit interests during any twelve-month period will result in our termination as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

Our partnership will be considered to have been terminated for tax purposes when there is a sale or exchange of 50 percent or more of the total interests in our capital and profits within a twelve-month period (a "technical termination"). For purposes of determining whether the 50 percent threshold has been met, multiple sales of the same interest will be counted only once. A sale or exchange would occur, for example, if we sold our business or merged with another company, or if any of our unitholders, including ETP and its affiliates, sold or transferred their

partnership interests in us. Our termination would, among other things, result in the closing of our taxable year for all of our unitholders which could result in us filing two tax returns (and unitholders receiving two Schedule K-1s) for one calendar year. Our termination could also result in a deferral of depreciation deductions allowable in computing our taxable income. Our termination would not affect our classification as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. Instead, we would be treated as a new partnership for federal income tax purposes, in which case we must make new tax elections and could be subject to penalties if we are unable to determine that a termination occurred. The IRS has recently announced a relief procedure whereby if a publicly traded partnership that has technically

terminated requests and the IRS grants special relief, among other things, the partnership may be permitted to provide only a single Schedule K-1 to unitholders for the tax years in which the termination occurs.

As a result of ETP's acquisition of the Partnership in October 2012, the 50 percent threshold described above was exceeded. Our classification as a partnership was not affected, but instead, we were treated as a new partnership for federal income tax purposes. The technical termination resulted 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 may have resulted in more than twelve months of our taxable income or loss being included in the unitholder's taxable income for the year of termination. As a result of the technical termination, we were required to file two tax returns for the calendar year 2012. We were required to make new tax elections after the technical termination, including a new election under Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code, and the termination resulted in a deferral of our deductions for depreciation. A termination could also result in penalties if we had been unable to determine that the termination had occurred. Moreover, the technical termination could accelerate the application of, or subject us to, any tax legislation enacted before the technical termination. The IRS has recently announced a publicly traded partnership technical termination relief procedure whereby if a publicly traded partnership that has technically terminated requests publicly traded partnership technical termination relief and the IRS grants such relief, among other things, the partnership will only have to provide one Schedule K-1 to unitholders for the calendar year notwithstanding two partnership tax years. We were successful in petitioning the IRS for this technical termination relief.

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

Because our unitholders will be treated as partners to whom we will allocate taxable income which will be different in amount than the cash we distribute, our unitholders will be required to pay any federal income taxes and, in some cases, state and local income taxes on their share of our taxable income even if they receive no cash distributions from us. Our unitholders may not receive cash distributions from us equal to their share of our taxable income or even equal to the actual tax liability that result from that income.

Tax gain or loss on disposition of our limited partner units could be more or less than expected.

If our unitholders sell their common units, they will recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized and their tax basis in those common units. Prior distributions to our unitholders in excess of the total net taxable income the unitholder was allocated for a unit, which decreased their tax basis in that unit, will, in effect, become taxable income to our unitholders if the common unit is sold at a price greater than their tax basis in that common unit, even if the price they receive is less than their original cost. A substantial portion of the amount realized, whether or not representing gain, may be ordinary income. In addition, if our unitholders sell their units, they may incur a tax liability in excess of the amount of cash received from the sale.

Tax-exempt entities and non-U.S. persons face unique tax issues from owning our common units that may result in adverse tax consequences to them.

Investment in common units by tax-exempt entities, such as individual retirement accounts ("IRAs"), and non-U.S. persons raises issues unique to them. For example, virtually all of our income allocated to organizations that are exempt from federal income tax, including individual retirement accounts and other retirement plans, will be unrelated business taxable income and will be taxable to them. Distributions to non-U.S. persons will be reduced by withholding taxes at the highe