

Crestwood Equity Partners LP
Form 424B3
August 28, 2015

Use these links to rapidly review the document

[TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

[TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)
Registration No. 333-205004

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

Dear Crestwood Midstream Partners LP Unitholders:

On May 5, 2015, Crestwood Equity Partners LP ("CEQP"), Crestwood Equity GP LLC ("Equity GP"), which is the general partner of CEQP, CEQP ST SUB LLC, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP ("MergerCo"), MGP GP, LLC ("MGP GP"), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP, Crestwood Midstream Holdings LP ("Midstream Holdings"), Crestwood Midstream Partners LP ("Midstream"), Crestwood Midstream GP LLC ("Midstream GP"), which is the general partner of Midstream, and Crestwood Gas Services GP LLC ("CGS"), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Midstream GP, entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "merger agreement"). Pursuant to the merger agreement, MergerCo, Midstream Holdings and MGP GP will merge with and into Midstream (the "merger"), with Midstream surviving the merger as an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP. Immediately following the effective time of the merger (the "effective time"), each issued and outstanding common unit representing a common limited partner interest of Midstream (collectively, the "Midstream common units"), except for any Midstream common units owned by CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries, will be converted into the right to receive 2.75 common units representing limited partner interests in CEQP (the "CEQP common units") and each issued and outstanding unit representing preferred limited partner interests in Midstream (the "Midstream preferred units", and together with the Midstream common units, the "Midstream units"), except for any Midstream preferred units owned by CEQP or its subsidiaries, will be converted into the right to receive 2.75 preferred units representing limited partner interests in CEQP (the "CEQP preferred units"). No fractional CEQP common units or fractional CEQP preferred units will be issued in the merger, and holders of Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units will, instead, receive cash in lieu of fractional units, if any.

Pursuant to the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement, a majority of the outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (voting on an "as if converted" basis) voting together as a single class must vote in favor of the proposal in order for it to be approved. In connection with the merger agreement, CEQP entered into (i) a support agreement by and among CEQP, Midstream and CGS, pursuant to which, CEQP, which directly owns 7,137,841 Midstream common units, and CGS, which directly owns 21,597 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders and (ii) a support agreement by and among CEQP, Midstream, Crestwood Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Holdings") and Crestwood Gas Services Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and wholly-owned subsidiary of Holdings ("CGS LLC,"), pursuant to which, Holdings, which directly owns 2,497,071 Midstream common units, and CGS LLC, which directly owns 18,339,314 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders. Pursuant to (i) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GE Structured Finance, Inc. ("GE"), (ii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GSO COF II Holdings Partners LP ("GSO") and (iii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS, Magnetar Financial LLC ("Magnetar") and the preferred holders named therein (the "Magnetar preferred holders," and collectively with GE and GSO, the "preferred holders"), subject to the terms and conditions set forth in such letter agreements, each preferred holder expressed an intention to support the merger and agreed to elect to have all of the Midstream preferred units held of record by such preferred holder exchanged for CEQP preferred units upon the consummation of the merger in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement. Midstream has scheduled a special meeting of its unitholders to vote on the merger agreement and the merger on September 30, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., local time, at 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002. **Regardless of the number of units you own or whether you plan to attend the meeting, it is important that your units be represented and voted at the meeting. Voting instructions are set forth inside this proxy statement/prospectus.**

The Conflicts Committee ("Midstream Conflicts Committee") of the Board of Directors of Midstream GP (the "Midstream Board") has determined unanimously that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby are advisable, fair and reasonable to and in the best interests of Midstream and the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders, and it approved the merger agreement, the execution, delivery and performance by Midstream of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, which constituted "Special Approval" under Midstream's partnership agreement. The

Table of Contents

Midstream Conflicts Committee also recommended that the Midstream Board approve the merger agreement, the execution, delivery and performance by Midstream of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby. The Midstream Board has determined unanimously that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby are fair and reasonable to and in the best interests of Midstream and the holders of Midstream units, approved the merger agreement, the execution, delivery and performance by Midstream of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, directed that the merger agreement be submitted to the Midstream unitholders for approval at a special meeting of such unitholders for the purpose of approving the merger agreement and the merger and recommended that the holders of Midstream units approve the merger agreement and the merger and approve the proposal to adjourn the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to approve the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting.

This proxy statement/prospectus provides you with detailed information about the proposed merger and related matters. Midstream encourages you to read the entire document carefully. **In particular, please read "Risk Factors" beginning on page 30 of this proxy statement/prospectus for a discussion of risks relevant to the merger and CEQP's business following the merger.**

CEQP's common units are listed on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") under the symbol "CEQP," and Midstream's common units are listed on the NYSE under the symbol "CMLP." The last reported sale price of CEQP's common units on the NYSE on August 26, 2015 was \$2.67. The last reported sale price of Midstream common units on the NYSE on August 26, 2015 was \$7.13.

Robert G. Phillips
President and Chief Executive Officer
Crestwood Midstream GP, LLC

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the securities to be issued under this proxy statement/prospectus or has determined if this document is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

All information in this document concerning CEQP has been furnished by CEQP. All information in this document concerning Midstream has been furnished by Midstream. CEQP has represented to Midstream, and Midstream has represented to CEQP, that the information furnished by and concerning it is true and correct in all material respects.

This proxy statement/prospectus is dated August 28, 2015 and is being first mailed to Midstream unitholders on or about September 1, 2015.

Table of Contents

Houston, Texas
August 28, 2015

Notice of Special Meeting of Unitholders

To the Unitholders of Crestwood Midstream Partners LP:

A special meeting of unitholders of Crestwood Midstream Partners LP ("Midstream") will be held on September 30, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002, for the following purposes:

To consider and vote upon the approval of the Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of May 5, 2015, by and among Crestwood Equity Partners LP ("CEQP"), Crestwood Equity GP LLC ("Equity GP"), CEQP ST SUB LLC ("MergerCo"), MGP GP, LLC ("MGP GP"), Crestwood Midstream Holdings LP ("Midstream Holdings"), Midstream, Crestwood Midstream GP LLC ("Midstream GP"), and Crestwood Gas Services GP LLC ("CGS"), as it may be amended from time to time (the "merger agreement"), and the merger contemplated by the merger agreement (the "merger"); and

To consider and vote upon the proposal to adjourn the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to approve the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting.

To transact such other business as may properly be presented at the meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the meeting.

Pursuant to the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement, a majority of the outstanding common units representing limited partner interests in Midstream (the "Midstream common units") and the outstanding preferred units representing preferred limited partner interests in Midstream (the "Midstream preferred units," and together with the Midstream common units, the "Midstream units") (voting on an "as if converted" basis"), voting together as a single class, must vote in favor of the proposal in order for it to be approved. Failures to vote, abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal for purposes of the vote by the Midstream unitholders required under the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement.

In connection with the merger agreement, CEQP entered into (i) a support agreement by and among CEQP, Midstream and CGS, pursuant to which, CEQP, which directly owns 7,137,841 Midstream common units, and CGS, which directly owns 21,597 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders and (ii) a support agreement by and among CEQP, Midstream, Crestwood Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Holdings") and Crestwood Gas Services Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and wholly-owned subsidiary of Holdings ("CGS LLC,"), pursuant to which, Holdings, which directly owns 2,497,071 Midstream common units, and CGS LLC, which directly owns 18,339,314 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders. Pursuant to (i) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GE Structured Finance, Inc. ("GE"), (ii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GSO COF II Holdings Partners LP ("GSO") and (iii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS, Magnetar Financial LLC ("Magnetar") and the preferred holders named therein (the "Magnetar preferred holders," and collectively with GE and GSO, the "preferred holders"), subject to the terms and conditions set forth in such letter agreements, each preferred holder expressed an intention to support the merger and agreed to elect to have all of the Midstream

Table of Contents

preferred units held of record by such preferred holder exchanged for CEQP preferred units upon the consummation of the merger in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement.

The Conflicts Committee ("Midstream Conflicts Committee") of the Board of Directors of Midstream GP (the "Midstream Board") has determined unanimously that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby are advisable, fair and reasonable to and in the best interests of Midstream and the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders, and it approved the merger agreement, the execution, delivery and performance by Midstream of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, which constituted "Special Approval" under Midstream's partnership agreement. The Midstream Conflicts Committee also recommended that the Midstream Board approve the merger agreement, the execution, delivery and performance by Midstream of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby. The Midstream Board has determined unanimously that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby are fair and reasonable to and in the best interests of Midstream and the holders of Midstream units, approved the merger agreement, the execution, delivery and performance by Midstream of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, directed that the merger agreement be submitted to the Midstream unitholders for approval at a meeting of such unitholders for the purpose of approving the merger agreement and the merger and recommended that the holders of Midstream units approve the merger agreement and the merger and approve the proposal to adjourn the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to approve the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting.

Only unitholders of record at the close of business on August 24, 2015 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting and any adjournments or postponements of the meeting. A list of unitholders entitled to vote at the meeting will be available for inspection at Midstream's offices in Houston, Texas for any purpose relevant to the meeting during normal business hours for a period of 10 days before the meeting and at the meeting.

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT. WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE VOTE OR SUBMIT YOUR PROXY IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS. If you hold your units in the name of a bank, broker or other nominee, you should follow the instructions provided by your bank, broker or nominee when voting your Midstream common units. If you hold your units in your own name, you may vote by:

using the toll-free telephone number shown on the proxy card;

using the Internet website shown on the proxy card; or

marking, signing, dating and promptly returning the enclosed proxy card in the postage-paid envelope. It requires no postage if mailed in the United States.

By order of the Board of Directors of Crestwood Midstream GP, LLC, as the general partner of Crestwood Midstream Partners LP.

Robert G. Phillips
President and Chief Executive Officer
Crestwood Midstream GP, LLC

Table of Contents

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THIS PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS

This proxy statement/prospectus, which forms part of a registration statement on Form S-4 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which is referred to as the "SEC" or the "Commission," constitutes a proxy statement of Midstream under Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which is referred to as the "Exchange Act," with respect to the solicitation of proxies for the special meeting of Midstream unitholders to, among other things, approve the merger agreement and the merger. This proxy statement/prospectus is also a prospectus of CEQP under Section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, which is referred to as the "Securities Act," for CEQP units that will be issued to Midstream unitholders in the merger pursuant to the merger agreement.

As permitted under the rules of the SEC, this proxy statement/prospectus incorporates by reference important business and financial information about CEQP and Midstream from other documents filed with the SEC that are not included in or delivered with this proxy statement/prospectus. Please read "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page 148. You can obtain any of the documents incorporated by reference into this document from the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. This information is also available to you without charge upon your request in writing or by telephone from CEQP or Midstream, as the case may be, at the following addresses and telephone numbers:

Crestwood Equity Partners LP
700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550
Attention: Investor Relations
Houston, Texas 77002
Telephone: (713) 380-3081

Crestwood Midstream Partners LP
700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550
Attention: Investor Relations
Houston, Texas 77002
Telephone: (713) 380-3081

Please note that copies of the documents provided to you will not include exhibits, unless the exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into the documents or this proxy statement/prospectus.

You may obtain certain of these documents at CEQP's website, www.crestwoodlp.com, by selecting "Investors," and then selecting "Crestwood Equity Partners LP" and then selecting "SEC Filings," and at CMLP's website, www.crestwoodlp.com, by selecting "Investor Relations," and then selecting "Crestwood Midstream Partners LP" and then selecting "SEC Filings." Information contained on Midstream's and CEQP's websites is expressly not incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus.

In order to receive timely delivery of requested documents in advance of the Midstream special meeting of unitholders, your request should be received no later than September 22, 2015. If you request any documents, CEQP or Midstream will mail them to you by first class mail, or another equally prompt means, within one business day after receipt of your request.

CEQP and Midstream have not authorized anyone to give any information or make any representation about the merger, CEQP or Midstream that is different from, or in addition to, that contained in this proxy statement/prospectus or in any of the materials that have been incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus. Therefore, if anyone distributes this type of information, you should not rely on it. If you are in a jurisdiction where offers to exchange or sell, or solicitations of offers to exchange or purchase, the securities offered by this proxy statement/prospectus or the solicitation of proxies is unlawful, or you are a person to whom it is unlawful to direct these types of activities, then the offer presented in this proxy statement/prospectus does not extend to you. The information contained in this proxy statement/prospectus speaks only as of the date of this proxy statement/prospectus, or in the case of information in a document incorporated by reference, as of the date of such document, unless the information specifically indicates that another date applies. All information in this document concerning CEQP has been furnished by CEQP. All information in this document concerning Midstream has been furnished by Midstream. CEQP has represented to Midstream, and Midstream has represented to CEQP, that the information furnished by and concerning it is true and correct in all material respects.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>DEFINITIONS</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE MERGER AND THE SPECIAL MEETING</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>SUMMARY</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>The Merger Parties' Businesses</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>Relationship of CEOP and Midstream</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Structure of the Merger and Related Transactions</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Support Agreements and Letter Agreements Regarding Change of Control Election</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Directors and Executive Officers of CEOP Following the Merger</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Market Prices of CEOP Common Units and Midstream Common Units Prior to Announcing the Proposed Merger</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>The Special Unitholder Meeting</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Recommendation to Midstream Unitholders</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Midstream's Reasons for the Merger</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Opinion of the Midstream Conflicts Committee's Financial Advisor</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>Certain Relationships; Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>The Merger Agreement</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Other Information Related to the Merger</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Summary of Risk Factors</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>Organizational Chart</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>SUMMARY HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF CEOP AND MIDSTREAM</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data of CEOP</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data of Midstream</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>Selected Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>Unaudited Comparative Per Unit Information</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>MARKET PRICES AND DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION</u>	<u>29</u>
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Risks Related to the Merger</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Risks Related to CEOP's Business After the Merger</u>	<u>33</u>
<u>Risks Related to CEOP's Common Units and Risks Resulting from its Partnership Structure</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>Tax Risks Related to the Merger</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>Tax Risks Related to Owning CEOP Units Following the Merger</u>	<u>37</u>
<u>THE SPECIAL UNITHOLDER MEETING</u>	<u>41</u>
<u>Voting Procedures</u>	<u>42</u>
<u>PROPOSAL 1: THE MERGER</u>	<u>44</u>
<u>Background of the Merger</u>	<u>44</u>
<u>Recommendation of the Midstream Board and the Midstream Conflicts Committee's Reasons for the Merger</u>	<u>54</u>
<u>Opinion of the Midstream Conflicts Committee's Financial Advisor</u>	<u>56</u>
<u>Unaudited Financial Projections</u>	<u>67</u>
<u>No Dissenters' or Appraisal Rights</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>Antitrust and Regulatory Matters</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>Listing of Common Units to be Issued in the Merger; Delisting and Deregistration of Midstream Common Units</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>Accounting Treatment of the Merger</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>Pending Litigation</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>Support Agreements and Letter Agreements Regarding Change of Control Election</u>	<u>71</u>
<u>THE MERGER AGREEMENT</u>	<u>73</u>

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

<u>Structure of the Merger and Related Transactions</u>	<u>73</u>
<u>When the Merger Becomes Effective</u>	<u>74</u>
<u>Effect of Merger on Outstanding Midstream Common Units, Midstream Preferred Units and Other Interests</u>	<u>74</u>
<u>Exchange of Certificates: Fractional Units</u>	<u>75</u>
<u>Actions Pending the Merger</u>	<u>79</u>
<u>Conduct of Business by Midstream</u>	<u>79</u>
<u>Conditions to the Merger</u>	<u>83</u>
<u>Representations and Warranties</u>	<u>85</u>
<u>Covenants</u>	<u>86</u>
<u>Termination</u>	<u>96</u>
<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	<u>97</u>
<u>Waiver and Amendment</u>	<u>99</u>
<u>Governing Law</u>	<u>99</u>
<u>THE MERGER PARTIES' BUSINESSES</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>Mainstream's Business</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>CEOP's Business</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS: INTERESTS OF CERTAIN PERSONS IN THE MERGER</u>	<u>102</u>
<u>Relationship of CEOP and Midstream</u>	<u>102</u>
<u>Tax Sharing Agreement</u>	<u>103</u>
<u>Interests of Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger</u>	<u>103</u>
<u>DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF CEOP AFTER THE MERGER</u>	<u>106</u>
<u>COMPARISON OF THE RIGHTS OF CEOP AND MIDSTREAM UNITHOLDERS</u>	<u>107</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CEOP COMMON UNITS</u>	<u>126</u>
<u>MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER</u>	<u>128</u>
<u>Tax Opinions Required as a Condition to Closing</u>	<u>128</u>
<u>Tax Consequences of the Merger to Midstream and the Midstream Unitholders</u>	<u>129</u>
<u>U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF OWNERSHIP OF CEOP UNITS</u>	<u>132</u>
<u>Partnership Status</u>	<u>132</u>
<u>Limited Partner Status</u>	<u>134</u>
<u>Tax Consequences of CEOP Unit Ownership</u>	<u>135</u>
<u>Tax Treatment of Operations</u>	<u>139</u>
<u>Disposition of CEOP Units</u>	<u>140</u>
<u>Uniformity of CEOP Units</u>	<u>142</u>
<u>Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors</u>	<u>143</u>
<u>Administrative Matters</u>	<u>144</u>
<u>State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Considerations</u>	<u>145</u>
<u>PROPOSAL 2: ADJOURNMENT OF THE SPECIAL UNITHOLDER MEETING</u>	<u>147</u>
<u>UNITHOLDER PROPOSALS</u>	<u>147</u>
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	<u>147</u>
<u>EXPERTS</u>	<u>147</u>
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	<u>148</u>
<u>INFORMATION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	<u>150</u>
<u>UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>	<u>F-1</u>
<u>Annex A Agreement and Plan of Merger</u>	<u>A-1</u>
<u>Annex B Opinion of Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co. Advisors, LLC, financial advisor to the Midstream Conflicts Committee</u>	<u>B-1</u>

Table of Contents

DEFINITIONS

The following terms have the meanings set forth below for purposes of this proxy statement/prospectus, unless the context otherwise indicates:

"CEQP" means Crestwood Equity Partners LP, a Delaware limited partnership.

"CEQP Class A Unit" means units representing limited partner interests in CEQP having the rights and obligations specified with respect to Class A Units in the CEQP Partnership Agreement

"CEQP common units" means common units representing limited partner interests in CEQP having the rights and obligations specified with respect to Common Units in CEQP's partnership agreement.

"CEQP Conflicts Committee" means the Conflicts Committee of the Equity GP Board.

"CEQP LTIP" means the Crestwood Equity Partners LP Long Term Incentive Plan (formerly the Inergy Long Term Incentive Plan) as Amended and Restated effective February 11, 2010.

"CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment" means the First Amendment to Fifth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of CEQP in the form attached to the merger agreement as Annex A, as adopted by the Equity GP Board pursuant to the terms of the merger agreement.

"CEQP Phantom Units" means CEQP Phantom Units as defined in and awarded under Section 5 of the CEQP LTIP.

"CEQP preferred units" means preferred units representing limited partner interests in CEQP having the rights and obligations specified with respect to Preferred Units in CEQP's partnership agreement, including any amendments thereto.

"CGS" means Crestwood Gas Services GP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and wholly-owned subsidiary of Midstream GP.

"CGS LLC" means Crestwood Gas Services Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and wholly-owned subsidiary of Holdings.

"Common Merger Consideration" means the right of Midstream common unitholders, other than CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries, to exchange each Midstream common unit held by such unitholder into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP common units

"Crestwood Operations" means Crestwood Operations LLC, a Delaware limited liability company.

"Equity GP" means Crestwood Equity GP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and the general partner of CEQP.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

"Equity GP Board" means the board of directors of Equity GP.

"Holdings" means Crestwood Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company.

"MergerCo" means CEQP ST SUB LLC, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP.

"MGP GP" means MGP GP, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP.

"Midstream" means Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, a Delaware limited partnership.

"Midstream Board" means the board of directors of Midstream GP.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

"Midstream common units" means common units representing limited partner interests in Midstream having the rights and obligations specified with respect to Common Units in Midstream's partnership agreement.

"Midstream Compensation Committee" means the Compensation Committee of the Midstream Board, consisting of David Wood and Warren Gfeller.

"Midstream Conflicts Committee" means the Conflicts Committee of the Midstream Board.

"Midstream GP" means Crestwood Midstream GP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and the general partner of Midstream.

"Midstream Holdings" means Crestwood Midstream Holdings LP.

"Midstream LTIP" means the Crestwood Midstream Partners LP Long Term Incentive Plan (formerly the Inergy Midstream, L.P. Long Term Incentive Plan), effective December 21, 2011.

"Midstream phantom unit" means Midstream Phantom Units as defined in and awarded under Section 5 of the Midstream LTIP.

"Midstream preferred units" means units representing preferred limited partner interests in Midstream having the rights and obligations specified with respect to Class A Preferred Units in Midstream's partnership agreement.

"Midstream Restricted Common Unit" means a Restricted Common Unit as defined in, and awarded under Section 6.1 of the Midstream LTIP.

"Midstream unaffiliated unitholders" means the holders of Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units other than (i) CEQP and affiliates of CEQP and (ii) the officers and directors of Midstream GP that are also officers or directors of Equity GP or affiliates of such officers and directors.

"Midstream units" means Midstream common units and the Midstream preferred units.

"Preferred Merger Consideration" means the right of Midstream preferred unitholders, other than CEQP or its subsidiaries, to exchange each Midstream preferred unit held by such unitholder into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP preferred units.

"Special Approval" under Midstream's partnership agreement means the approval of a majority of the members of the Midstream Conflicts Committee.

Table of Contents

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE MERGER AND THE SPECIAL MEETING

Important Information and Risks. The following are brief answers to some questions that you may have regarding the proposed merger and the proposal being considered at the special meeting of Midstream unitholders. You should read and consider carefully the remainder of this proxy statement/prospectus, including the Risk Factors beginning on page 30 and the attached Annexes, because the information in this section does not provide all of the information that might be important to you. Additional important information and descriptions of risk factors are also contained in the documents incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. Please read "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page 148.

Q: Why am I receiving these materials?

A: CEQP and Midstream have agreed to combine by merging MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings, with and into Midstream, with Midstream surviving the merger. The merger cannot be completed without the approval of the holders of Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (voting on an "as if converted" basis) voting together as a single class.

Q: Who is soliciting my proxy?

A: Midstream GP, on behalf of the Midstream Conflicts Committee and the Midstream Board, is sending you this proxy statement/prospectus in connection with its solicitation of proxies for use at Midstream's special meeting of unitholders. Certain directors and officers of Midstream GP and certain employees of Crestwood Operations and its affiliates who provide services to Midstream may also solicit proxies on Midstream's behalf by mail, telephone, fax or other electronic means, or in person.

Q: What is the proposed transaction?

A: CEQP and Midstream have agreed to combine by merging MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings with and into Midstream, under the terms of a merger agreement that is described in this proxy statement/prospectus and attached as Annex A to this proxy statement/prospectus. As a result of the merger, each outstanding Midstream common unit, except for any Midstream common units owned by CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries, will be converted into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP common units, and each outstanding Midstream preferred unit, except for any Midstream preferred units owned by CEQP or its subsidiaries, will be converted into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP preferred units.

The merger will become effective on the date and at the time that the certificate of merger is filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, or a later date and time if set forth in the certificate of merger. Throughout this proxy statement/prospectus, this is referred to as the "effective time" of the merger.

Q: Why are CEQP and Midstream proposing the merger?

A: CEQP and Midstream believe that the merger will benefit both CEQP and Midstream common unitholders by combining the two entities into a single partnership that is better positioned to compete in the marketplace.

Please read "The Merger Recommendation of the Midstream Board and the Midstream Conflicts Committee's Reasons for the Merger" and "The Merger CEQP's Reasons for the Merger."

Table of Contents

Q: What will happen to Midstream as a result of the merger?

A: As a result of the merger, MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings will merge with and into Midstream, and Midstream will survive as an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP.

Q: What will Midstream common unitholders and Midstream preferred unitholders receive in the merger?

A: If the merger is completed, holders of Midstream common units (other than CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries) will be entitled to receive 2.75 CEQP common units in exchange for each Midstream common unit owned, and holders of Midstream preferred units (other than CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries) will be entitled to receive 2.75 CEQP preferred units in exchange for each Midstream preferred unit owned. This exchange ratio is fixed and will not be adjusted, regardless of any change in price of either CEQP common units or Midstream common units prior to completion of the merger. If the exchange ratio would result in a Midstream unitholder or Midstream preferred unitholder being entitled to receive a fraction of a new CEQP common unit or new CEQP preferred unit, that unitholder will receive cash from CEQP in lieu of such fractional interest in an amount equal to (A) with respect to a new CEQP common unit, the product of (i) the closing sale price of the CEQP common units on the NYSE as reported by The Wall Street Journal on the trading day immediately preceding the date on which the effective time occurs and (ii) the fraction of a new CEQP common unit that the holder would otherwise be entitled to receive pursuant to the merger agreement, and (B) with respect to a new CEQP preferred unit, the product of (i) the closing sale price of the CEQP common units on the NYSE as reported by The Wall Street Journal on the trading day immediately preceding the date on which the effective time occurs, (ii) the number of CEQP common units into which one new CEQP preferred unit would be convertible if the new CEQP preferred units were convertible as of the effective time at the Conversion Rate (as such term is defined in the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment), and (iii) the fraction of a new CEQP preferred unit that such holder would otherwise be entitled to receive pursuant to the merger agreement. For additional information regarding exchange procedures, please read "The Merger Agreement Exchange of Certificates; Fractional Units."

Q: Where will my units trade after the merger?

A: CEQP common units will continue to trade on the NYSE under the symbol "CEQP." Midstream common units will no longer be publicly traded.

Q: What will CEQP common unitholders receive in the merger?

A: CEQP common unitholders will simply retain the CEQP common units they currently own. They will not receive any additional CEQP common units in the merger.

Q: What happens to my future distributions?

A: Once the merger is completed and Midstream common units are exchanged for CEQP common units and Midstream preferred units are exchanged for CEQP preferred units, when distributions are approved and declared by Equity GP and paid by CEQP, former Midstream common unitholders and Midstream preferred unitholders will receive distributions on the CEQP common units and CEQP preferred units they receive in the merger in accordance with CEQP's partnership agreement, including the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment. Because the special meeting is scheduled to take place after the record dates for the distributions on both CEQP and Midstream units for the quarter ended June 30, 2015, which were declared and paid in August 2015, Midstream unitholders and Midstream preferred units will not receive second quarter

Table of Contents

distributions for CEQP common units and CEQP preferred units received in the merger. For additional information, please read "Market Prices and Distribution Information."

Current CEQP common unitholders will continue to receive distributions on their common units in accordance with CEQP's partnership agreement and at the discretion of the Equity GP Board. For a description of the distribution provisions of CEQP's partnership agreement, please read "Comparison of the Rights of Midstream and CEQP Common Unitholders."

The current annualized distribution rate for each Midstream common unit is \$1.64 (based on the quarterly distribution rate of \$0.41 for each Midstream common unit paid on August 14, 2015 with respect to the second quarter of 2015). Based on the exchange ratio, the annualized distribution rate for each Midstream common unit exchanged for 2.75 CEQP common units would be approximately \$1.5125 (based on the quarterly distribution rate of \$0.1375 per CEQP common unit paid on August 14, 2015 with respect to the second quarter of 2015). Accordingly, based on current distribution rates and the 2.75 exchange ratio, a Midstream common unitholder would initially receive approximately 7.8% less in quarterly cash distributions on an annualized basis after giving effect to the merger. For additional information, please read "Comparative Per Unit Information" and "Market Prices and Distribution Information."

Q: If I am a holder of Midstream common units represented by a unit certificate, should I send in my certificates representing Midstream common units now?

A: No. After the merger is completed, holders of Midstream common units who hold their units in certificated form will receive written instructions for exchanging their certificates representing Midstream common units. Please do not send in your certificates representing Midstream common units with your proxy card. If you own Midstream common units in "street name," the merger consideration should be credited by your broker to your account within a few days following the closing date of the merger.

Q: What constitutes a quorum?

A: The presence in person or by proxy at the special meeting of the holders of a majority of Midstream's outstanding common units and Midstream's outstanding preferred units (on an "as if converted" basis), counted together as a single class, on the record date will constitute a quorum and will permit Midstream to conduct the proposed business at the special meeting. Your units will be counted as present at the special meeting if you:

are present in person at the meeting; or

have submitted a properly executed proxy card or properly submitted your proxy by telephone or Internet.

Proxies received but marked as abstentions will be counted as units that are present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum. If an executed proxy is returned by a broker or other nominee holding units in "street name" indicating that the broker does not have discretionary authority as to certain units to vote on the proposals (a "broker non-vote"), such units will be considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum but cannot be included in the vote; therefore, broker non-votes have the same effect as a vote against the merger for purposes of the vote required under the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement.

Table of Contents

Q: What is the vote required of Midstream common unitholders and Midstream preferred unitholders to approve the merger agreement and the merger?

A: Pursuant to the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement, holders of a majority of the outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream outstanding preferred units (voting on an "as if converted" basis), voting together as a single class, must affirmatively vote in favor of the proposal in order for it to be approved. Failures to vote, abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal for purposes of the vote required under the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement. Your vote is important.

In connection with the merger agreement, CEQP entered into (i) a support agreement by and among CEQP, Midstream and CGS, pursuant to which, CEQP, which directly owns 7,137,841 Midstream common units, and CGS, which directly owns 21,597 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders and (ii) a support agreement by and among CEQP, Midstream, Holdings and CGS LLC, pursuant to which, Holdings, which directly owns 2,497,071 Midstream common units, and CGS LLC, which directly owns 18,339,314 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders. Pursuant to (i) a letter agreement regarding change of control election, by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GE, a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GSO and (iii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS, Magnetar and the Magnetar preferred holders, pursuant to which, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in such letter agreements, each preferred holder expressed an intention to support the merger and agreed to elect to have all of the Midstream preferred units held of record by such preferred holder exchanged for CEQP preferred units upon the consummation of the merger in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement.

Q: When do you expect the merger to be completed?

A: A number of conditions must be satisfied before CEQP and Midstream can complete the merger, including approval of the merger agreement and the merger by the holders of Midstream units. Although CEQP and Midstream cannot be sure when all of the conditions to the merger will be satisfied, CEQP and Midstream expect to complete the merger as soon as practicable following the Midstream special meeting (assuming the merger proposal is approved by the holders of Midstream units). For additional information, please read "The Merger Agreement Conditions to the Merger."

Q: What is the recommendation of the Midstream Board?

A: The Midstream Board recommends that you vote FOR the merger proposal.

On May 5, 2015, the Midstream Conflicts Committee determined unanimously that the merger agreement and the merger are advisable, fair and reasonable to and in the best interests of Midstream and the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders and recommended that the merger, the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby be approved by the Midstream Board.

The Midstream Board determined that the merger agreement and merger are fair and reasonable to and in the best interests of Midstream and the Midstream unitholders, approved the merger agreement and the merger and recommended that the Midstream unitholders vote in favor of the merger proposal.

Table of Contents

Q: What are the expected U.S. federal income tax consequences to Midstream unitholders as a result of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement?

A: It is anticipated that for U.S. federal income tax purposes no gain or loss should be recognized by Midstream unitholders solely as a result of the merger, other than gain resulting from either (i) any decrease in a Midstream unitholder's share of partnership liabilities pursuant to Section 752 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code") or (ii) any cash received in lieu of any fractional new CEQP units.

Please read "Risk Factors Tax Risks Related to the Merger" and "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger Tax Consequences of the Merger to Midstream and the Midstream Unitholders."

Q: What are the expected U.S. federal income tax consequences for a Midstream unitholder of the ownership of CEQP common units after the merger is completed?

A: Each Midstream unitholder who becomes a CEQP unitholder as a result of the merger will, as is the case for existing CEQP common unitholders, be allocated such unitholder's distributive share of CEQP's income, gains, losses, deductions and credits. In addition to U.S. federal income taxes, such a holder will be subject to other taxes, including state and local income taxes, unincorporated business taxes, and estate, inheritance or intangibles taxes that may be imposed by the various jurisdictions in which CEQP conducts business or owns property or in which the unitholder is resident. Please read "U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of Ownership of CEQP Common Units."

Q: Are Midstream unitholders entitled to appraisal rights?

A: No. Neither Midstream common unitholders nor Midstream preferred unitholders have appraisal rights under applicable law or contractual appraisal rights under Midstream's partnership agreement or the merger agreement.

Q: How do I vote my common units if I hold my common units in my own name?

A: After you have read this proxy statement/prospectus carefully, please respond by completing, signing and dating your proxy card and returning it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope, or by submitting your proxy by telephone or the Internet as soon as possible in accordance with the instructions provided under "The Special Unitholder Meeting Voting Procedures Voting by Midstream Unitholders" beginning on page 42.

Q: If my Midstream common units are held in "street name" by my broker or other nominee, will my broker or other nominee vote my common units for me?

A: No. Your broker cannot vote your Midstream common units held in "street name" for or against the merger proposal unless you tell the broker or other nominee how you wish to vote. To tell your broker or other nominee how to vote, you should follow the directions that your broker or other nominee provides to you. Please note that you may not vote your Midstream common units held in "street name" by returning a proxy card directly to Midstream or by voting in person at the special meeting of Midstream unitholders unless you provide a "legal proxy," which you must obtain from your broker or other nominee. If you do not instruct your broker or other nominee on how to vote your Midstream common units, your broker or other nominee may not vote your Midstream common units, which will have the same effect as a vote against the merger for purposes of the vote required under the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement. You should therefore provide your broker or other nominee with instructions as to how to vote your Midstream common units.

Table of Contents

Q: What if I do not vote?

A: If you do not vote in person or by proxy or if you abstain from voting, or a broker non-vote is made, it will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal for purposes of the vote required under the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement. If you sign and return your proxy card but do not indicate how you want to vote, your proxy will be counted as a vote in favor of the merger proposal.

Q: Who can attend and vote at the special meeting of Midstream unitholders?

A: All Midstream unitholders of record as of the close of business on August 24, 2015, the record date for the special meeting of Midstream unitholders, are entitled to receive notice of and vote at the special meeting of Midstream unitholders.

Q: When and where is the special meeting?

A: The special meeting will be held on September 30, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002.

Q: If I am planning to attend the special meeting in person, should I still vote by proxy?

A: Yes. Whether or not you plan to attend the special meeting, you should vote by proxy. Your common units will not be voted if you do not vote by proxy and do not vote in person at the special meeting.

Q: Can I change my vote after I have submitted my proxy?

A: Yes. If you own your common units in your own name, you may revoke your proxy at any time prior to its exercise by:

giving written notice of revocation to the chief executive officer of Midstream GP at or before the special meeting;

appearing and voting in person at the special meeting; or

properly completing and executing a later dated proxy and delivering it to the chief executive officer of Midstream GP at or before the special meeting.

Your presence without voting at the meeting will not automatically revoke your proxy, and any revocation during the meeting will not affect votes previously taken.

Q: What should I do if I receive more than one set of voting materials for the special meeting of Midstream unitholders?

A: You may receive more than one set of voting materials for the special meeting of Midstream unitholders and the materials may include multiple proxy cards or voting instruction cards. For example, you will receive a separate voting instruction card for each brokerage account in which you hold units. If you are a holder of record registered in more than one name, you will receive more than one proxy card. Please complete, sign, date and return each proxy card and voting instruction card that you receive according to the instructions on it.

Q: Whom do I call if I have further questions about voting, the meeting or the merger?

A: Midstream unitholders may call Midstream's Investor Relations department at (713) 380-3081. If you would like additional copies, without charge, of this proxy statement/prospectus or if you have questions about the merger, including the procedures for voting your units, you should contact American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC, which is assisting Midstream as tabulation agent in connection with the merger, at (800) 937-5449.

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

This summary highlights some of the information in this proxy statement/prospectus. It may not contain all of the information that is important to you. To understand the merger fully and for a more complete description of the terms of the merger, you should read carefully this document, the documents incorporated by reference, and the Annexes to this document, including the full text of the merger agreement included as Annex A. Please also read "Where You Can Find More Information."

The Merger Parties' Businesses (page 100)

Crestwood Equity Partners LP

CEQP, a Delaware limited partnership formed in 2004, is a master limited partnership (an "MLP") that develops, acquires, owns or controls, and operates primarily fee-based assets and operations within the energy midstream sector. Headquartered in Houston, Texas, CEQP provides broad-ranging infrastructure solutions across the value chain to service premier liquids-rich and crude oil shale plays across the United States. Its common units representing limited partner interests are listed on the NYSE under the symbol "CEQP."

CEQP owns and operates a diversified portfolio of crude oil and natural gas gathering, processing, storage and transportation assets that connect fundamental energy supply with energy demand across North America. CEQP's operating assets consist of a proprietary NGL supply and logistics business. Its other consolidated assets are owned by or through Midstream. CEQP's consolidated operating assets include:

natural gas facilities with approximately 2.5 billion cubic feet per day ("Bcf/d") of gathering capacity, 481 million cubic feet per day ("MMcf/d") of processing capacity, 1.1 Bcf/d of firm transmission capacity, and 41 billion cubic feet ("Bcf") of certificated working gas storage capacity;

natural gas liquid ("NGL") facilities with approximately 24,000 barrels per day ("Bbbls/d") of fractionation capacity and 2.8 million barrels of storage capacity;

crude oil facilities with approximately 125,000 Bbbls/d of gathering capacity, approximately 1.1 million barrels of storage capacity, 48,000 Bbbls/d of transportation capacity and 160,000 Bbbls/d of rail loading capacity; and

a fleet of transportation assets supporting its proprietary NGL supply and logistics business, including 8 truck and rail terminals and approximately 543 truck/trailer units and 1,600 rail units that can transport more than 294,000 Bbbls/d of NGLs.

CEQP's principal executive offices are located at 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002, and its telephone number is (832) 519-2200.

Crestwood Midstream Partners LP

Midstream, a Delaware limited partnership formed in 2004, is a growth-oriented MLP that develops, acquires, owns and operates primarily fee-based assets and operations within the energy midstream sector. Headquartered in Houston, Texas, it provides broad-ranging infrastructure solutions across the value chain to service premier liquids-rich and crude oil shale plays across the United States. Midstream's common units representing limited partner interests are listed on the NYSE under the symbol "CMLP."

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

Midstream owns and operates a diversified portfolio of crude oil and natural gas gathering, processing, storage and transportation assets that connect fundamental energy supply with energy demand across North America. Midstream's consolidated operating assets primarily include:

natural gas facilities with approximately 2.5 Bcf/d of gathering capacity, 481 MMcf/d of processing capacity, 1.1 Bcf/d of firm transmission capacity, and 41 Bcf of certificated working gas storage capacity;

NGL facilities with approximately 1.7 million barrels of storage capacity; and

crude oil facilities with approximately 125,000 Bbls/d of gathering capacity, approximately 1.1 million barrels of storage capacity, 48,000 Bbls/d of transportation capacity and 160,000 Bbls/d of rail loading capacity.

Midstream's principal executive offices are located at 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002, and its telephone number is (832) 519-2200.

Relationship of CEQP and Midstream (page 102)

CEQP and Midstream are currently under common control. Midstream is currently owned 100% by its limited partners and its non-economic general partner, Midstream GP. Midstream was formed by CEQP in September 2004 for the purpose of holding certain of CEQP's midstream investments. Midstream GP and 100% of Midstream's IDRs are currently owned by Midstream Holdings, a wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP. CEQP and CGS own collectively 7,159,438 of Midstream's outstanding common units.

As of August 27, 2015, Midstream's subsidiary, US Salt, had 96 employees, all of which are members of the United Steel Workers Union. Midstream does not otherwise have any employees. Midstream shares common management, general and administrative and overhead costs with CEQP. Midstream has an omnibus agreement with CEQP that requires it to reimburse CEQP for all shared costs incurred on its behalf, except for certain unit based compensation costs which are treated as capital transactions.

All of the executive officers and certain directors of Equity GP are executive officers and directors of Midstream GP. For information about the common executive officers and directors of Equity GP and Midstream GP, and the resulting interests of Midstream GP directors and officers in the merger, please read "Certain Relationships; Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger."

Structure of the Merger and Related Transactions (page 73)

Pursuant to the merger agreement, at the effective time of the merger, MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings will merge with and into Midstream, with Midstream surviving the merger as an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP. Immediately following the effective time of the merger, CEQP will contribute 100% of the equity interests of Crestwood Operations to Midstream in exchange for additional limited partner interests in Midstream, such that following the merger and the related transactions provided for in the merger agreement, Midstream GP will be a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP and will continue to be the sole general partner of Midstream, and CEQP and CGS will own a 99.9% limited partner interest and a 0.1% limited partner interest, respectively, in Midstream. At the effective time, each outstanding common unit of Midstream held by Midstream unitholders, except for CEQP for any Midstream common units owned by CEQP, CGS or their respective affiliates will be converted into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP common units, and each outstanding preferred unit of Midstream held by Midstream unitholders, except for any Midstream preferred units owned by CEQP or its subsidiaries, will be converted into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP preferred units. This merger consideration represents a 17% premium to the closing price of Midstream common units based on the closing prices of Midstream common units and CEQP common

Table of Contents

units on May 5, 2015, the last trading day before CEQP announced its initial proposal to acquire all of the Midstream common units owned by the public and the parties entered into the merger agreement.

In lieu of any fractional new CEQP common unit or new CEQP preferred unit, each holder of Midstream units who would otherwise be entitled to a fraction of a new CEQP common unit or new CEQP preferred unit will be paid in cash (without interest rounded up to the nearest whole cent) an amount equal to, (A) with respect to a new CEQP common unit, the product of (i) the closing sale price of the CEQP common units on the NYSE as reported by The Wall Street Journal on the trading day immediately preceding the date on which the effective time occurs and (ii) the fraction of a new CEQP common unit that the holder would otherwise be entitled to receive pursuant to the merger agreement, and (B) with respect to a new CEQP preferred unit, the product of (i) the closing sale price of the CEQP common units on the NYSE as reported by The Wall Street Journal on the trading day immediately preceding the date on which the effective time occurs, (ii) the number of CEQP common units into which one new CEQP preferred unit would be convertible if the new CEQP preferred units were convertible as of the effective time at the Conversion Rate (as such term is defined in the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment), and (iii) the fraction of a new CEQP preferred unit that such holder would otherwise be entitled to receive pursuant to the merger agreement. Any fractional CEQP common unit or CEQP preferred unit interest will not entitle its owner to vote or to have any rights as a CEQP unitholder with regard to such interest.

Once the merger is completed and the Midstream common units held by Midstream common unitholders (other than CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries) are exchanged for CEQP common units and the Midstream preferred units held by Midstream preferred unitholders (other than CEQP or its subsidiaries) are exchanged for CEQP preferred units (and cash in lieu of fractional units, if applicable), when distributions are declared by the general partner of CEQP and paid by CEQP, former Midstream unitholders will receive distributions on their CEQP common units and CEQP preferred units in accordance with CEQP's partnership agreement, including the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment thereto. For a description of the distribution provisions of CEQP's partnership agreement, please read "Comparison of the Rights of CEQP and Midstream Unitholders."

As of May 5, 2015 there were 181,204,695 CEQP common units and 187,423,322 Midstream common units outstanding. Based on the 187,423,322 Midstream common units outstanding at such date that are owned by Midstream unitholders and eligible for exchange into CEQP common units pursuant to the merger agreement, CEQP expects to issue approximately 498.1 million CEQP common units in connection with the merger.

Based on the \$6.82 closing price of CEQP common units on May 5, 2015 (the last full trading day before CEQP and Midstream entered into and announced the merger agreement), the exchange ratio of 2.75 CEQP common units for each outstanding Midstream common unit, and the approximate 153.5 million Midstream common units owned by Midstream unaffiliated unitholders, the value of the merger consideration to be received by such holders was approximately \$2.9 billion, or \$18.76 for each Midstream common unit.

Support Agreements and Letter Agreements Regarding Change of Control Election (page 71)

Pursuant to the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement, a majority of the outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (voting on an "as if converted" basis), voting together as a single class, must vote in favor of the proposal in order for it to be approved. In connection with the merger agreement, CEQP entered into (i) a support agreement by and among CEQP, Midstream and CGS, pursuant to which CEQP, which directly owns 7,137,841 Midstream common units, and CGS, which directly owns 21,597 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders and (ii) a support agreement by and among CEQP, Midstream, Holdings and CGS LLC, pursuant to which Holdings, which directly owns 2,497,071 Midstream

Table of Contents

common units, and CGS LLC, which directly owns 18,339,314 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders. As a result, holders of a total of 27,995,823 Midstream common units, which represents 13.5% of the total outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (on an "as if converted" basis), have agreed to vote in favor of the proposal. Pursuant to (i) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GE, (ii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GSO and (iii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS, Magnetar and the Magnetar preferred holders, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in such letter agreements, each preferred holder stated that it expressed an intention to support the merger and agreed to elect to have all of the Midstream preferred units held of record by such preferred holder exchanged for CEQP preferred units upon the consummation of the merger in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement. These three preferred holders that have expressed an intention to support the merger pursuant to the letter agreements hold a total of 21,580,244 Midstream preferred units.

Directors and Executive Officers of CEQP Following the Merger (page 106)

The directors and executive officers of CEQP prior to the merger will continue as directors and executive officers of CEQP after the merger.

Market Prices of CEQP Common Units and Midstream Common Units Prior to Announcing the Proposed Merger (page 29)

CEQP's common units are traded on the NYSE under the ticker symbol "CEQP." Midstream's common units are traded on the NYSE under the ticker symbol "CMLP." The following table shows the closing prices of CEQP common units and Midstream common units on May 5, 2015.

Date/Period	CEQP Common Units	Midstream Common Units
May 5, 2015	\$ 6.82	\$ 16.00

The Special Unitholder Meeting (page 41)

Where and when: The Midstream special unitholder meeting will take place at 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002 on September 30, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., local time.

What you are being asked to vote on: At the Midstream meeting, Midstream unitholders will vote on the approval of the merger agreement and the merger the proposal to adjourn the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to approve the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting. Midstream unitholders also may be asked to consider other matters as may properly come before the meeting. At this time, Midstream knows of no other matters that will be presented for the consideration of its unitholders at the meeting.

Who may vote: You may vote at the Midstream meeting if you owned Midstream common units or Midstream preferred units at the close of business on the record date, August 24, 2015. On that date, there were 188,306,968 Midstream common units outstanding. You may cast one vote for each outstanding Midstream common unit or Midstream preferred unit, as applicable, that you owned on the record date.

What vote is needed: Under the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement, holders of a majority of the outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (voting on an "as if converted" basis), voting together as a single class must affirmatively vote in favor of the proposal in order for it to be approved. CEQP, CGS, Holdings and CGS LLC have agreed to

Table of Contents

vote any Midstream common units owned by them or their subsidiaries in favor of adoption of the merger agreement and the merger at any meeting of Midstream unitholders. Each of CEQP, CGS, Holdings and CGS LLC currently directly owns 7,137,841, 21,597, 2,497,071 and 18,339,314 Midstream common units, respectively (representing approximately 14.9% of the outstanding Midstream common units). Pursuant to (i) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GE, (ii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GSO and (iii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and the preferred holders, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in such letter agreements, each preferred holder expressed an intention to support the merger and agreed to elect to have all of the Midstream preferred units held of record by such preferred holder exchanged for CEQP preferred units upon the consummation of the merger in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement.

Under Midstream's partnership agreement, to approve the proposal to adjourn the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to approve the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting, holders of a majority of the outstanding Midstream common units present and entitled to vote at the meeting must affirmatively vote in favor of the proposal in order for it to be approved.

Recommendation to Midstream Unitholders (page 54)

The members of the Midstream Conflicts Committee considered the benefits of the merger and the related transactions as well as the associated risks and determined unanimously that the merger agreement and the merger are advisable, fair and reasonable to, and in the best interests of, Midstream and the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders. The Midstream Conflicts Committee also recommended that the merger agreement and the merger be approved by the Midstream Board. The Midstream Board has also approved the merger agreement and the merger and recommends that the Midstream unitholders vote to approve the merger agreement and the merger.

Midstream unitholders are urged to review carefully the background and reasons for the merger described under "The Merger" and the risks associated with the merger described under "Risk Factors."

Midstream's Reasons for the Merger (page 54)

The Midstream Conflicts Committee considered many factors in making its determination and recommendation that the merger agreement and the merger are fair and reasonable to and in the best interests of Midstream and the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders and has approved the merger agreement and recommended that the Midstream Board approve the merger agreement, the execution, delivery and performance by Midstream of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby. Based upon, among other things, the recommendation of Midstream Conflicts Committee, the Midstream Board has determined unanimously that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby are fair and reasonable to and in the best interests of Midstream and the holders of Midstream units, approved the merger agreement, the execution, delivery and performance by Midstream of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, directed that the merger agreement be submitted to the Midstream unitholders for approval at a special meeting of such unitholders for the purpose of approving the merger agreement and the merger and recommends that the holders of Midstream units vote "FOR" the merger agreement and the merger.

In the course of reaching its decision to approve the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, the Midstream Conflicts Committee considered a number of factors in its deliberations. For a more complete discussion of these factors, see "The Merger Recommendation of the Midstream Board and the Midstream Conflicts Committee's Reasons for the Merger."

Table of Contents

Overall, the Midstream Conflicts Committee believed that the advantages of the merger outweighed the negative factors.

Opinion of the Midstream Conflicts Committee's Financial Advisor (page 56)

At the request of the Midstream Conflicts Committee at a meeting of the Midstream Conflicts Committee held on May 5, 2015, Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co. Advisors, LLC ("TPH") rendered its oral opinion to the Midstream Conflicts Committee that, as of May 5, 2015, based upon and subject to the assumptions, qualifications, limitations and other matters considered by TPH in connection with the preparation of its opinion, the Common Merger Consideration to be received by the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders in the merger pursuant to the merger agreement was fair, from a financial point of view, to the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders. TPH subsequently confirmed its oral opinion in writing dated May 5, 2015 to the Midstream Conflicts Committee. In the sections of this proxy statement/prospectus regarding TPH's opinion and related analyses, references to the "Unaffiliated Common Unitholders" means the holders of Midstream common units other than (i) CEQP and its affiliates and (ii) the officers and directors of Midstream GP that are also officers or directors of Equity GP or affiliates of such officers and directors, and references to the "Transaction" means the merger and the related transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

TPH's opinion was directed to the Midstream Conflicts Committee (in its capacity as such), and only addressed the fairness from a financial point of view, as of the date of the opinion, to the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders of the Common Merger Consideration to be received by the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders in the merger pursuant to the merger agreement. TPH's opinion did not address any other term or aspect of the merger agreement or the Transaction. The full text of the TPH written opinion, dated May 5, 2015, which describes the assumptions made, procedures followed, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations of the review undertaken by TPH in rendering its opinion, is attached as Annex B to this proxy statement/prospectus. The summary of TPH's opinion set forth in this proxy statement/prospectus is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the opinion. However, neither TPH's written opinion nor the summary of its opinion and the related analyses set forth in this proxy statement/prospectus are intended to be, and they do not constitute, a recommendation as to how the Midstream Conflicts Committee or the board of directors of Midstream GP, Midstream GP, any holder of securities in Midstream or any other person should act or vote with respect to any matter relating to the merger, the Transaction or any other matter.

Certain Relationships; Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger (page 102)

CEQP and its general partner are effectively controlled by First Reserve, through its subsidiary Holdings. Given that CEQP effectively owns and control's Midstream's general partner, First Reserve effectively controls Midstream as well as CEQP.

In considering the recommendation of the Midstream Board with respect to the merger, Midstream unitholders should be aware that certain of the executive officers and directors of Midstream GP have interests in the transaction that differ from, or are in addition to, the interests of Midstream unitholders generally, including:

All of the directors and executive officers of Midstream GP will receive continued indemnification for their actions as directors and executive officers.

Certain directors of Midstream GP, none of whom is a member of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, own CEQP common units.

Some of Midstream GP's directors, none of whom is a member of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, also serve as executive officers of Equity GP, have certain duties to the limited partners of CEQP and are compensated, in part, based on the performance of CEQP.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

Each of the executive officers and directors of Equity GP is currently expected to remain an executive officer and director of Equity GP following the merger. The persons who will be elected as additional executive officers or directors of Equity GP following the merger have not yet been determined.

Robert G. Phillips, Alvin Bledsoe, Michael G. France, Warren H. Gfeller, John J. Sherman and David M. Wood, who are directors of Midstream GP, also serve as directors of Equity GP.

The Merger Agreement (page 73)

The merger agreement is attached to this proxy statement/prospectus as *Annex A* and is incorporated by reference into this document. You are encouraged to read the merger agreement because it is the legal document that governs the merger.

Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger (page 128)

Tax matters associated with the merger are complicated. The U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger to a Midstream unitholder will depend on such unitholder's specific tax situation. The tax discussions in this proxy statement/prospectus focus on the U.S. federal income tax consequences generally applicable to individuals who are residents or citizens of the United States that hold Midstream units as capital assets, and these discussions have only limited application to other unitholders, including those subject to special tax treatment. Midstream unitholders are urged to consult their tax advisors for a full understanding of the U.S. federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of the merger that will be applicable to them.

Midstream expects to receive an opinion from Vinson & Elkins LLP to the effect that no gain or loss should be recognized by Midstream unitholders to the extent new CEQP units are received as a result of the merger, other than gain resulting from either (i) any decrease in partnership liabilities pursuant to Section 752 of the Internal Revenue Code, or (ii) any cash received in lieu of any fractional new CEQP units. CEQP also expects to receive an opinion from Vinson & Elkins LLP to the effect that no gain or loss should be recognized by CEQP unitholders as a result of the merger (other than gain resulting from any decrease in partnership liabilities pursuant to Section 752 of the Internal Revenue Code). Opinions of counsel, however, are subject to certain limitations and are not binding on the Internal Revenue Service, "IRS" and no assurance can be given that the IRS would not successfully assert a contrary position regarding the merger and the opinions of counsel.

Please read "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger" beginning on page 128 for a more complete discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger.

Other Information Related to the Merger

No Dissenters' or Appraisal Rights (page 70)

Neither Midstream common unitholders nor Midstream preferred unitholders have dissenters' or appraisal rights under applicable Delaware law or contractual appraisal rights under Midstream's partnership agreement or the merger agreement.

Antitrust and Regulatory Matters (page 70)

The merger is subject to both state and federal antitrust laws. Under the rules applicable to partnerships, no filing is required under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 (the "HSR Act"). However, CEQP or Midstream may receive inquiries or requests for information concerning the proposed merger and related transactions from the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"), the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice ("DOJ"), or individual states, and the FTC or DOJ could take such action under the antitrust laws as it deems necessary or desirable in the public interest.

Table of Contents

Listing of Common Units to be Issued in the Merger (page 70)

CEQP expects to obtain approval to list on the NYSE the CEQP common units to be issued pursuant to the merger agreement, which approval is a condition to the merger.

Accounting Treatment of the Merger (page 70)

The proposed merger will be accounted for in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification 810, *Consolidations Overall Changes in Parent's Ownership Interest in a Subsidiary*. Because CEQP controls Midstream both before and after the merger and related transactions, the changes in CEQP's ownership interest in Midstream will be accounted for as an equity transaction and no gain or loss will be recognized in CEQP's consolidated statements of operations resulting from the merger. The proposed merger represents CEQP's acquisition of the noncontrolling interests in Midstream.

Comparison of the Rights of CEQP and Midstream Unitholders (page 107)

Midstream common unitholders will own CEQP common units following the completion of the merger, and their rights associated with CEQP common units will be governed by, in addition to Delaware law, CEQP's partnership agreement, which differs in a number of respects from Midstream's partnership agreement.

As a condition to closing of transactions contemplated under the merger agreement, the parties have agreed to execute and deliver (i) the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment to CEQP's partnership agreement to create the CEQP preferred units, (ii) a Registration Rights Agreement intended to give the holders of CEQP preferred units substantially the same rights as they currently have with respect to their Midstream preferred units under a corresponding agreement with Midstream; and (iii) a Board Representation and Standstill Agreement intended to give the holders of CEQP preferred units substantially the same rights as they currently have with respect to their Midstream preferred units under a corresponding agreement with Midstream. After giving effect to these transactions, the CEQP preferred units will constitute Substantially Equivalent Units (as defined in Midstream's partnership agreement). Please read "Comparison of the Rights of CEQP And Midstream Unitholders" for a more complete discussion of the rights of Midstream and CEQP unitholders.

Pending Litigation (page 70)

On May 20, 2015, Lawrence G. Farber, a purported unitholder of Midstream, filed a complaint in the Southern District of the United States, Houston Division, as a putative class action on behalf of the Midstream unitholders, captioned Lawrence G. Farber, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, Crestwood Midstream GP, LLC, Robert G. Phillips, Alvin Bledsoe, Michael G. France, Philip D. Gettig, Warren H. Gfeller, David Lumpkins, John J. Sherman, David Wood, Crestwood Equity Partners LP, Crestwood Equity GP LLC, CEQP ST Sub LLC, MGP GP, LLC, Crestwood Midstream Holdings LP, and Crestwood Gas Services GP, LLC, Civil Action No. 4:15-cv-1367. This complaint alleges, among other things, that Midstream GP breached its fiduciary duties, certain individual defendants have breached their fiduciary duties of loyalty and due care, and that other defendants have aided and abetted such breaches. On July 6, 2015, the plaintiff in such lawsuit filed an amended complaint, which further alleges that the named defendants violated Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 14a-9 promulgated thereunder by disseminating a false and materially misleading proxy statement in connection with the merger. The plaintiff seeks to enjoin the merger unless and until such alleged breaches have been cured.

On July 21, 2015, Isaac Aron, another purported unitholder of Midstream, filed a complaint in the Southern District of the United States, Houston Division, as a putative class action on behalf of the Midstream unitholders, captioned Isaac Aron, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

v. Robert G. Phillips, Alvin Bledsoe, Michael G. France, Philip D. Gettig, Warren H. Gfeller, David Lumpkins, John J. Sherman, David Wood, Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, Crestwood Midstream Holdings LP, Crestwood Midstream GP LLC, Crestwood Gas Services GP, LLC, Crestwood Equity Partners LP, Crestwood Equity GP LLC, CEQP ST SUB LLC and MGP GP, LLC, Civil Action No. 4:15-cv-2101. The complaint alleges, among other things, that Midstream GP and certain individual defendants violated Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 14a-9 promulgated thereunder by disseminating a false and materially misleading proxy statement in connection with the merger. The plaintiff seeks to enjoin the merger unless and until certain information is disclosed to Midstream unitholders.

On August 10, 2015, the Kenneth C. Halter Trust, another purported unitholder of Midstream, by and through its trustee, filed a complaint in the Delaware Court of Chancery seeking to inspect and make copies and extracts of certain books and records of Midstream for the purpose of investigating possible mismanagement and alleged breaches of Midstream's partnership agreement by the Midstream Board in connection with merger.

While CEQP and Midstream cannot predict the outcome of these lawsuits or any other lawsuits that might be filed subsequent to the date of the filing of this proxy statement/prospectus, nor can CEQP and Midstream predict the amount of time and expense that will be required to resolve these lawsuits or any other lawsuits, CEQP, Midstream and the other defendants named in this lawsuit intend to defend vigorously against this and any other actions.

Summary of Risk Factors (page 30)

You should consider carefully all of the risk factors together with all of the other information included in this proxy statement/prospectus before deciding how to vote. The risks related to the merger and the related transactions, CEQP's business, CEQP common units and risks resulting from CEQP's organizational structure are described under the caption "Risk Factors" beginning on page 30 of this proxy statement/prospectus. Some of these risks include, but are not limited to, those described below:

Midstream's partnership agreement limits the fiduciary duties of Midstream GP to common unitholders and restricts the remedies available to common unitholders for actions taken by Midstream GP that might otherwise constitute breaches of fiduciary duty.

The directors and executive officers of Midstream GP may have interests relating to the merger that differ in certain respects from the interests of the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders.

The exchange ratio is fixed and the market value of the merger consideration to Midstream unaffiliated unitholders on the closing date will be equal to 2.75 times the price of CEQP common units at the closing of the merger, which market value will decrease if the market value of CEQP's common units decreases.

The pro forma financial statements are presented for illustrative purposes only and may not be an indication of CEQP's financial condition or results of operations following the merger.

The transactions contemplated by the merger agreement may not be consummated even if Midstream unitholders approve the merger agreement and the merger.

While the merger agreement is in effect, both Midstream and CEQP may lose opportunities to enter into different business combination transactions with other parties on more favorable terms, and may be limited in their ability to pursue other attractive business opportunities.

No ruling has been obtained with respect to the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger.

The intended U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger are dependent upon CEQP being treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Midstream unitholders could recognize taxable income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of the merger.

Table of Contents

Organizational Chart

Before the Merger

The following diagram depicts a simplified organizational structure of CEQP and Midstream as of August 1, 2015 before the consummation of the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

Table of Contents

After the Merger

The following diagram depicts a simplified organizational structure of CEQP and Midstream immediately after giving effect to the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

(1) Includes 2,390,439 Midstream preferred units that will be issued prior to closing.

Table of Contents

**SUMMARY HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF
CEQP AND MIDSTREAM**

Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data of CEQP

The following selected historical consolidated financial data as of and for each of the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011 are derived from CEQP's historical audited consolidated financial statements. CEQP derived the income statement and cash flow data for the year ended December 31, 2010 from CEQP's historical audited consolidated financial statements and the balance sheet data from its accounting records. The selected historical consolidated financial data as of and for each of the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014 are derived from CEQP's historical unaudited consolidated financial statements. The selected historical consolidated information for the two periods in 2010 (January 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010, the "Predecessor Period" and October 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010, the "Successor Period") relate to the periods before and after Holdings' acquisition of Quicksilver Resources, Inc.'s ownership interest in CGS. You should read the following data in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto set forth in CEQP's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 and CEQP's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2015 incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. See "Where You Can Find More Information."

	Six Months Ended June 30,		Successor Year Ended December 31,				Predecessor Period from October 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010		Period from January 1, 2010 to September 30, 2010	
	2015 (Unaudited)	2014	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2010	2010	
(in millions, except per unit data)										
Income and Cash Flow Data:										
Revenues	\$ 1,373.0	\$ 1,897.9	\$ 3,931.3	\$ 1,426.7	\$ 239.5	\$ 205.8	\$ 31.3	\$ 82.3		
Operating income (loss)	(200.4)	75.1	117.9	28.2	61.4	71.0	5.8	37.5		
Earnings (loss) from unconsolidated affiliates	8.4	(1.6)	(0.7)	(0.1)						
Income (loss) before income taxes	(277.8)	9.4	(9.3)	(49.6)	25.6	43.4	1.1	28.7		
Net income (loss)	(277.9)	8.4	(10.4)	(50.6)	24.4	42.1	1.8	28.6		
Net (income) loss attributable to non-controlling partners	246.2	6.8	66.8	57.3	(9.5)	(34.4)	(1.1)	(26.8)		
Net income (loss) attributable to CEQP	(31.7)	15.2	56.4	6.7	14.9	7.7	0.7	1.8		
Basic and diluted net income (loss) per limited partner unit	\$ (0.17)	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.04		
Weighted-average limited partners' units outstanding (in thousands)										
Basic	182,820	182,001	182,009	109,145	35,103	35,103	35,103	35,103		
Diluted	187,208	186,389	186,397	113,533	39,491	39,491	39,491	39,491		
Distributions declared per limited partner unit(a)	\$ 0.1375	\$ 0.1375	\$ 0.55	\$ 0.6925	\$ 1.33	\$ 2.82	\$ 0.705	\$ 2.105		
Balance Sheet Data:										
Property, plant and equipment, net	\$ 3,853.0		\$ 3,893.8	\$ 3,905.3	\$ 1,102.4	\$ 916.8	\$ 710.4			
Total assets	7,979.7		8,461.4	8,523.2	2,301.6	1,739.2	1,303.1			
Long-term debt, including current portion	2,519.4		2,396.5	2,266.0	685.2	512.5	283.5			
Other long-term liabilities(b)	46.9		47.2	140.4	17.2	15.5	9.9			

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

	Successor						Predecessor	
	Six Months Ended June 30,		Year Ended December 31,				Period from October 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010	Period from January 1, 2010 to September 30, 2010
	2015	2014	2014	2013	2012	2011		
	(Unaudited)							
	(in millions, expect per unit data)							
Other Financial Data:								
EBITDA (unaudited)(c)	\$ (42.7)	\$ 211.2	\$ 403.1	\$ 196.2	\$ 134.6	\$ 124.9	\$ 16.0	\$ 54.2
Adjusted EBITDA (unaudited)(c)	275.0	234.3	495.9	297.7	134.4	110.9	19.5	58.9
Net cash provided by operating activities	211.1	127.2	283.0	188.3	102.1	86.3	3.1	44.9
Net cash used in investing activities	(108.4)	(256.1)	(483.0)	(1,042.9)	(616.6)	(456.5)	(16.6)	(132.7)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(110.2)	141.9	203.6	859.7	513.8	371.0	13.4	87.2
Reconciliation of Net Income (Loss) to EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA:								
Net income (loss)	\$ (277.9)	\$ 8.4	\$ (10.4)	\$ (50.6)	\$ 24.4	\$ 42.1	\$ 1.8	\$ 28.6
Depreciation, amortization and accretion	149.0	137.5	285.3	167.9	73.2	53.9	10.2	16.7
Interest and debt expense, net	69.0	64.3	126.6	73.6	35.0	27.6	4.7	8.8
Loss on modification/extinguishment of debt	17.1		0.5	4.3	0.8			
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	0.1	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.3	(0.7)	0.1
EBITDA(c)	\$ (42.7)	\$ 211.2	\$ 403.1	\$ 196.2	\$ 134.6	\$ 124.9	\$ 16.0	\$ 54.2
Unit-based compensation charges	11.7	11.6	21.3	17.4	1.9	0.9	3.5	2.0
(Gain) loss on long-lived assets, net	1.6	(1.7)	1.9	(5.3)		(1.1)		
Goodwill impairment	281.0		48.8	4.1				
(Gain) loss on contingent consideration		8.6	8.6	31.4	(6.8)	(17.2)		
(Earnings) loss from unconsolidated affiliates, net	(8.4)	1.6	0.7	0.1				
Adjusted EBITDA from unconsolidated affiliates, net	12.2	2.1	6.9	2.5				
Change in fair value of commodity inventory-related derivative contracts	2.6	(7.8)	(10.3)	10.7				
Significant transaction and environmental-related costs and other items	17.0	8.7	14.9	40.6	4.7	3.4		2.7
Adjusted EBITDA(c)	\$ 275.0	\$ 234.3	\$ 495.9	\$ 297.7	\$ 134.4	\$ 110.9	\$ 19.5	\$ 58.9
Reconciliation of Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities to EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA:								
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 211.1	\$ 127.2	\$ 283.0	\$ 188.3	\$ 102.1	\$ 86.3	\$ 3.1	\$ 44.9
Net changes in operating assets and liabilities	(28.0)	37.4	73.8	(19.6)	(4.1)	(4.2)	13.1	5.8
Amortization of debt-related deferred costs, discounts and premiums	(4.4)	(3.9)	(8.5)	(9.2)	(5.5)	(3.5)	(0.7)	(0.6)
Interest and debt expense, net	69.0	64.3	127.1	77.9	35.8	27.6	4.7	8.8

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

	Successor						Predecessor	
	Six Months Ended June 30,		Year Ended December 31,				Period from October 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010	Period from January 1, 2010 to September 30, 2010
	2015	2014	2014	2013	2012	2011		
	(Unaudited)							
	(in millions, except per unit data)							
Market adjustment on interest rate swaps	0.5	1.2	2.7	1.7				
Unit-based compensation charges	(11.7)	(11.6)	(21.3)	(17.4)	(1.9)	(0.9)	(3.5)	(2.0)
Gain (loss) on long-lived assets, net	(1.6)	1.7	(1.9)	5.3		1.1		
Goodwill impairment	(281.0)		(48.8)	(4.1)				
Gain (loss) on contingent consideration		(8.6)	(8.6)	(31.4)	6.8	17.2		
Earnings (loss) from unconsolidated affiliates, net, adjusted for cash distributions	2.1	(1.6)	(0.7)	(0.1)				
Deferred income taxes	1.6	4.1	5.2	2.8			0.9	(0.1)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	0.1	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.3	(0.7)	0.1
Other non-cash income (expense)	(0.4)			1.0	0.2		(0.9)	(2.7)
EBITDA(c)	\$ (42.7)	\$ 211.2	\$ 403.1	\$ 196.2	\$ 134.6	\$ 124.9	\$ 16.0	\$ 54.2
Unit-based compensation charges	11.7	11.6	21.3	17.4	1.9	0.9	3.5	2.0
(Gain) loss on long-lived assets, net	1.6	(1.7)	1.9	(5.3)		(1.1)		
Goodwill impairment	281.0		48.8	4.1				
(Gain) loss on contingent consideration		8.6	8.6	31.4	(6.8)	(17.2)		
(Earnings) loss from unconsolidated affiliates, net	(8.4)	1.6	0.7	0.1				
Adjusted EBITDA from unconsolidated affiliates, net	12.2	2.1	6.9	2.5				
Change in fair value of commodity inventory-related derivative contracts	2.6	(7.8)	(10.3)	10.7				
Significant transaction and environmental-related costs and other items	17.0	8.7	14.9	40.6	4.7	3.4		2.7
Adjusted EBITDA(c)	\$ 275.0	\$ 234.3	\$ 495.9	\$ 297.7	\$ 134.4	\$ 110.9	\$ 19.5	\$ 58.9
Other Data:								
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges(d)		1.0			1.7	2.4	3.2	

- (a) Quarterly distributions are paid in the quarter following the quarterly period for which the distributions are declared.
- (b) Other long-term liabilities primarily include our capital leases, asset retirement obligations and the fair value of unfavorable contracts recorded in purchase accounting.
- (c) EBITDA is defined as income before income taxes, plus debt-related costs (net interest and debt expense and loss on modification/extinguishment of debt) and depreciation, amortization and accretion expense. In addition, Adjusted EBITDA considers the adjusted earnings impact of our unconsolidated affiliates by adjusting our equity earnings or losses from our unconsolidated affiliates for our proportionate share of their depreciation and interest and the impact of certain significant items, such as unit-based compensation charges, gains and impairments of long-lived assets and goodwill, gains and losses on acquisition-related contingencies, third party costs incurred related to potential and completed acquisitions, certain

Table of Contents

environmental remediation costs, change in fair value of certain inventory-related commodity derivative contracts, certain costs related to our 2015 cost savings initiatives, and other transactions identified in a specific reporting period. EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are not measures calculated in accordance with GAAP, as they do not include deductions for items such as depreciation, amortization and accretion, interest and income taxes, which are necessary to maintain our business. EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered an alternative to net income, operating cash flow or any other measure of financial performance presented in accordance with GAAP. EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA calculations may vary among entities, so our computation may not be comparable to measures used by other companies.

(d)

For the purposes of computing the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, "earnings" consists of pretax income before adjustment for non-controlling interest and income from equity investees plus fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest) and amortized capitalized interest. "Fixed charges" represents interest incurred (whether expensed or capitalized), amortization of debt costs and that portion of rental expense on operating leases deemed to be the equivalent of interest. For the six months ended June 30, 2015, earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges by \$292.6 million. For the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges by \$33.6 million and \$57.8 million, respectively.

Table of Contents**Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data of Midstream**

The following selected historical consolidated financial data as of and for each of the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010 are derived from Midstream's historical audited consolidated financial statements. The selected historical consolidated financial data as of and for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014 are derived from Midstream's historical unaudited consolidated financial statements. You should read the following data in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto set forth in Midstream's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 and Midstream's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2015 incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. See "Where You Can Find More Information."

	Six Months Ended June 30,		Year Ended December 31,				
	2015	2014	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(Unaudited)						
	(in millions, except per unit data)						
Income and Cash Flow Data:							
Revenues	\$ 933.5	\$ 1,212.7	\$ 2,565.5	\$ 658.6	\$ 239.5	\$ 205.8	\$ 113.6
Operating income	51.1	76.7	90.9	57.1	75.9	73.9	47.9
Earnings (loss) from unconsolidated affiliates	8.4	(1.6)	(0.7)	(0.1)			
Income (loss) before income taxes	(20.1)	18.0	(21.2)	(14.4)	40.1	46.3	34.3
Net income (loss)	(20.5)	17.2	(21.9)	(15.1)	38.9	45.0	34.9
Net income attributable to non-controlling partners	(11.3)	(6.8)	(16.8)	(4.9)			
Net income (loss) attributable to Midstream	(31.8)	10.4	(38.7)	(20.0)	38.9	45.0	34.9
Basic and diluted net income (loss) per limited partner unit	\$ (0.34)	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.46)	\$ (0.82)	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.50
Weighted-average limited partners' units outstanding (in thousands)							
Basic	188,291	187,920	187,942	99,183	64,656	64,656	64,656
Diluted	188,291	187,920	187,942	99,183	64,656	64,656	64,656
Distributions declared per limited partner unit(a)	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.41	\$ 1.64	\$ 1.61	\$ 1.525	\$ 0.04	\$
Balance Sheet Data:							
Property, plant and equipment, net	\$ 3,487.1		\$ 3,518.1	\$ 3,350.1	\$ 939.9	\$ 746.0	\$ 531.4
Total assets	6,501.2		6,596.5	6,401.8	1,610.6	1,026.9	570.6
Long-term debt, including current portion	2,165.5		2,013.5	1,870.8	685.2	512.5	283.5
Other long-term liabilities(b)	30.9		31.2	26.3	17.2	15.5	9.9
Other Financial Data:							
EBITDA (unaudited)(c)	\$ 180.0	\$ 180.8	\$ 311.9	\$ 178.7	\$ 127.8	\$ 107.7	\$ 70.2
Adjusted EBITDA (unaudited)(c)	250.1	208.6	442.5	261.9	134.4	110.9	78.4
Net cash provided by operating activities	147.9	111.1	322.9	186.5	102.1	86.3	48.0
Net cash used in investing activities	(102.8)	(248.5)	(570.9)	(1,036.5)	(616.6)	(456.5)	(149.3)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(49.5)	152.0	249.9	852.6	513.8	371.0	100.6
Reconciliation of Net Income to EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA:							
Net income (loss)	\$ (20.5)	\$ 17.2	\$ (21.9)	\$ (15.1)	\$ 38.9	\$ 45.0	\$ 34.9
Depreciation, amortization and accretion	120.5	105.7	221.7	121.7	51.9	33.8	22.4
Interest and debt expense, net	62.5	57.1	111.4	67.1	35.0	27.6	13.5
Loss on modification/extinguishment of debt	17.1			4.3	0.8		
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.2	1.3	(0.6)
EBITDA(c)	\$ 180.0	\$ 180.8	\$ 311.9	\$ 178.7	\$ 127.8	\$ 107.7	\$ 70.2
Unit-based compensation charges	10.5	9.8	18.1	15.8	1.9	0.9	5.5
(Gain) loss on long-lived assets, net	1.4	(1.6)	33.6	(5.4)		(1.1)	
Goodwill impairment	40.2		48.8	4.1			
Loss on contingent consideration		8.6	8.6	31.4			
(Earnings) loss from unconsolidated affiliates, net	(8.4)	1.6	0.7	0.1			
Adjusted EBITDA from unconsolidated affiliates, net	12.2	2.1	6.9	2.5			
Significant transaction and environmental-related costs and other items	14.2	7.3	13.9	34.7	4.7	3.4	2.7

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Adjusted EBITDA(c)	\$	250.1	\$	208.6	\$	442.5	\$	261.9	\$	134.4	\$	110.9	\$	78.4
--------------------	----	-------	----	-------	----	-------	----	-------	----	-------	----	-------	----	------

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

	Six Months Ended June 30,		Year Ended December 31,			
	2015	2014	2014	2013	2012	2011

(Unaudited)

(in millions, expect per unit data)

Reconciliation of Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities to EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA:

Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 147.9	\$ 111.1	\$ 322.9	\$ 186.5	\$ 102.1	\$ 86.3	\$ 48.0
Net changes in operating assets and liabilities	23.6	34.3	(5.4)	(24.7)	(4.1)	(4.2)	18.9
Amortization of debt-related deferred costs, discounts and premiums	(3.9)	(3.6)	(7.3)	(9.1)	(5.5)	(3.5)	(1.3)
Interest and debt expense, net	62.5	57.1	111.4	71.4	35.8	27.6	13.5
Unit-based compensation charges	(10.5)	(9.8)	(18.1)	(15.8)	(1.9)	(0.9)	(5.5)
Gain (loss) on long-lived assets, net	(1.4)	1.6	(33.6)	5.4		1.1	
Goodwill impairment	(40.2)		(48.8)	(4.1)			
Loss on contingent consideration		(8.6)	(8.6)	(31.4)			
(Earnings) loss from unconsolidated affiliates, net, adjusted for cash distributions	2.1	(1.6)	(0.7)	(0.1)			
Deferred income taxes	(0.3)	(0.5)	(0.6)				0.8
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.2	1.3	(0.6)
Other non-cash income (expense)	(0.2)			(0.1)	0.2		(3.6)
EBITDA(c)	\$ 180.0	\$ 180.8	\$ 311.9	\$ 178.7	\$ 127.8	\$ 107.7	\$ 70.2
Unit-based compensation charges	10.5	9.8	18.1	15.8	1.9	0.9	5.5
(Gain) loss on long-lived assets, net	1.4	(1.6)	33.6	(5.4)		(1.1)	
Goodwill impairment	40.2		48.8	4.1			
Loss on contingent consideration		8.6	8.6	31.4			
(Earnings) loss from unconsolidated affiliates, net	(8.4)	1.6	0.7	0.1			
Adjusted EBITDA from unconsolidated affiliates, net	12.2	2.1	6.9	2.5			
Significant transaction and environmental-related costs and other items	14.2	7.3	13.9	34.7	4.7	3.4	2.7
Adjusted EBITDA(c)	\$ 250.1	\$ 208.6	\$ 442.5	\$ 261.9	\$ 134.4	\$ 110.9	\$ 78.4

Other Data:

Ratio of earnings to fixed charges(d)		1.2		2.0	2.5	3.5
---------------------------------------	--	-----	--	-----	-----	-----

(a) Quarterly distributions are paid in the quarter following the quarterly period for which the distributions are declared.

(b) Other long-term liabilities primarily include our capital leases and asset retirement obligations.

(c) EBITDA is defined as income before income taxes, plus debt-related costs (net interest and debt expense and loss on modification/extinguishment of debt) and depreciation, amortization and accretion expense. In addition, Adjusted EBITDA considers the adjusted earnings impact of our unconsolidated affiliates by adjusting our equity earnings or losses from our unconsolidated affiliates for our proportionate share of their depreciation and interest and the impact of certain significant items, such as unit-based compensation charges, gains and impairments of long-lived assets and goodwill, gains and losses on acquisition-related contingencies, third party costs incurred related to potential and completed acquisitions, certain environmental remediation costs, certain costs related to our 2015 cost savings initiatives, and other transactions identified in a specific reporting period. EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are not measures calculated in accordance with GAAP, as they do not include deductions for items such as depreciation, amortization and accretion, interest and income taxes, which are necessary to maintain our business. EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered an alternative to net income, operating cash flow or any other measure of financial performance presented in accordance with GAAP. EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA calculations may vary among entities, so our computation may not be comparable to measures used by other companies.

(d)

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

For the purposes of computing the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, "earnings" consists of pretax income before adjustment for non-controlling interest and income from equity investees plus fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest) and amortized capitalized interest. "Fixed charges" represents interest incurred (whether expensed or capitalized), amortization of debt costs and that portion of rental expense on operating leases deemed to be the equivalent of interest. For the six months ended June 30, 2015, earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges by \$34.9 million. For the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges by \$45.3 million and \$22.6 million, respectively.

Table of Contents**Selected Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information**

The following table sets forth selected unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information for CEQP after giving effect to the merger. The selected unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information is derived from the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements included in this proxy statement. For a complete discussion of the pro forma adjustments underlying the amounts in the table below, please read the section titled "Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Statements" beginning on page F-1.

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2015	Year Ended December 31, 2014
	(in millions, except per unit amounts)	
Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Statements of Income Information:		
Revenues	\$ 1,373.0	\$ 3,931.3
Operating income (loss)	(200.4)	117.9
Earnings (loss) from equity investments	8.4	(0.7)
Net loss	(277.9)	(10.4)
Net loss attributable to CEQP	(289.2)	(27.2)
Basic and diluted loss per limited partner unit	\$ (0.45)	\$ (0.06)
Weighted-average limited partners' units outstanding		
Basic	681.0	680.1
Diluted	685.4	684.5

	As of June 30, 2015
	(in millions)
Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Balance Sheet Information:	
Total assets	\$ 7,957.7
Total debt(a)	2,519.4
Total liabilities	2,869.5
CEQP's partners' capital	4,909.0
Noncontrolling interests	179.2
Total partners' capital	5,088.2

(a) Includes current portion of \$12.3 million.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

Unaudited Comparative Per Unit Information

The following table sets forth: (a) certain historical per unit information of CEQP; (b) certain historical per unit information of Midstream; and (c) unaudited pro forma combined and equivalent pro forma combined per unit information after giving effect to the merger.

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2015	Year Ended December 31, 2014
Historical CEQP		
Net income (loss) per limited partner unit basic and diluted	\$ (0.17)	\$ 0.30
Distributions per unit declared for the period	\$ 0.1375	\$ 0.55
Book value per unit(a)	\$ 3.70	\$ 4.16
Historical Midstream		
Net loss per limited partner unit basic and diluted	\$ (0.34)	\$ (0.46)
Distributions per unit declared for the period	\$ 0.41	\$ 1.64
Book value per unit(a)	\$ 18.42	\$ 19.56
Pro forma combined CEQP		
Net loss per limited partner unit basic and diluted(b)	\$ (0.45)	\$ (0.06)
Distributions per unit declared for the period(c)	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.58
Book value per unit(d)	\$ 6.48	n/a
Equivalent pro forma combined Midstream(e)		
Net loss per limited partner unit basic and diluted	\$ (1.24)	\$ (0.17)
Distributions per unit declared for the period	\$ 0.80	\$ 1.60
Book value per unit	\$ 17.82	n/a

(a) The historical book value per unit was calculated as follows (in millions, except per unit amounts):

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2015	
	CEQP	Midstream
Partners' capital before preferred and noncontrolling interests	\$ 692.6	\$ 3,468.5
Divided by: Number of limited partners' units outstanding as of end of period	187.3	188.3
Book value per unit	\$ 3.70	\$ 18.42

	Year Ended December 31, 2014	
	CEQP	Midstream
Partners' capital before preferred and noncontrolling interests	\$ 776.2	\$ 3,678.0
Divided by: Number of limited partners' units outstanding as of end of period	186.4	188.0
Book value per unit	\$ 4.16	\$ 19.56

(b)

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Amounts are from the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements included under "Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Pro Forma Financial Statements."

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

- (c) The pro forma combined CEQP distributions declared amounts were calculated as follows (in millions, except per unit amounts):

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2015		
	CEQP	Midstream	Total
Declared distributions to limited partner units, excluding Midstream units held by CEQP (historical)	\$ 51.5	\$ 148.6	\$ 200.1
Divided by: Pro forma combined number of units outstanding as of date of record			685.4
Dividends per unit declared for the period (pro forma)			\$ 0.29

	Year Ended December 31, 2014		
	CEQP	Midstream	Total
Declared distributions to limited partner units, excluding Midstream units held by CEQP (historical)	\$ 102.7	\$ 296.7	\$ 399.4
Divided by: Pro forma combined number of units outstanding as of date of record			684.5
Dividends per unit declared for the period (pro forma)			\$ 0.58

- (d) The pro forma combined CEQP, book value per unit was calculated as follows (in millions, except per unit amounts):

	As of June 30, 2015
Partners' capital before preferred and non-controlling interests	\$ 4,444.6
Divided by: number of limited partners' units outstanding	685.4
Book value per unit	\$ 6.48

- (e) Equivalent pro forma amounts are calculated by multiplying pro forma combined CEQP amounts by the exchange ratio of 2.75 units of CEQP limited partner units for each Midstream unit.

Table of Contents**MARKET PRICES AND DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION**

CEQP common units are traded on the NYSE under the ticker symbol "CEQP," and the Midstream common units are traded on the NYSE under the ticker symbol "CMLP." The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the range of high and low sales prices per unit for CEQP common units and Midstream common units, on the NYSE composite tape, as well as information concerning quarterly cash distributions declared and paid with respect to each period. All references to sales prices and distributions per unit in the following table are as reported in published financial sources.

	CEQP Common Units			Midstream Common Units		
	Sales Prices		Distribution Rate(1)	Sales Prices		Distribution Rate(1)
	High	Low		High	Low	
2013						
First Quarter	\$ 20.91	\$ 18.42	\$ 0.290	\$ 25.00	\$ 22.27	\$ 0.395
Second Quarter	\$ 25.34	\$ 13.55	\$ 0.130	\$ 26.01	\$ 21.03	\$ 0.400
Third Quarter	\$ 16.89	\$ 12.59	\$ 0.135	\$ 25.60	\$ 21.41	\$ 0.405
Fourth Quarter	\$ 15.30	\$ 11.83	\$ 0.1375	\$ 24.94	\$ 20.40	\$ 0.410
2014						
First Quarter	\$ 14.51	\$ 12.41	\$ 0.1375	\$ 24.88	\$ 21.62	\$ 0.410
Second Quarter	\$ 15.04	\$ 12.85	\$ 0.1375	\$ 24.20	\$ 21.25	\$ 0.410
Third Quarter	\$ 15.40	\$ 10.55	\$ 0.1375	\$ 24.25	\$ 20.23	\$ 0.410
Fourth Quarter	\$ 10.73	\$ 5.84	\$ 0.1375	\$ 22.78	\$ 13.73	\$ 0.410
2015						
First Quarter	\$ 8.46	\$ 5.80	\$ 0.1375	\$ 16.77	\$ 13.03	\$ 0.410
Second Quarter	\$ 7.01	\$ 4.01	\$ 0.1375	\$ 16.44	\$ 14.43	\$ 0.410
Third Quarter (through August 26, 2015)	\$ 4.30	\$ 2.55	n/a(2)	\$ 12.11	\$ 6.98	n/a(2)

- (1) Represents cash distribution declared with respect to the quarter presented and paid in the following quarter. The partnership agreements of both CEQP and Midstream require them to distribute all of their "available cash," as defined in their respective partnership agreements, within 45 days after the end of each quarter. The payment of future quarterly cash distributions by CEQP and/or Midstream, therefore, will depend on their respective "available cash" amounts at the end of each quarter.
- (2) Neither the cash distribution of CEQP nor the cash distribution of Midstream with respect to the third quarter of 2015 has been declared or paid by CEQP or Midstream, respectively, as of the date of this proxy statement/prospectus.

The last reported sale price of Midstream common units on the NYSE on May 5, 2015, the last trading day before CEQP and Midstream entered into and announced the merger agreement, was \$16.00 per unit. Likewise, the last reported sale price of CEQP common units was \$6.82 per unit on May 5, 2015.

The last reported sale price of Midstream common units on the NYSE on August 26, 2015, the last trading day before the filing of the registration statement of which this proxy statement/prospectus is a part, was \$7.13 per unit. Likewise, the last reported sale price of CEQP common units was \$2.67 per unit on August 26, 2015.

As of February 13, 2015, CEQP had 187,349,776 common units outstanding held by approximately 247 holders of record. As of the record date for the special meeting, Midstream had 188,306,968 outstanding common units held by approximately 239 holders of record.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

You should consider carefully the following risk factors, together with all of the other information included in, or incorporated by reference into, this proxy statement/prospectus before deciding how to vote. In particular, please read Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors," in the Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 for each of CEQP and Midstream incorporated by reference herein. This document also contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Please read "Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

Risks Related to the Merger

Midstream's partnership agreement limits the fiduciary duties of Midstream GP to common unitholders and restricts the remedies available to common unitholders for actions taken by Midstream GP that might otherwise constitute breaches of fiduciary duty.

Midstream's partnership agreement contains provisions that modify and limit Midstream GP's fiduciary duties to Midstream unitholders. Midstream's partnership agreement also restricts the remedies available to Midstream unitholders for actions taken that, without those limitations, might constitute breaches of fiduciary duty.

Neither Midstream GP nor its affiliates (including directors of Midstream GP) will be in breach of their obligations under Midstream's partnership agreement or its duties to Midstream or the Midstream unitholders if the resolution of any conflict of interest is:

approved by a majority of the members of the Midstream Conflicts Committee; or

approved by a vote of the majority of the Midstream common units (excluding Midstream common units owned by Midstream GP and its affiliates);

In light of conflicts of interest in connection with the merger between CEQP, Midstream GP and its controlling affiliates, on the one hand, and Midstream and the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders, on the other hand, the Midstream Board delegated authority to the Midstream Conflicts Committee to consider, analyze, review, evaluate, determine and recommend whether to pursue the merger and related matters and if a determination to pursue a merger and related matters were made, to negotiate the terms and conditions of a merger and related matters. Approval by a majority of the members of the Midstream Conflicts Committee is referred to as "Special Approval" in Midstream's partnership agreement. Under Midstream's partnership agreement, if any resolution or course of action with respect to a conflict of interest receives Special Approval, then such resolution or course of action shall be conclusively deemed approved by all parties and will not constitute a breach of the partnership agreement of Midstream, any agreement contemplated therein, or of any fiduciary or other duty existing at law, in equity or otherwise or obligation of any type whatsoever.

The directors and executive officers of Midstream GP may have interests relating to the merger that differ in certain respects from the interests of the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders.

In considering the recommendation of the Midstream Board to approve the merger agreement and the merger, you should consider that some of the directors and executive officers of Midstream GP may have interests that differ from, or are in addition to, interests of Midstream unitholders generally, including:

All of the directors and executive officers of Midstream GP will receive continued indemnification for their actions as directors and executive officers.

Certain directors of Midstream GP, none of whom is a member of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, own CEQP common units.

Some of Midstream GP's directors, none of whom is a member of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, also serve as officers of Equity GP, have certain duties to the limited partners of CEQP and are compensated, in part, based on the performance of CEQP.

Table of Contents

All of Midstream GP's officers also serve as officers of Equity GP, and are compensated, in part, based on the performance of CEQP.

The exchange ratio is fixed and the market value of the merger consideration to Midstream unaffiliated unitholders on the closing date will be equal to 2.75 times the price of CEQP common units at the closing of the merger, which market value will decrease if the market value of CEQP's common units decreases.

The market value of the consideration that Midstream unaffiliated unitholders will receive in the merger will depend on the trading price of CEQP's common units at the closing of the merger. The 2.75 exchange ratio that determines the number of CEQP common units that Midstream unaffiliated unitholders will receive in the merger is fixed. This means that there is no "price protection" mechanism contained in the merger agreement that would adjust the number of CEQP common units that Midstream unaffiliated unitholders will receive based on any decreases in the trading price of CEQP common units. If CEQP's common unit price at the closing of the merger is less than CEQP's common unit price on the date that the merger agreement was signed, then the market value of the consideration received by Midstream unaffiliated unitholders will be less than contemplated at the time the merger agreement was signed. Consider the following example:

Example: Pursuant to the merger agreement, Midstream common unitholders will be entitled to receive 2.75 CEQP common units for each Midstream common unit, subject to receipt of cash in lieu of any fractional Midstream common units. Based on the closing sales price of CEQP common units on May 5, 2015 of \$6.82 per unit, the market value of the CEQP common units to be received by Midstream unaffiliated common unitholders (excluding the Midstream preferred units) would be approximately \$2.9 billion. If the trading price for CEQP common units decreased 10% from \$6.82 to \$6.14, then the market value of the CEQP common units to be received by Midstream unitholders (excluding the Midstream preferred units) would be approximately \$2.6 billion. Any decline in the price of CEQP common units may not be matched by a similar decline in the price of Midstream common units absent the merger.

Accordingly, there is a risk that the premium to Midstream common unitholders of approximately 17%, based upon the closing prices of the Midstream common units and CEQP common units ending May 5, 2015, the last trading day before the public announcement of the proposed merger, will not be realized by Midstream common unitholders at the time the merger is completed. CEQP common unit price changes may result from a variety of factors, including general market and economic conditions, changes in CEQP's business, operations and prospects, and regulatory considerations. Many of these factors are beyond CEQP's and Midstream's control. For historical and current market prices of CEQP common units and Midstream common units, please read the "Market Prices and Distribution Information" section of this proxy statement/prospectus.

The pro forma financial statements are presented for illustrative purposes only and may not be an indication of CEQP's financial condition or results of operations following the merger.

The pro forma financial statements contained in this proxy statement/prospectus are presented for illustrative purposes only and may not be an indication of CEQP's financial condition or results of operations following the merger for several reasons. The pro forma financial statements have been derived from the historical financial statements of CEQP and Midstream, and adjustments and assumptions have been made after giving effect to the merger. The information upon which these adjustments and assumptions have been made is preliminary, and these kinds of adjustments and assumptions are difficult to make with accuracy. Moreover, the pro forma financial statements do not reflect all costs that are expected to be incurred by CEQP and Midstream in connection with the merger. In addition, the pro forma financial statements do not reflect the potential impact, if any, of the decrease in CEQP's unit price since June 30, 2015 on the valuation of CEQP's consolidated assets, including goodwill. As described in CEQP's annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 and CEQP's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2015, the fair value of CEQP's reporting units utilized in determining the recoverability of

Table of Contents

CEQP's assets (including goodwill) is based on a number of factors, one of which considers the enterprise value of CEQP. As a result, the actual financial condition and results of operations of CEQP following the merger may not be consistent with, or evident from, these pro forma financial statements.

The assumptions used in preparing the pro forma financial information may not prove to be accurate, and other factors may affect CEQP's financial condition or results of operations following the merger. Any decline or potential decline in CEQP's financial condition or results of operations may cause significant variations in its unit price. Please read "Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Statements" beginning on page F-1 of this proxy statement/prospectus.

The transactions contemplated by the merger agreement may not be consummated even if Midstream unitholders approve the merger agreement and the merger.

The merger agreement contains conditions that, if not satisfied or waived, would result in the merger not occurring, even though Midstream unitholders may have voted in favor of the merger agreement. In addition, Midstream and CEQP can agree not to consummate the merger even if Midstream unitholders approve the merger agreement and the merger and the conditions to the closing of the merger are otherwise satisfied.

While the merger agreement is in effect, both Midstream and CEQP may lose opportunities to enter into different business combination transactions with other parties on more favorable terms, and may be limited in their ability to pursue other attractive business opportunities.

While the merger agreement is in effect, Midstream is prohibited from knowingly initiating, soliciting or encouraging any inquiries or the making or submission of any proposal that constitutes or may reasonably be expected to lead to a proposal to acquire Midstream, or offering to enter into certain transactions such as a merger, sale of assets or other business combination, with any other person, subject to limited exceptions. As a result of these provisions in the merger agreement, Midstream may lose opportunities to enter into more favorable transactions. While the merger agreement is in effect, CEQP is prohibited from merging, consolidating or entering into any other business combination with any other entity or making any acquisition or disposition that would likely have a material adverse effect, as defined in the merger agreement.

Both CEQP and Midstream have also agreed to refrain from taking certain actions with respect to their businesses and financial affairs pending completion of the merger or termination of the merger agreement. These restrictions and the non-solicitation provisions (described in more detail below in "The Merger Agreement") could be in effect for an extended period of time if completion of the merger is delayed and the parties agree to extend the December 31, 2015 outside termination date.

In addition to the economic costs associated with pursuing a merger, each of Equity GP's and Midstream GP's management is devoting substantial time and other resources to the proposed transaction and related matters, which could limit CEQP's and Midstream's ability to pursue other attractive business opportunities, including potential joint ventures, stand-alone projects and other transactions. If either CEQP or Midstream is unable to pursue such other attractive business opportunities, its growth prospects and the long-term strategic position of its business and the combined business could be adversely affected.

Two lawsuits have been filed against Midstream, Midstream GP, directors of Midstream GP, and CEQP, among others, challenging the merger, and any injunctive relief or adverse judgment for monetary damages could prevent the merger from occurring or could have a material adverse effect on Midstream and CEQP following the merger.

Midstream, Midstream GP and the directors of Midstream GP are named defendants in two purported class actions brought by purported unitholders of Midstream in the Southern District of the United States, Houston Division. The first action generally alleges that, among other things, Midstream GP breached its fiduciary duties, certain individual defendants have breached their fiduciary

Table of Contents

duties of loyalty and due care, and that other defendants have aided and abetted such breaches. The second action brings claims under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 generally alleging, among other things, that Midstream GP and certain individual defendants filed an allegedly incomplete and misleading Form S-4 Registration Statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission. In both matters, plaintiffs seek to enjoin the defendants from proceeding with or consummating the merger and, to the extent that the merger is implemented before relief is granted, both plaintiffs seek to have the merger rescinded. Plaintiffs also seek money damages and attorneys' fees.

One of the conditions to the completion of the merger is that no order, decree or injunction of any court or agency of competent jurisdiction will be in effect, and no law will have been enacted or adopted, that enjoins, prohibits or makes illegal the consummation of any of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. A preliminary injunction could delay or jeopardize the completion of the merger, and an adverse judgment or judgments granting permanent injunctive relief could indefinitely enjoin completion of the merger. An adverse judgment or judgments for rescission or for monetary damages could have a material adverse effect on Midstream and CEQP following the merger. For more information on this lawsuit, see "Pending Litigation."

Risks Related to CEQP's Business After the Merger

CEQP's cash distributions may vary based on its operating performance and level of cash reserves.

Distributions will be dependent on the amount of cash CEQP generates and may fluctuate based on its performance. Neither CEQP nor Midstream can guarantee that after giving effect to the merger CEQP will continue to be able to pay distributions at the current level each quarter or make any increase in the amount of distributions in the future. The amount of cash CEQP can distribute on its common units principally depends upon the amount of cash CEQP generates from its operations and payments of fees and expenses. Before CEQP pays any cash distributions on its units, it will establish reserves and pay fees and expenses, including reimbursements to its general partner and its affiliates, for all expenses they incur and payments they make on CEQP's behalf. These costs will reduce the amount of cash available to pay distributions to CEQP unitholders and, to the extent CEQP is unable to declare and pay fixed cash distributions on the CEQP preferred units following the quarter ending June 30, 2017, CEQP cannot make cash distributions to its common unitholders until all payments accruing on the CEQP preferred units have been repaid.

The actual amount of cash that is available to be distributed each quarter will depend upon numerous factors, some of which will be beyond CEQP's control and the control of its general partner. These factors include but are not limited to the following:

the volume of products that CEQP handles and the prices it receives for its products and services;

the level of CEQP's operating costs;

the level of competition from third parties;

prevailing economic conditions, including the price of and demand for NGLs, crude oil, natural gas and other products CEQP will gather, process, transport, store and market;

the level of capital expenditures CEQP will make and the availability of, and timing of completion of, organic growth projects;

the restrictions contained in CEQP's debt agreements and debt service requirements;

fluctuations in CEQP's working capital needs;

the weather in CEQP's operating areas;

the availability and cost of acquisitions, if any;

regulatory changes; and

Table of Contents

the amount, if any, of cash reserves established by Equity GP in its discretion.

In addition, CEQP's ability to pay the minimum quarterly distribution each quarter will depend primarily on its cash flow, including cash flow from financial reserves and working capital borrowings, and not solely on profitability, which is affected by non-cash items. As a result, CEQP may make cash distributions during periods when it records losses, and CEQP may not make distributions during periods when it records net income.

CEQP's ability to make cash distributions may be diminished, and CEQP's financial leverage could increase, if CEQP is not able to obtain needed capital or financing on satisfactory terms.

Historically, each of CEQP and Midstream have used cash flow from operations, borrowings under its respective revolving credit facility and issuances of debt or equity to fund their respective capital programs, working capital needs and acquisitions. CEQP's capital program may require additional financing above the level of cash generated by CEQP's and Midstream's respective operations to fund growth. If CEQP's cash flow from operations decreases as a result of lower throughput volumes on its systems or otherwise, its ability to expend the capital necessary to expand its business or increase its future cash distributions may be limited. If CEQP's cash flow from operations is insufficient to satisfy its financing needs, CEQP cannot be certain that additional financing will be available to it on acceptable terms, if at all. CEQP's ability to obtain bank financing or to access the capital markets for future equity or debt offerings may be limited by its financial condition or general economic conditions at the time of any such financing or offering. Even if CEQP is successful in obtaining the necessary funds, the terms of such financings could have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operation, financial condition and ability to make cash distributions to its unitholders. Further, incurring additional debt may significantly increase CEQP's interest expense and financial leverage and issuing additional limited partner interests may result in significant unitholder dilution and would increase the aggregate amount of cash required to maintain the cash distribution rate which could materially decrease CEQP's ability to pay distributions. If additional capital resources are unavailable, CEQP may curtail its activities or be forced to sell some of its assets on an untimely or unfavorable basis.

CEQP's level of indebtedness could adversely affect its ability to raise additional capital to fund operations, limit its ability to react to changes in its business or industry, and place it at a competitive disadvantage.

CEQP and Midstream combined had approximately \$2.5 billion of long-term debt outstanding as of July 17, 2015. CEQP's inability to generate sufficient cash flow to satisfy debt obligations or to obtain alternative financing could materially and adversely affect its business, results of operations, financial condition and business prospects.

CEQP's substantial debt could have important consequences to its unitholders. For example, it could:

increase its vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;

limit its ability to fund future capital expenditures and working capital, to engage in development activities, or to otherwise realize the value of its assets and opportunities fully because of the need to dedicate a substantial portion of its cash flow from operations to payments of interest and principal on its debt or to comply with any restrictive covenants or terms of its debt;

result in an event of default if it fails to satisfy debt obligations or fails to comply with the financial and other restrictive covenants contained in the agreements governing its indebtedness, which event of default could result in all of its debt becoming immediately due and payable and could permit its lenders to foreclose on any of the collateral securing such debt;

Table of Contents

require a substantial portion of cash flow from operations to be dedicated to the payment of principal and interest on its indebtedness, therefore reducing its ability to use cash flow to fund operations, capital expenditures and future business opportunities;

increase its cost of borrowing;

restrict it from making strategic acquisitions or cause it to make non-strategic divestitures;

limit its flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in the business or industry in which it operates, placing it at a competitive disadvantage compared to its peers who are less highly leveraged and who therefore may be able to take advantage of opportunities that CEQP's leverage prevents it from exploring; and

impair its ability to obtain additional financing in the future.

Realization of any of these factors could adversely affect CEQP's financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Risks Related to CEQP's Common Units and Risks Resulting from its Partnership Structure

The general partner of CEQP and its affiliates have limited fiduciary responsibilities to, and have conflicts of interest with respect to, CEQP, which may permit the general partner of CEQP to favor its own interests to your detriment.

Conflicts of interest may arise among CEQP's general partner and its affiliates, on the one hand, and CEQP, on the other hand. As a result of these conflicts, CEQP's general partner may favor its own interests and the interests of its affiliates over CEQP's interests. These conflicts include, among others, the following:

neither CEQP's partnership agreement nor any other agreement requires the general partner of CEQP to pursue a business strategy that favors CEQP;

decisions of the general partner of CEQP regarding the amount and timing of asset purchases and sales, cash expenditures, borrowings, issuances of additional units and reserves in any quarter may affect the level of cash available to pay quarterly distributions to unitholders;

under CEQP's partnership agreement, the general partner of CEQP determines which costs incurred by it and its affiliates are reimbursable by CEQP;

the general partner of CEQP is allowed to resolve any conflicts of interest involving CEQP and the general partner of CEQP and its affiliates;

the general partner of CEQP is allowed to take into account the interests of parties other than CEQP in resolving conflicts of interest, which has the effect of limiting its fiduciary duty to CEQP's unitholders;

any resolution of a conflict of interest by the general partner of CEQP not made in bad faith and that is fair and reasonable to CEQP is binding on the partners and will not be a breach of CEQP's partnership agreement;

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

affiliates of the general partner of CEQP may compete with CEQP in certain circumstances;

the general partner of CEQP has limited its liability and reduced its fiduciary duties and has also restricted the remedies available to CEQP's unitholders for actions that might, without the limitations, constitute breaches of fiduciary duty. As a result of acquiring CEQP common units, you are deemed to consent to some actions and conflicts of interest that might otherwise constitute a breach of fiduciary or other duties under applicable law;

in some instances, the general partner of CEQP may cause CEQP to borrow funds in order to permit the payment of distributions;

Table of Contents

CEQP's partnership agreement does not restrict the general partner of CEQP from causing CEQP to pay it or its affiliates for any services rendered to CEQP or entering into additional contractual arrangements with any of these entities on CEQP's behalf, so long as the terms of any such payments or additional contractual arrangements are fair and reasonable to CEQP; and

the general partner of CEQP decides whether to retain separate counsel, accountants or others to perform services for CEQP.

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

If at any time the general partner of CEQP and its affiliates own more than 80% of CEQP common units then outstanding, the general partner of CEQP will have the right, but not the obligation, which it may assign to any of its affiliates or to CEQP, to acquire all, but not less than all, of the remaining CEQP common units held by unaffiliated persons at a price not less than the then current market price. As a result, common unitholders may be required to sell their CEQP common units at an undesirable time or price and may therefore not receive any return on their investment. They may also incur a tax liability upon a sale of their units. As of December 31, 2014, the directors and executive officers of our general partner owned approximately 12% of our common units.

Tax Risks Related to the Merger

In addition to reading the following risk factors, you are urged to read "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger" beginning on page 128 and "U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of Ownership of CEQP Units" beginning on page 132 for a more complete discussion of the expected material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger and owning and disposing of CEQP units received in the merger.

No ruling has been obtained with respect to the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger.

No ruling has been or will be requested from the IRS with respect to the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger. Instead, CEQP and Midstream are relying on the opinions of counsel as to the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger, and counsel's conclusions may not be sustained if challenged by the IRS.

The intended U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger are dependent upon CEQP being treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

The treatment of the merger as nontaxable to Midstream unitholders is dependent upon CEQP being treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If CEQP were treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the consequences of the merger would be materially different and the merger would likely be a fully taxable transaction to a Midstream unitholder.

Midstream unitholders could recognize taxable income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of the merger.

To the extent Midstream unitholders receive cash in lieu of fractional new CEQP units in the merger, such unitholders will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the cash received and the common unitholders' adjusted tax basis allocated to such fractional new CEQP units.

As a result of the merger, Midstream unitholders who receive CEQP units will become limited partners of CEQP and will be allocated a share of CEQP's nonrecourse liabilities. Each Midstream unitholder will be treated as receiving a deemed cash distribution equal to the excess, if any, of such unitholder's share of nonrecourse liabilities of Midstream immediately before the merger over such unitholder's share of nonrecourse liabilities of CEQP immediately following the merger. If the amount of any deemed cash distribution received by a Midstream unitholder exceeds the unitholder's basis in his Midstream common units, such unitholder will recognize gain in an amount equal to such excess.

Table of Contents

Based on the prices at which the Midstream units have been issued and traded (including units of Midstream, Inergy Midstream, L.P. and Quicksilver Gas Services LP) and the distributions and allocations with respect to such units, CEQP and Midstream do not expect any Midstream unitholders who acquired their units in Midstream (or its predecessors) in exchange for cash to recognize gain in this manner, except to the extent such Midstream unitholders purchased units of Quicksilver Gas Services LP, between October 2008 and March 2009, when its units were trading at depressed levels.

Tax Risks Related to Owning CEQP Units Following the Merger

CEQP's tax treatment depends on its status as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. If the Internal Revenue Service were to treat CEQP as a corporation for federal income tax purposes or if it were to become subject to a material amount of entity-level taxation for state tax purposes, then its cash available for distribution to its unitholders would be substantially reduced.

The anticipated after-tax economic benefit of an investment in CEQP units depends largely on CEQP being treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. CEQP has not requested, and does not plan to request, a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") on this matter.

Despite the fact that CEQP is a limited partnership under Delaware law, it is possible in certain circumstances for a partnership such as CEQP to be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. Although CEQP does not believe based upon its current operations that it is or will be so treated, a change in its business or a change in current law could cause it to be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes or otherwise subject it to a material amount of federal taxation as an entity.

If CEQP were treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, it would pay federal income tax on its taxable income at the corporate tax rate (which is currently at a maximum of 35%) and it would also likely pay additional state income taxes at varying rates. Distributions to its unitholders would generally be taxed again as corporate dividends, and no income, gains, losses, deductions or credits would flow through to its unitholders. Because a tax would be imposed upon it as a corporation, the cash available for distribution to its unitholders would be substantially reduced. Thus, treatment of CEQP as a corporation would result in a material reduction in the after-tax return to its unitholders, likely causing a substantial reduction in the value of CEQP units. Please read "U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of Ownership of CEQP Units Partnership Status" for a further discussion of the foregoing.

In addition, 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. If any additional state were to impose a similar tax upon CEQP as an entity, the cash available for distribution to CEQP unitholders would be reduced and the value of CEQP's units could be negatively impacted.

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

The present federal income tax treatment of publicly traded partnerships, including CEQP, may be modified by administrative, legislative or judicial interpretation at any time. For example, the Obama administration's budget proposal for fiscal year 2016 recommends that certain publicly traded partnerships earning income from activities related to fossil fuels be taxed as corporations beginning in 2021. From time to time, members of the U.S. Congress propose and consider such substantive changes to the existing federal income tax laws that affect the tax treatment of certain publicly traded partnerships. If successful, the Obama administration's proposal or other similar proposals could eliminate the qualifying income exception to the treatment of all publicly-traded partnerships as corporations upon which we rely for our treatment as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Table of Contents

On May 5, 2015, the U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS released proposed regulations (the "Proposed Regulations") regarding qualifying income under Section 7704(d)(1)(E) of the Code. The Proposed Regulations provide an exclusive list of industry-specific activities that generate qualifying income for the purposes of the Qualifying Income Exception, including the activities that constitute the transportation, storage, processing or marketing of a natural resource. Although the Proposed Regulations adopt a narrow interpretation of the activities that generate qualifying income, CEQP does not anticipate any material impact on its ability to satisfy the qualifying income test if the Proposed Regulations were finalized as proposed. However, there can be no assurances that the Proposed Regulations, when adopted as final regulations, will not take a position that is contrary to CEQP's interpretation of Section 7704 of the Code. If the Proposed Regulations were to treat any material portion of CEQP's income as non-Qualifying income, CEQP anticipates being able to treat that income as qualifying income for ten years under special transition rules provided in the Proposed Regulations.

Any modification to the U.S. federal income tax laws and interpretations thereof may be applied retroactively and could make it more difficult or impossible for CEQP to meet the qualifying income exception in order for CEQP to be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. CEQP is unable to predict whether any of these changes or any other proposals will ultimately be enacted or adopted. Any such changes could negatively impact the value of an investment in CEQP units and the amount of cash available for distribution to its unitholders.

CEQP prorates its items of income, gain, loss and deduction between transferors and transferees of its common units each month based upon the ownership of its common units as of the opening of the NYSE on the first business day of each month, instead of on the basis of the date a particular unit is transferred. The IRS may challenge this treatment, which could change the allocation of items of income, gain, loss and deduction among our unitholders.

CEQP generally prorates its items of income, gain, loss and deduction between transferors and transferees of its common units each month based upon the ownership of the units as of the opening of the NYSE on the first day of each month, instead of on the basis of the date a particular unit is transferred. The use of this proration method may not be permitted under existing Treasury Regulations. The U.S. Treasury Department has issued proposed Treasury Regulations that provide a safe harbor pursuant to which a publicly-traded partnership may use a similar monthly simplifying convention to allocate tax items among transferor and transferee unitholders. Nonetheless, the proposed regulations do not specifically authorize the use of the proration method CEQP has adopted. If the IRS were to challenge CEQP's proration method or new Treasury Regulations were issued, CEQP may be required to change the allocation of items of income, gain, loss and deduction among its unitholders. Vinson & Elkins has not rendered an opinion with respect to whether CEQP's monthly convention for allocating taxable income and losses is permitted by existing Treasury Regulations. Please read "U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of Ownership of CEQP Units Disposition of CEQP Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees."

A successful IRS contest of the federal income tax positions CEQP takes may adversely impact the market for its common units and the cost of any IRS contest will reduce its cash available for distribution to unitholders.

The IRS may adopt positions that differ from the positions CEQP takes. It may be necessary to resort to administrative or court proceedings to sustain some or all of the positions CEQP takes, and a court may not agree with some or all of these positions. Any such contest with the IRS may materially and adversely impact the market for CEQP units and the price at which such common units trade. In addition, the costs of any contest with the IRS will be borne by CEQP's unitholders because the costs will result in a reduction in cash available for distribution.

Table of Contents

Even if CEQP unitholders do not receive any cash distributions from CEQP, they will be required to pay taxes on their share of its taxable income.

CEQP unitholders will be required to pay U.S. federal income taxes, Medicare taxes, and, in some cases, state and local income taxes on their share of CEQP's taxable income, even if they receive no cash distributions from CEQP. CEQP unitholders may not receive cash distributions from it equal to their share of its taxable income or even equal to the actual tax liability resulting from their share of its taxable income.

Tax gains or losses on the disposition of CEQP units could be different than expected.

If a CEQP unitholder sells his CEQP units, such unitholder will recognize a gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes equal to the difference between the amount realized in the sale and the unitholder's tax basis in those units. Because distributions in excess of a unitholder's allocable share of CEQP's net taxable income decrease the unitholder's tax basis in the unitholder's units, the amount, if any, of such prior excess distributions with respect to the CEQP units a unitholder sells will, in effect, become taxable income to the unitholder if the unitholder sells such units at a price greater than the unitholder's tax basis in those common units, even if the price received is less than the unitholder's original cost. Furthermore, a substantial portion of the amount realized, whether or not representing gain, may be taxed as ordinary income to a unitholder due to potential of depreciation deductions and certain other items. In addition, because the amount realized may include a unitholder's share of CEQP's liabilities, a unitholder that sells CEQP units may incur a tax liability in excess of the amount of the cash received from the sale. Please read "U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of Ownership of CEQP Units Disposition of CEQP Units Recognition of Gain or Loss" for a further discussion of the foregoing.

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

Investments in CEQP units by tax-exempt entities, such as individual retirement accounts ("IRAs"), other retirement plans and non-U.S. persons, raise issues unique to them. For example, virtually all of CEQP's income allocated to organizations that are exempt from federal income tax, including IRAs and other retirement plans, is unrelated business taxable income and will be taxable to them. Distributions to non-U.S. persons will be reduced by withholding taxes at the highest applicable effective tax rate, and non-U.S. persons will be required to file U.S. federal income tax returns and pay tax on their share of CEQP's taxable income.

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

Because CEQP cannot match transferors and transferees of CEQP units and because of other reasons, CEQP has adopted depreciation and amortization positions that may not conform to all aspects of existing Treasury Regulations. A successful IRS challenge to those positions could adversely affect the amount of taxable income recognized by a unitholder as a result of their ownership of CEQP's units. It also could affect the timing of these tax benefits or the amount of gain from a sale of common units and could have a negative impact on the value of CEQP units or result in audit adjustments to the unitholder's tax returns. Vinson & Elkins is unable to opine as to the validity of such filing positions. Please read "U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of Ownership of CEQP Units Tax Consequences of CEQP Unit Ownership Section 754 Election" for a further discussion of the effect of the depreciation and amortization positions CEQP will adopt.

CEQP's unitholders will likely be subject to state and local taxes and return filing requirements in states where they do not live as a result of an investment in its common units.

In addition to U.S. federal income taxes, CEQP's unitholders will likely be subject to other taxes, such as state and local income taxes, unincorporated business taxes and estate, inheritance or intangible

Table of Contents

taxes that are imposed by the various jurisdictions in which it does business or owns property even if the unitholder does not live in any of those jurisdictions. CEQP's unitholders will likely be required to file state and local income tax returns and pay state and local income taxes in some or all of these various jurisdictions. Further, they may be subject to penalties for failure to comply with those requirements. CEQP may own property or conduct business in other states or foreign countries in the future. It is the responsibility of each unitholder to file its own federal, state and local tax returns.

The sale or exchange of 50% or more of the total interests in CEQP's capital and profits within any twelve-month period will result in the termination of its partnership for federal income tax purposes.

CEQP will be considered to have technically terminated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes if there is a sale or exchange of 50% or more of the total interests in its capital and profits within a twelve-month period. For purposes of determining whether the 50% threshold has been met, multiple sales of the same interest will be counted only once. CEQP's technical termination would, among other things, result in the closing of its taxable year for all unitholders, which could result in CEQP filing two tax returns for one fiscal year. However, pursuant to an IRS relief procedure, the IRS may allow a technically terminated partnership to provide a single Schedule K-1 for the calendar year in which a termination occurs. CEQP's technical termination could also result in the deferral of depreciation deductions allowable in computing its taxable income. In the case of a unitholder reporting on a taxable year other than a fiscal year ending December 31, the closing of CEQP's taxable year may also result in more than twelve months of its taxable income or loss being includable in the unitholder's taxable income for the year of termination. If treated as a new partnership, CEQP must make new tax elections and could be subject to penalties if it was unable to determine that a termination occurred. Please read "U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of Ownership of CEQP Units Disposition of CEQP Units Constructive Termination" for a discussion of the consequences of CEQP's termination for federal income tax purposes.

A CEQP unitholder whose CEQP units are the subject of a securities loan (e.g., a loan to a "short seller" to cover a short sale of CEQP common units) may be considered as having disposed of those common units. If so, the unitholder would no longer be treated for tax purposes as a partner with respect to those common units during the period of the loan and may recognize gain or loss from the disposition.

Because there are no specific rules governing the U.S. federal income tax consequence of loaning a partnership interest, a CEQP unitholder whose units are the subject of a securities loan may be considered as having disposed of the loaned units. In that case, the unitholder may no longer be treated for tax purposes as a partner with respect to those units during the period of the loan to the short seller and the unitholder may recognize gain or loss from such disposition. Moreover, during the period of the loan, any of CEQP's income, gain, loss or deduction with respect to those units may not be reportable by the unitholder and any cash distributions received by the unitholder as to those units could be fully taxable as ordinary income. Vinson & Elkins has not rendered an opinion regarding the treatment of a CEQP unitholder whose CEQP units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of CEQP units. CEQP unitholders desiring to assure their status as partners and avoid the risk of gain recognition from a securities loan are urged to modify any applicable brokerage account agreements to prohibit their brokers from borrowing their units.

Table of Contents

THE SPECIAL UNITHOLDER MEETING

Time, Place and Date. The special meeting of Midstream unitholders will be held on September 30, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., local time at 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002. The meeting may be adjourned or postponed by Midstream GP to another date or place for proper purposes, including for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies.

Purposes. The purposes of the special meeting are:

to consider and vote on the approval of the merger agreement and the merger; and

To consider and vote upon the proposal to adjourn the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to approve the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting.

to transact such other business as may properly be presented at the meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the meeting.

At this time, Midstream knows of no other matter that will be presented for consideration at the meeting.

Quorum. A quorum requires the presence, in person or by proxy, of holders of a majority of the outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (on an "as if converted" basis), counted together as a single class. Midstream common units will be counted as present at the special meeting if the holder is present in person at the meeting or has submitted a properly executed proxy card or properly submits a proxy by telephone or Internet. Proxies received but marked as abstentions will be counted as units that are present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum. If an executed proxy is returned by a broker or other nominee holding units in "street name" indicating that the broker does not have discretionary authority as to certain units to vote on the proposals, such units will be considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum but will not be considered entitled to vote.

Record Date. The Midstream unitholder record date for the special meeting is the close of business on August 24, 2015.

Units Entitled to Vote. Midstream unitholders may vote at the special meeting if they owned Midstream common units or Midstream preferred units at the close of business on the record date. Midstream common unitholders may cast one vote for each Midstream common unit owned on the record date. Midstream preferred unitholders may cast one vote for each Midstream common unit such holder would be entitled to receive if such holder's preferred units had been converted in accordance with Midstream's partnership agreement.

Votes Required. Under the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement, the merger agreement and the merger must be approved by the affirmative vote of the Midstream unitholders holding a majority of the outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (voting on an "as if converted" basis), voting together as a single class. As of the record date, affiliates of CEQP collectively owned approximately 34.7 million or approximately 16.5% of the outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (voting on an "as if converted" basis) and Midstream unaffiliated unitholders owned approximately 83.5% of the outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (voting on an "as if converted" basis). Pursuant to two support agreements entered into in connection with merger agreement, CEQP, CGS, Holdings and CGS LLC have agreed to vote any Midstream common units owned by them or their subsidiaries in favor of adoption of the merger agreement and the merger at any meeting of Midstream unitholders. Pursuant to three letter agreements regarding change of control election entered into in connection with merger agreement certain holders of Midstream preferred units, subject to the terms and conditions set forth

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

in such letter agreements, indicated their intent to support the merger and agreed to elect to have all of the Midstream preferred units held of record by such holder of Midstream preferred units exchanged for CEQP preferred units upon the consummation of the merger in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement. For more information, please read "The Merger Support Agreements and Letter Agreements Regarding Change of Control Election."

Under Midstream's partnership agreement, to approve the proposal to adjourn the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to approve the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting, holders of a majority of the outstanding Midstream common units present and entitled to vote at the meeting must affirmatively vote in favor of the proposal in order for it to be approved.

Common Units Outstanding. As of the record date, there were 188,306,968 Midstream common units outstanding.

Voting Procedures

Voting by Midstream Unitholders. Midstream unitholders who hold units in their own name may vote or submit their proxy using any of the following methods:

call the toll-free telephone number listed on your proxy card and follow the recorded instructions;

go to the internet website listed on your proxy card and follow the instructions provided;

complete, sign and mail your proxy card in the postage-paid envelope; or

attend the meeting and vote in person.

If you have timely and properly submitted your proxy, clearly indicated your vote and have not revoked your proxy, your units will be voted as indicated. If you have timely and properly submitted your proxy but have not clearly indicated your vote, your units will be voted FOR approval of the merger agreement and the merger.

If any other matters are properly presented for consideration at the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof, the persons named in your proxy will have the discretion to vote on these matters. Midstream's partnership agreement provides that, in the absence of a quorum, any meeting of Midstream limited partners may be adjourned from time to time by the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding Midstream partnership interests (including Midstream partnership interests deemed owned by Midstream GP) represented either in person or by proxy.

Revocation. If you hold your Midstream common units in your own name, you may revoke your proxy at any time prior to its exercise by:

giving written notice of revocation to the chief executive officer of Midstream GP at or before the special meeting;

appearing and voting in person at the special meeting; or

properly completing and executing a later dated proxy and delivering it to the chief executive officer of Midstream GP at or before the special meeting.

Your presence without voting at the meeting will not automatically revoke your proxy, and any revocation during the meeting will not affect votes previously taken.

Validity. The inspectors of election will determine all questions as to the validity, form, eligibility (including time of receipt) and acceptance of proxies. Their determination will be final and binding. The Midstream Board has the right to waive any irregularities or conditions as to the manner of voting.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

Midstream may accept your proxy by any form of communication permitted by Delaware law so long as Midstream is reasonably assured that the communication is authorized by you.

Solicitation of Proxies. The accompanying proxy is being solicited by Midstream GP on behalf of the Midstream Board. The expenses of preparing, printing and mailing the proxy and materials used in the solicitation will be borne by Midstream.

In addition to the mailing of this proxy statement/prospectus, proxies may also be solicited from Midstream unitholders by personal interview, telephone, fax or other electronic means by directors and officers of Midstream GP and employees of Crestwood Operations and its affiliates who provide services to Midstream, who will not receive additional compensation for performing that service. Arrangements also will be made with brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for the forwarding of proxy materials to the beneficial owners of Midstream common units held by those persons, and Midstream will reimburse them for any reasonable expenses that they incur.

Units Held in Street Name. If you hold Midstream common units in the name of a bank, broker or other nominee, you should follow the instructions provided by your bank, broker or nominee when voting your Midstream common units or when granting or revoking a proxy.

Absent specific instructions from you, your broker is not empowered to vote your units with respect to the approval of the merger agreement and the merger. If you do not provide voting instructions, your units will not be voted on any proposal on which your broker, bank or other nominee does not have discretionary authority. This is often called a "broker non-vote." The only proposal for consideration at the special meeting, however, is a non-discretionary matter for which brokers, banks and other nominees do not have discretionary authority to vote.

Failures to vote, abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as a vote against approval of the merger proposal for purposes of the vote required under the merger agreement and Midstream's partnership agreement.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL 1: THE MERGER

Background of the Merger

The senior management of CEQP and Midstream (the "Crestwood Entities" or "Crestwood") and the Equity GP Board and Midstream Board (together, the "Crestwood Boards") regularly review operational and strategic opportunities to improve the competitive positioning of the partnerships and maximize value for investors of CEQP and Midstream, respectively. In connection with these reviews, management and the directors from time to time evaluate potential transactions that would further Crestwood's strategic objectives.

As more fully described in the section entitled "Certain Relationships; Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger," CEQP and Midstream are under common control. Midstream is owned 100% by its limited partners and its non-economic general partner, Midstream GP. Midstream was formed by CEQP in September 2004 for the purpose of holding certain of CEQP's midstream investments. Midstream GP and 100% of Midstream's IDR's are owned by Midstream Holdings, a wholly owned subsidiary of CEQP. CEQP and CGS collectively own 7,159,438 of Midstream's outstanding common units.

Crestwood's senior management from time to time considers and pursues merger and acquisition opportunities designed to grow the combined business and create unitholder value. Since mid-2014, Crestwood's management, with the assistance of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. ("Citi"), Crestwood's financial advisor, has considered and discussed with the Crestwood Boards numerous opportunities intended to improve Crestwood's competitive positioning and enhance unitholder value, including third party mergers, a recapitalization of CEQP, a combination of the Crestwood Entities, and asset divestitures, including a "drop-down" of CEQP's natural gas liquids ("NGL") assets to Midstream ("NGL drop-down").

On August 14, 2014, at meetings of the Crestwood Boards held to explore the strategic direction of the Crestwood Entities, senior management and the directors reviewed various strategic alternatives under consideration. Robert Halpin, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Crestwood Entities, reviewed potential NGL drop-down structures and the benefits and challenges of each of the structures. William Moore, Senior Vice President, Strategy & Corporate Development of the Crestwood Entities, presented information regarding a potential strategic combination with a company that owns significant gathering, processing and fractionation assets in the western United States ("Project Sundance"). Mr. Moore also reviewed Kinder Morgan Inc.'s transaction to acquire all of the outstanding common units of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P. and El Paso Pipeline Partners, L.P., and discussed how a comparable CEQP Midstream transaction could be structured and the potential accretive/dilutive impact of such a transaction.

In connection with the strategic board meetings, Crestwood's senior management selected two institutional investors to help evaluate Project Sundance, provide the capital support required by Crestwood for the transaction and become a co-sponsor of Crestwood with First Reserve. Historically, Crestwood's senior management has kept an active dialogue with multiple large-scale capital providers, including infrastructure funds and private equity funds, to continuously progress working relationships and avenues for equity capital support in addition to the public capital markets.

In September 2014, Crestwood's management had numerous discussions with the selected institutional investors, and the Crestwood Boards held multiple telephonic meetings relating to Project Sundance. With the support of the Crestwood Boards and the institutional investors, Crestwood submitted its final offer in Project Sundance. Crestwood was informed later that month that it was not selected as the winning bidder.

Following Crestwood's participation in Project Sundance and continuing through October 2014, Robert Phillips, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Crestwood Entities and Messrs. Halpin and Moore identified and contacted a group of institutional investors to solicit interest in a significant equity investment and capital commitment to Crestwood. The institutional investors approached by Crestwood's management were targeted primarily based on (i) a firm's historical

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

familiarity with and interest in the Crestwood platform, (ii) a firm's appetite for large-scale investments, (iii) a firm's stated desire to own and control an MLP platform and the firm's track record of executing on that strategy and (iv) a firm's existing portfolio of midstream assets that could potentially be contributed to a transaction. After numerous discussions with multiple candidates, Crestwood's senior management selected two institutional investors ("Sponsor A" and "Sponsor B," respectively, and together the "Potential Sponsors"), for advance negotiations and due diligence. Among other things, Messrs. Phillips, Halpin and Moore conducted management presentations for each Potential Sponsor in October and discussed potential structures in which the investors would commit capital to the Crestwood Entities to fund acquisitions and growth projects.

On November 13, 2014, at the regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Crestwood Boards in Houston, representatives of Citi reviewed various strategic alternatives potentially available to Crestwood, including: (i) an NGL drop-down; (ii) a simplification transaction whereby CEQP and Midstream would merge, resulting in a single publicly traded entity (a "Simplification Transaction"); (iii) a merger with another MLP involving a unit exchange; (iv) a sale of Crestwood to a large-cap MLP for cash consideration or an exchange of units; (v) a new private equity sponsor combined with an asset contribution; and (vi) an asset contribution from a strategic counterparty in exchange for CEQP equity interests. Citi outlined the benefits, challenges and actionability of each alternative.

In November 2014, Citi was contacted by a representative of an MLP merger candidate who expressed interest in a potential merger transaction ("Project Thunder").

In December 2014, Messrs. Phillips, Halpin and Moore met with Sponsor B after attending an MLP investor conference in New York. Sponsor B provided an update on their due diligence progress and discussed certain challenges associated with the proposed structure for their investment. Sponsor B expressed strong interest in pursuing other investment alternatives with Crestwood, including approaching First Reserve about taking CEQP private. Despite some continued inquiry, discussions between Sponsor B and First Reserve generally concluded and no formalized proposals were ever received from Sponsor B.

On January 22, 2015, the Crestwood Boards held a telephonic meeting to declare the fourth quarter distributions. During the meeting, Mr. Phillips provided an update on Project Thunder and a potential preferred equity investment at CEQP, each of which would have likely required a drop-down of CEQP's operating assets to Midstream. Thereafter, the Crestwood Boards authorized the CEQP Conflicts Committee and the Midstream Conflicts Committee, respectively, to retain counsel and financial advisors to begin review of a potential NGL drop-down.

On January 26, 2015, representatives of First Reserve and Messrs. Phillips, Halpin and Moore met with Sponsor A in Houston to discuss potential governance terms for an investment whereby Sponsor A would become a co-sponsor of Crestwood with First Reserve.

On January 27, 2015, the merger candidate in Project Thunder delivered a non-binding term sheet to Crestwood outlining the structure and general terms (but no financial terms) of a merger transaction.

On February 2, 2015, Sponsor A submitted a term sheet to First Reserve outlining the framework under which it would make a \$250 million preferred equity investment in CEQP concurrent with an NGL drop-down, and would commit approximately \$1.0 billion to Crestwood to fund acquisitions and investment opportunities. The proposed terms for the preferred equity included a fixed issuance price per unit, convertibility into common units, and a fixed quarterly dividend, payable in kind for up to three years. Terms of the additional approximately \$1.0 billion commitment were not specified. Following several clarification calls with Sponsor A, First Reserve and Crestwood's management made a counterproposal to Sponsor A on February 6, 2015. The terms of the preferred equity in the counterproposal included an issuance price at a specified premium to the common unit market price based on the conversion of the preferred units and a lower quarterly dividend than originally proposed, also payable in kind for up to three years.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

On February 12, 2015, at the regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Crestwood Boards, senior management provided an update on the status of various strategic alternatives under consideration, including (i) Project Thunder, (ii) a CEQP restructuring with the introduction of a co-sponsor combined with an NGL drop-down, including management's conversations with Sponsor A, (iii) the Simplification Transaction, and (iv) the potential sale to third parties of certain assets and operations. Mr. Phillips noted that although senior management continues to search for a merger partner, the Project Thunder discussions were progressing slower than expected and senior management's focus had shifted to alternatives more within Crestwood's control, including an NGL drop-down.

Also on February 12, 2015, Sponsor A provided a revised term sheet to First Reserve and Crestwood's senior management. The terms of the preferred equity in Sponsor A's revised term sheet generally accepted the terms proposed by Crestwood on February 6, 2015, but included a preferred dividend that began to increase after four years. The term sheet also proposed certain approval rights for the holders of the preferred equity relating to specified types of transactions by Crestwood.

On February 25, 2015, the Crestwood Boards held a telephonic meeting to review management's recommendations with respect to the NGL drop-down and, concurrently therewith, a potential equity investment at CEQP, where Sponsor A would become a co-sponsor with First Reserve. Senior management noted that in connection with the potential CEQP equity investment, management was evaluating a potential joint bid with Sponsor A to acquire certain midstream assets of an independent crude oil exploration and production company.

On March 4, 2015, Crestwood engaged Citi to provide to First Reserve and the Crestwood Entities financial advice and analysis concerning the Simplification Transaction. Given the size and complexity of the Simplification Transaction, Crestwood and First Reserve determined that it would be prudent to hire Citi in order to provide additional financial analysis and capital markets perspective for the Simplification Transaction.

On March 24, 2015, representatives from First Reserve and Sponsor A discussed governance issues relating to the co-sponsorship investment described in the term sheet received on February 12. As a part of those discussions, the two parties agreed the right framework had been developed for a partnership going forward, but without a sizable acquisition or investment opportunity as a catalyst, it would be difficult for Sponsor A to obtain equal governance rights with First Reserve and its existing capital investment in Crestwood. Both parties expressed a desire to continue to develop and pursue investment opportunities and, as opportunities materialized, to revisit co-sponsorship discussions.

On March 25, 2015, senior management of the Crestwood Entities, Citi and First Reserve held a strategic alternatives discussion during which time the participants reviewed the analysis, merits and considerations of an NGL drop-down as compared to the Simplification Transaction.

On April 2, 2015, CEQP GP, in its capacity as the general partner of CEQP, engaged Andrews Kurth LLP ("AK") as legal advisor to CEQP.

On April 7, 2015, Crestwood's senior management participated in a joint management presentation for Project Thunder.

On April 7, 2015, Mr. Phillips provided an update to the Crestwood Boards on the status of each strategic alternative under consideration. He noted that another mid-cap MLP had recently approached First Reserve and expressed interest in a potential combination with Crestwood ("Project Orion"), and a confidentiality agreement had been executed to facilitate further discussions and due diligence. Mr. Phillips further indicated that (i) senior management and Citi agreed that any realistic opportunities to create a so-called "Devon-Crosstex" merger (in which Crestwood would become the drop-down conduit for an oil and gas producer's midstream assets) had been exhausted, (ii) after more thorough analysis, an NGL drop-down was believed to be prohibitively dilutive to CEQP given its already low distribution coverage ratio and, consequently, the alternative was no longer considered viable by senior management, and (iii) senior management, First Reserve and Citi had increased their efforts around the Simplification Transaction. Mr. Phillips also explained that Crestwood's management

Table of Contents

would continue to develop and pursue Projects Thunder and Orion recognizing that Crestwood management was not in control of those transactions and was dependent upon the counterparty's desire to progress those merger opportunities.

On April 13, 2015, at the meetings of the Crestwood Boards, members of the boards again reviewed each strategic alternative then under consideration and discussed with Citi a comparison of the benefits and disadvantages of a potential NGL drop-down and a Simplification Transaction. The strategic alternatives reviewed by senior management and Citi at the meetings included (i) potential third-party mergers, including the status of Project Thunder and Project Orion as well as an overview of all merger-related activities dating back to February 2014, (ii) a "status quo" strategy, (iii) the Simplification Transaction, (iv) NGL drop-down (v) new sponsor or co-sponsor opportunities, and (vi) a sale of the Crestwood Entities. Mr. Halpin and Citi reviewed in greater detail the Simplification Transaction, its merits and considerations relative to other alternatives within Crestwood's control and an indicative timeline for execution. The merits of the Simplification Transaction discussed by Citi and Mr. Halpin included that (a) the resulting simplified corporate structure would eliminate potential conflicts of interest issues and create an attractive platform to a broader group of consolidation candidates, (b) elimination of the IDRs would drive cost of capital improvement to better finance the combined company's growth, (c) substantial general and administrative expense ("G&A") and fixed charge reductions would further benefit the combined company's results from operations and its ability to grow its business, and (d) execution of the Simplification Transaction would be largely within Crestwood's control. Representatives from AK then reviewed the Crestwood Boards' duties and responsibilities in evaluating all of the strategic alternatives, including the Simplification Transaction, described the approval process for an affiliated transaction and reviewed the relevant provisions of the Crestwood partnership agreements. Thereafter, the Crestwood Boards authorized the CEQP Conflicts Committee and the Midstream Conflicts Committee, respectively, to review the proposed Simplification Transaction.

On April 14, 2015, Midstream contacted representatives of Paul Hastings LLP ("Paul Hastings") to discuss its potential engagement by the Midstream Conflicts Committee regarding the Simplification Transaction.

On April 16, 2015, the Midstream Conflicts Committee confirmed the engagement of Paul Hastings as its legal counsel. Paul Hastings was selected by the Midstream Conflicts Committee because of its prior work for the Midstream Conflicts Committee and its knowledge and familiarity with Midstream and the industry in which it operates.

On April 16, 2015, Crestwood received a non-binding offer from an affiliated party ("Potential NGL Buyer") to acquire CEQP's NGL assets and certain NGL-related assets owned by Midstream (the "NGL Offer") for a combination of cash, CEQP common units and Midstream common units. Crestwood's senior management reviewed the offer with First Reserve and agreed to discuss the offer with the Crestwood Boards at a meeting scheduled for April 17.

On April 16, 2015, Joel Lambert, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of the Crestwood Entities, provided the Midstream Conflicts Committee and representatives of Paul Hastings with a high-level summary of the proposed structure, process and timing of the Simplification Transaction. The summary did not include a proposed exchange ratio.

On April 17, 2015, the Midstream Conflicts Committee held a telephonic meeting that included representatives from Paul Hastings to discuss the committee's selection of a financial advisor to assist the committee in evaluating the proposed Simplification Transaction. After having discussed several candidates prior to and during the meeting, the Midstream Conflicts Committee contacted representatives from TPH to discuss the Midstream Conflicts Committee's potential engagement of TPH as financial advisor to the Midstream Conflicts Committee in connection with the proposed Simplification Transaction and asked TPH to disclose any material relationships it had with the parties to the proposed Simplification Transaction. TPH was selected by the Midstream Conflicts Committee because of its prior work for the Midstream Conflicts Committee and its knowledge and familiarity with Midstream, CEQP and the industry in which they operate. TPH was subsequently engaged as

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

financial advisor to the Midstream Conflicts Committee pursuant to an engagement letter dated April 28, 2015.

On April 17, 2015, Randy Moeder, Chairman of the CEQP Conflicts Committee, on behalf of the CEQP Conflicts Committee, contacted representatives of Locke Lord LLP ("Locke Lord") to discuss engaging Locke Lord as legal counsel to the CEQP Conflicts Committee, given its knowledge and experience with respect to MLPs and public merger and acquisition transactions, the CEQP Conflicts Committee's prior experience with Locke Lord and Locke Lord's familiarity with CEQP. The CEQP Conflicts Committee subsequently executed an engagement letter with Locke Lord.

On April 17, 2015, the CEQP Conflicts Committee discussed potential financial advisors that they identified with experience in similar transactions and decided to retain Evercore Group L.L.C. ("Evercore") as its independent financial advisor given Evercore's knowledge and experience with respect to MLPs, and the CEQP Conflicts Committee's prior experience with Evercore. The CEQP Conflicts Committee subsequently executed a formal engagement letter with Evercore on April 28, 2015.

On April 17, 2015, the Equity GP Board held a telephonic meeting where Mr. Phillips reviewed the history and background of the strategic alternatives discussed at the February 12, 2015 board meeting and provided a status update on the strategic alternatives still under consideration. Mr. Halpin then reviewed the costs and benefits of preserving the current structure and noted that substantial unitholder value creation under the current structure is limited. He also reviewed the financial analysis for the Simplification Transaction relative to the NGL drop-down. Thereafter, members of the Equity GP Board reviewed the proposed Simplification Transaction and approved a formal, non-binding merger proposal to the Midstream Board to acquire all of the outstanding publicly traded equity securities of Midstream at an exchange ratio of 2.60x. The proposal also contemplated that the existing Midstream preferred units would be converted into substantially equivalent preferred units to be issued by CEQP. Additionally, the Equity GP Board reviewed the material terms of the NGL Offer and agreed more analysis was needed in order to respond to the offer.

On April 17, 2015, in connection with Project Orion, John Black, Vice President of Finance of the Crestwood Entities, distributed Crestwood's financial model to Citi, which Citi subsequently distributed to the appropriate counterparties.

On April 19, 2015, via telephone conference, Mr. Moore discussed with representatives of TPH the scope and other terms of TPH's potential engagement by the Midstream Conflicts Committee.

On April 20, 2015, the Midstream Conflicts Committee held a telephonic meeting that included representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings at which the committee discussed the status of the Simplification Transaction, including the legal and financial due diligence process.

On the afternoon of April 20, 2015, the CEQP Conflicts Committee held a meeting with representatives from Evercore and Locke Lord in attendance. Mr. Moeder reviewed the proposed terms, benefits, and costs of the Simplification Transaction. The CEQP Conflicts Committee then discussed potential alternatives to the Simplification Transaction for CEQP. Representatives from Locke Lord reviewed the fiduciary duties of the CEQP Conflicts Committee and representatives from Evercore reviewed the anticipated timeline for the Simplification Transaction. The CEQP Conflicts Committee then discussed the upcoming management presentations that CEQP's management scheduled for the next few days.

On April 20, 2015, the Midstream Board held a telephonic meeting where Mr. Phillips reviewed the history and background of the strategic alternatives discussed at the February 12, 2015 board meeting and provided a status update on the strategic alternatives still under consideration. Mr. Halpin then discussed current investor sentiment, market risks and risks unique to Crestwood's portfolio emphasizing the need to chart a strategic path forward to address current challenges before reviewing the rationale for the Simplification Transaction. Additionally, the Midstream Board reviewed the material terms of the NGL Offer and agreed more analysis was needed in order to respond to the offer.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

From April 20, 2015 through April 28, 2015, Mr. Moore and Rob Pacha exchanged emails negotiating Evercore's fee arrangement. On April 28, 2015, Mr. Moore and Mr. Pacha agreed upon Evercore's fee via telephone conference.

On April 21, 2015, at the request of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, TPH sent management of the Crestwood Entities a list requesting certain financial and other information relating to CEQP and the Simplification Transaction.

On April 21, 2015, Mr. Halpin sent the financial model to the conflicts committees of each of Midstream and CEQP, and he sent simplification materials to GSO and Magnetar.

On April 22, 2015, members of Crestwood's management, including Messrs. Phillips, Halpin, Moore and Black, presented financial models, including a base case, an upside case and a downside case as well as pro forma financial models, with respect to the Crestwood Entities and the pro forma combined entity that would result from the Simplification Transaction to the members of each of the Midstream Conflicts Committee and the CEQP Conflicts Committee and representatives from Evercore, TPH, Locke Lord and Paul Hastings.

At the request of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, on April 23, 2015, via telephone conference, TPH, Messrs. Halpin, Moore, and Black and Vince Grisell, Vice President Capital Markets and Risk at each Crestwood Entity, discussed the financial model related to the Simplification Transaction. On the same date, each Crestwood Board held meetings to determine and approve the first quarter distribution on each of CEQP's and Midstream's common units and to receive an update on the status of the proposed Simplification Transaction.

On April 24, 2015, TPH and Messrs. Halpin, Moore, Black and Grisell, telephonically participated in a diligence session related to CEQP's NGL business. On the same date, Mr. Black sent a revised financial model to the Midstream and CEQP Conflicts Committees to include a potential gathering and processing project in advanced negotiations in the upside case.

On April 24, 2015, representatives of Paul Hastings, AK and Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, finance counsel to the Crestwood Entities, held a telephonic meeting at which they discussed the various Midstream and CEQP debt instruments and the impact of the proposed Simplification Transaction.

On April 27, 2015, the Midstream Conflicts Committee met to discuss the Simplification Transaction. Representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings were also present at that meeting. At the request of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, TPH reviewed and discussed its preliminary financial analysis with respect to Midstream, CEQP and the proposed Simplification Transaction with the Midstream Conflicts Committee.

On April 27, 2015, AK emailed an initial draft of the merger agreement to Locke Lord and Paul Hastings. The draft merger agreement provided for an exchange ratio of 2.60 CEQP common units per Midstream common unit and certain deal protection provisions, including a breakup fee payable to CEQP in the event the merger agreement was terminated under certain circumstances. The draft merger agreement also provided that certain Midstream unitholders would execute voting and support agreements.

On April 28, 2015, Paul Hastings provided to Philip D. Gettig, Chairman of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, a telephonic update of Delaware case law developments with respect to the conflicts committee process in MLP related party transactions.

On April 28, 2015, the Midstream Conflicts Committee held a telephonic meeting with representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings at which the Midstream Conflicts Committee approved a counterproposal providing for an exchange ratio of 3.00 CEQP common units per Midstream common unit instead of the exchange ratio of 2.60 initially proposed by CEQP.

On April 28, 2015, Mr. Gettig contacted the Chairman of the CEQP Conflicts Committee to communicate the Midstream Conflicts Committee's counterproposal, proposing an exchange ratio of 3.00 CEQP common units to be issued for each Midstream common unit in the Simplification Transaction.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

On April 29, 2015, members of Crestwood's management participated in two separate due diligence telephone conference calls with Potential NGL Buyer's representatives. On the first call, Messrs. Halpin and Black discussed with the Potential NGL Buyer's representatives the key terms in connection with the proposed purchase of NGL assets. On the second call, Citi and Messrs. Phillips, Halpin and Black discussed with the Potential NGL Buyer's representatives the NGL Offer and compared the merits of the offer to the Simplification Transaction and explained that Crestwood's management believes that the NGL Offer does not provide a favorable alternative path to the Simplification Transaction for the following reasons: (i) execution risk and potential timing delays of the NGL transaction could jeopardize the Simplification Transaction; (ii) the need for more time for management to fully assess the strategic value proposition of the NGL assets portfolio in connection with Crestwood's broader midstream business; and (iii) the dilutive nature of the NGL Offer further limits Crestwood's visibility to growth.

On April 30, 2015, the CEQP Conflicts Committee held an extensive meeting at which representatives of Evercore and Locke Lord were present. Representatives of Locke Lord reviewed with the CEQP Conflicts Committee its fiduciary duties and obligations under Delaware law and the CEQP partnership agreement, including recent developments under Delaware law. Representatives of Evercore discussed their preliminary detailed financial analysis with respect to the Simplification Transaction, including a discussion regarding the proposed merger consideration exchange ratios, Midstream's and CEQP's respective businesses, assets and growth prospects. Representatives of Evercore also discussed the financial effects of alternative transaction structures for the Simplification Transaction and the yields at which units in the pro forma combined business could potentially trade following consummation of the Simplification Transaction.

Evercore's analysis included, among other things, a discussion of the preliminary standalone valuation for each of CEQP and Midstream, which Evercore measured using various methodologies, including a comparable partnership trading analysis, a selected comparable precedent transactions analysis, a discounted cash flow analysis and a discounted distribution analysis. Representatives of Evercore compared the standalone valuation estimates to the proposed exchange ratios.

Following Evercore's valuation discussion, the CEQP Conflicts Committee discussed Midstream's counter-proposal of 3.00 CEQP Common Units for each Midstream common unit and 3.00 CEQP preferred units for each Midstream preferred unit. After evaluating the various valuation methodologies described above and comparing the corresponding range of implied values per unit derived from such analyses, the CEQP Conflicts Committee authorized Mr. Moeder to contact the Chair of the Midstream Conflicts Committee to propose a decrease in the proposed exchange ratio and negotiate the proposed merger consideration. Representatives of Locke Lord also discussed with the CEQP Conflicts Committee certain legal issues and precedents related to the proposed merger agreement.

On May 1, 2015, via telephone conference, representatives from Magnetar and GSO and Messrs. Halpin, Moore and Black discussed business updates and the merits of the proposed Simplification Transaction.

On May 1, 2015, Mr. Moeder contacted the Chairman of the Midstream Conflicts Committee to propose a revised exchange ratio of 2.65 CEQP common units per Midstream common unit.

On May 1, 2015, the Midstream Conflicts Committee held a telephonic meeting that included representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings at which the committee discussed the 2.65 exchange ratio counterproposal from the CEQP Conflicts Committee. At the request of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, TPH reviewed and discussed its supplemental preliminary financial analysis with respect to Midstream, CEQP and the proposed Simplification Transaction with the Midstream Conflicts Committee. Paul Hastings also provided a brief overview of the issues identified in the initial draft of the merger agreement, noting that Midstream should have maximum flexibility to entertain an alternative transaction and should not be subject to any termination fee unless CEQP was also subject to a termination fee in the event it terminated the merger agreement in accordance with certain provisions of the merger agreement. The Midstream Conflicts Committee determined that it appeared the two proposed exchange ratios were too far apart, but that a conversation among the chairmen of the respective conflicts committees, with the assistance of their respective financial advisors, might advance discussions between the parties.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

Accordingly, later in the day on May 1, 2015, the Chairman of each of the Midstream and CEQP Conflicts Committees, with assistance of their respective financial advisors, conducted a brief telephone conference to discuss the rationale for their current positions with respect to the proposed exchange ratios.

Also on May 1, 2015, representatives of Paul Hastings reviewed with the Midstream Conflicts Committee their markup of the merger agreement and then emailed Locke Lord comments to the draft merger agreement that had initially been distributed by AK. Such comments, among other items, provided that CEQP would be subject to the same (and in certain cases more strenuous) restrictions on its operations between signing and closing, provided Midstream with greater flexibility to entertain alternate proposals and eliminated the termination fee concept, instead replacing it with a repayment of expenses.

At 4:00 p.m. on May 1, 2015, the Chairman of the CEQP Conflicts Committee contacted the Chairman of the Midstream Conflicts Committee to inform him that the CEQP Conflicts Committee believed that the respective proposals of the committees were too far apart for further negotiations to be worthwhile.

Later on May 1, 2015, Mr. Gettig relayed the conversation with his counterpart to Mr. Lumpkins and representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings. The members of the Midstream Conflicts Committee then instructed Paul Hastings to communicate the impasse in negotiations to Crestwood's counsel.

On May 2, 2015, Paul Hastings conducted a brief call with AK and Locke Lord to update AK as to the current status of discussions and negotiations between the Midstream Conflicts Committee and the CEQP Conflicts Committee and the impasse that had been reached.

On May 3, 2015, the Midstream Conflicts Committee, Paul Hastings, TPH, Messrs. Phillips, Halpin, Lambert, and Moore, AK and Citi discussed the status of negotiations surrounding the merger agreement and the Simplification Transaction, the reasons therefor as well as financial information previously provided.

On the same date, a separate meeting of the CEQP Conflicts Committee was held via telephone conference, and the CEQP Conflicts Committee, Locke Lord, Evercore, Messrs. Phillips, Halpin, Lambert, and Moore and Citi discussed the status of negotiations surrounding the merger agreement and the Simplification Transaction.

On May 4, 2015 at 8:30 a.m., the Midstream Conflicts Committee held a telephonic meeting that included representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings. The Midstream Conflicts Committee, with the assistance of TPH and Paul Hastings, discussed the comprehensive overview of the reasons for the Simplification Transaction provided by management of the Crestwood Entities during the May 3, 2015 meeting, as well as the discussion with management of the Crestwood Entities during such meeting of the financial information previously provided to the Midstream Conflicts Committee. Paul Hastings then reviewed with the members of the committee the duties of the Midstream Conflicts Committee and the standard of good faith set forth in Midstream's partnership agreement for the Midstream Conflicts Committee's review of related party transactions. Thereafter, the Midstream Conflicts Committee, with the assistance of representatives of TPH, reviewed and discussed certain financial metrics and determined to respond to the CEQP Conflicts Committee with the proposal of a 2.80x exchange ratio.

On May 4, 2015, Mr. Gettig informed the Chairman of the CEQP Conflicts Committee of the Midstream Conflicts Committee's response. Following the receipt of the counter-offer, the CEQP Conflicts Committee met with representatives from Evercore and Locke Lord to discuss the counter-offer and open items. The CEQP Conflicts Committee extensively discussed these items and proposed revisions to the merger agreement with its advisors. During the meeting, and based upon additional financial analyses provided by Evercore, the CEQP Conflicts Committee determined to counter the

Table of Contents

Midstream Conflicts Committee offer with a proposal to offer 2.75 CEQP common units for each Midstream common unit and 2.75 CEQP preferred units for each Midstream preferred unit. Shortly thereafter, the CEQP Conflicts Committee responded with a counterproposal of a 2.75x exchange ratio provided that the Midstream Conflicts Committee would agree to the termination fee as initially proposed in the merger agreement.

On May 4, 2015 at 12:15 p.m., the Midstream Conflicts Committee held a telephonic meeting that included representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings at which the committee discussed the CEQP Conflicts Committee's response of a 2.75x exchange ratio and that the Midstream Conflicts Committee agree to the original termination fee proposal in the merger agreement. Paul Hastings discussed the precedents for termination fees with the Midstream Conflicts Committee and noted that the merger agreement contained a provision permitting CEQP to walk away from the deal. After discussion, the Midstream Conflicts Committee determined that it would prefer no termination fee. The Midstream Conflicts Committee also determined that a 2.75x exchange ratio, with the appropriate resolution regarding the termination fee, was potentially acceptable to the Midstream Conflicts Committee.

On May 4, 2015, Paul Hastings and Locke Lord had further discussion regarding the merger agreement and Locke Lord, on behalf of the CEQP Conflicts Committee, accepted the Midstream Conflicts Committee's proposal for no termination fee, with only expenses being payable in certain circumstances. Shortly after that discussion, on May 4, 2015, Locke Lord emailed a revised draft of the merger agreement to Paul Hastings, which included no termination fee. After reviewing such revisions, Paul Hastings and AK discussed that AK would incorporate the agreed changes into a revised draft of the merger agreement.

On May 4, 2015 at 3:00 p.m., the Crestwood Boards held a joint telephonic meeting at which the status of the Simplification Transaction was discussed. Citi reviewed the status of Project Thunder and Project Orion and noted that no actionable proposals had been presented by either counterparty. Mr. Moore provided an update on the CEQP restructuring strategy and potential joint bid to acquire certain midstream assets of an independent crude oil exploration and production company. He noted that the acquisition opportunity was likely no longer viable and no new proposals had been received from the potential co-sponsor with respect to an equity investment at CEQP. Mr. Phillips reviewed the terms of the NGL Offer and indicated that substantial work still needed to be completed to fully analyze and respond to the NGL Offer. The Crestwood Boards determined that the NGL Offer should not delay the Simplification Transaction, and Crestwood would continue to evaluate strategic alternatives (including the NGL Offer) while proceeding with the Simplification Transaction.

On May 4, 2015 at 4:00 p.m., the Midstream Conflicts Committee held a telephonic meeting that included representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings at which the committee discussed the Midstream Board meeting held earlier in the day, including the fact that a potential sale of CEQP's NGL business prior to closing of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement would result in a significantly different transaction for Midstream. Paul Hastings confirmed that such a sale would not be permitted under the merger agreement as currently drafted if the merger agreement was executed.

On May 4, 2015 at 4:30 p.m., at the request of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, Mr. Lambert and AK confirmed in a telephone conference with Paul Hastings that CEQP had no current intent to sell CEQP's NGL business and AK confirmed that any such sale would require an amendment to the merger agreement as well as the written consent of the Midstream Conflicts Committee if such sale occurred after the merger agreement was executed.

Early on May 5, 2015, AK emailed a revised draft of the merger agreement to Paul Hastings and Locke Lord. In response, Paul Hastings provided some additional comments to the interim operating covenants that had previously been agreed to by the CEQP Conflicts Committee and Midstream Conflicts Committee. AK incorporated such additional interim operating covenants into a revised draft circulated to the parties later that same day.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

On May 5, 2015 at 9:00 a.m., the Midstream Conflicts Committee held a telephonic meeting that included representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings at which the Midstream Conflicts Committee discussed the Midstream preferred unit exchange ratio, in particular that the parties understood that the relative distributions with respect to the preferred units should not change.

On the afternoon of May 5, 2015, the CEQP Conflicts Committee held a meeting, at which representatives of Evercore and Locke Lord were present, to discuss and, if appropriate, approve the transaction documents, including the merger agreement and the support agreement. Representatives of Locke Lord reviewed the efforts made by the CEQP Conflicts Committee regarding the Simplification Transaction, including the substantive work and the processes followed. Locke Lord then discussed the duties of the CEQP Conflicts Committee with respect to the Simplification Transaction and reviewed the "Special Approval" standard under CEQP's partnership agreement. Locke Lord then reviewed the material terms and provisions of the merger agreement and answered the questions of the CEQP Conflicts Committee.

Following this extensive discussion, representatives of Evercore delivered to the CEQP Conflicts Committee an oral opinion, confirmed by delivery of a written opinion dated May 5, 2015, to the effect that, as of May 5, 2015, and based upon and subject to the various assumptions, qualifications and limitations set forth in Evercore's opinion, the exchange ratio of 2.75 CEQP common units for each Midstream common unit to be issued in the merger was fair, from a financial point of view, to the holders of CEQP common units (other than Equity GP and its affiliates, officers and directors). The CEQP Conflicts Committee then unanimously (i) determined that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby were in the best interest of CEQP and the holders of CEQP common units (other than Equity GP and its affiliates, officers and directors), (ii) approved the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the merger, which constituted "Special Approval" under the CEQP partnership agreement, and (iii) recommended to the Equity GP Board the approval of the merger agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated thereby, including the merger.

On May 5, 2015, representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings received confirmation from management of the Crestwood Entities that the preferred unit conversion ratio would remain effectively the same under the terms of the new CEQP preferred units.

On May 5, 2015 at 2:00 p.m., the Midstream Conflicts Committee held a telephonic meeting that included representatives of TPH and Paul Hastings. At the request of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, representatives of TPH reviewed and discussed TPH's financial analyses with respect to Midstream, CEQP and the proposed merger. Thereafter, at the request of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, TPH rendered its oral opinion to the Midstream Conflicts Committee (which was subsequently confirmed in writing by delivery of TPH's written opinion addressed to the Midstream Conflicts Committee dated as of the same date) as to, as of May 5, 2015, the fairness, from a financial point of view, to the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders of the Common Merger Consideration to be received by such Unaffiliated Common Unitholders in the merger pursuant to the merger agreement. Following discussion of the terms and conditions of the merger agreement, including the elimination of the termination fee, and the financial analyses and opinion of TPH, the Midstream Conflicts Committee determined in good faith that the merger was fair and reasonable and in the best interest of Midstream and the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders. The Midstream Conflicts Committee unanimously approved and determined to recommend the Simplification Transaction and the merger agreement to the Midstream Board.

On May 5, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. the Midstream Board convened a duly called and held telephonic meeting, during which, upon recommendation of the Midstream Conflicts Committee the Midstream Board approved the Simplification Transaction, merger agreement and the documents and transactions related thereto.

Table of Contents

On May 5, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. the Equity GP Board convened a duly called and held telephonic meeting, during which, upon recommendation of the CEQP Conflicts Committee the Equity GP Board approved the Simplification Transaction, the merger agreement and the documents and transactions related thereto.

On May 5, 2015, the parties finalized and executed the merger agreement.

On May 6, 2015, CEQP and Midstream issued earnings releases and a joint press release announcing the merger agreement and the proposed merger.

Recommendation of the Midstream Board and the Midstream Conflicts Committee's Reasons for the Merger

After careful consideration, the Midstream Conflicts Committee, by a unanimous vote of its members, at a meeting held on May 5, 2015, determined that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby are advisable and in the best interests of Midstream and the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders and recommended to the Midstream Board the execution, delivery and performance of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby. In evaluating the merger, the Midstream Conflicts Committee consulted with Midstream's senior management and the Midstream Conflicts Committee's legal and financial advisors and, in reaching its decision, the Midstream Conflicts Committee considered a number of factors that the Midstream Conflicts Committee believed supported its decision, including the following material factors:

Midstream had a favorable exchange ratio relative to the trading price of the Midstream common units the day before the merger was announced;

the Midstream Conflicts Committee's assessment of current and projected commodity prices, and the direct and indirect risks resulting therefrom, the changes in the capital markets, borrowing and liquidity issues and the sustainability of future distributions, and certain related adverse effects on Midstream;

the potential alternatives available to Midstream, including the possibility of remaining a stand-alone entity, and the assessment of the Midstream Conflicts Committee that the merger was likely to enhance value for Midstream unitholders;

the elimination of Midstream's IDRs, which is expected to result in a cost of capital improvement to better finance growth and stabilize the combined entity's long-term distribution outlook;

the increased scale and simplified entity structure of the combined company should permit it to compete more effectively and facilitate future development projects, exploration and acquisitions through increased cash flow, lower cost of capital, better access to debt and equity markets and elimination of potential conflicts of interest and appeal to a wider investor base;

the potential ability to achieve substantial G&A and fixed charge reductions, including the elimination of dual public company costs and elimination of IDR distributions;

the merger is expected to result in long-term cash flow accretion, in part due to the elimination of Midstream's IDRs;

the fact that the merger is subject to the approval of the Midstream unitholders, who will be free to approve or reject the merger, but is not subject to a vote of the CEQP common unitholders;

the financial analyses reviewed and discussed with the Midstream Conflicts Committee by representatives of TPH as well as the oral opinion of TPH rendered to the Midstream Conflicts Committee on May 5, 2015, (which was subsequently confirmed in writing by delivery of TPH's

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

written opinion addressed to the Midstream Conflicts Committee dated the same date) as to, as of May 5, 2015, the fairness, from a financial point of view, to the Unaffiliated Unitholders of the Common Merger Consideration to be received by such Unaffiliated Unitholders in the merger pursuant to the merger agreement; and

the fact that the merger agreement does not preclude Midstream from engaging in negotiations with, and providing information to, a third party that makes an unsolicited written acquisition proposal, if the Midstream Conflicts Committee determines in good faith that such proposal is likely to result in a superior proposal (as defined under "The Merger Agreement Acquisition Proposals; Change in Recommendation"), and the fact that the merger agreement permits Midstream to terminate the merger agreement to enter into such a transaction after reimbursing CEQP's expenses up to \$10 million.

The Midstream Conflicts Committee also considered, and balanced against the potential benefits, various risks and other potentially negative factors concerning the merger agreement, including the following:

the merger agreement provides for a fixed exchange ratio and thus the exchange ratio will not change based on changes in the trading prices of Midstream or CEQP common units or changes in the business performance or financial results of Midstream or CEQP. Accordingly, if the value of CEQP's business declines relative to the value of Midstream's business prior to completion of the merger, the Midstream unitholders' percentage ownership in the combined company may exceed CEQP's relative contribution to the combined company;

the merger agreement restricts Midstream's ability to solicit possibly superior transactions and the required reimbursement by Midstream of CEQP's expenses up to \$10 million in the event of termination of the arrangement agreement under specified circumstances;

based on the exchange ratio, the merger would be dilutive to the Midstream unitholders on a short-term basis;

substantial costs will be incurred by Midstream in connection with the transaction, including financial arrangement fees, financial advisory fees and legal and other advisor fees, as well as the costs of integrating the businesses of Midstream and CEQP;

the risk that management focus, employee attention and resources for other strategic opportunities, as well as employee attention to operational matters, could be diverted for an extended period of time while the parties work to complete the merger and integration process and any litigation that may occur in connection with the proposed transactions;

the fact that the merger agreement permits CEQP to terminate the merger agreement at any time prior to obtaining the Midstream unitholder approval, in the event that the Equity GP Board determines to abandon the transactions contemplated in the merger agreement, subject only to CEQP reimbursing Midstream's reimbursing CEQP's expenses up to \$10 million;

the possibility that the merger might not be consummated despite the parties' efforts or that the closing of the merger may be unduly delayed, and that the announcement of the transaction, coupled with any failure to consummate the transaction, could have a negative effect on Midstream's relationships with third parties, as well as a negative effect on Midstream's operating results and trading price;

the risks inherent in CEQP's business and operations, including those identified in CEQP's SEC filings; and

risks of the type and nature described under "Risk Factors."

Table of Contents

The Midstream Conflicts Committee concluded that the potentially negative factors associated with the proposed merger were outweighed by the potential benefits that it expected the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders would achieve as a result of the merger. Accordingly, the Midstream Conflicts Committee determined that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the merger, are in the best interests of Midstream and the Midstream unaffiliated unitholders, and recommended to the Midstream Board the execution, delivery and performance of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby. **The Midstream Board unanimously approved the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby and recommends that the Midstream unitholders vote FOR the merger proposal.**

The foregoing discussion of the information and factors considered by the Midstream Conflicts Committee includes all of the material factors considered by the Midstream Conflicts Committee, but it is not intended to be exhaustive and may not include all of the factors considered by the Midstream Conflicts Committee. In view of the wide variety of factors considered in connection with its evaluation of the merger and the complexity of these matters, the Midstream Conflicts Committee did not find it useful and did not attempt to quantify or assign any relative or specific weights to the various factors in its determination to recommend the approval of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the merger. In addition, individual members of the Midstream Conflicts Committee may have given weights to different factors.

This explanation of the Midstream Conflicts Committee's reasons for the merger and other information presented in this section is forward-looking in nature and, therefore, should be read in light of the factors described under "Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

Opinion of the Midstream Conflicts Committee's Financial Advisor

The Midstream Conflicts Committee retained TPH as its exclusive financial advisor with respect to the provision of an opinion to the Midstream Conflicts Committee as to the fairness from a financial point of view to the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders of the Common Merger Consideration to be received by such Unaffiliated Common Unitholders in the merger pursuant to the merger agreement. At the request of the Midstream Conflicts Committee at a meeting of the Midstream Conflicts Committee held on May 5, 2015, TPH rendered its oral opinion to the Midstream Conflicts Committee that, as of May 5, 2015, based upon and subject to the assumptions, qualifications, limitations and other matters considered by TPH in connection with the preparation of its opinion, the Common Merger Consideration to be received by the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders in the merger pursuant to the merger agreement was fair, from a financial point of view, to the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders. TPH subsequently confirmed its oral opinion in writing dated May 5, 2015 to the Midstream Conflicts Committee.

The opinion speaks only as of the date it was delivered and not as of the time the merger will be completed or any other date. The opinion does not reflect changes that may occur or may have occurred after May 5, 2015, which could alter the facts and circumstances on which TPH's opinion was based.

TPH's opinion was directed to the Midstream Conflicts Committee (in its capacity as such), and only addressed the fairness from a financial point of view, as of the date of the opinion, to the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders of the Common Merger Consideration to be received by the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders in the merger pursuant to the merger agreement. TPH's opinion did not address any other term or aspect of the merger agreement or the Transaction. The full text of the TPH written opinion, dated May 5, 2015, which describes the assumptions made, procedures followed, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations of the review undertaken by TPH in rendering its opinion, is attached as Annex B to this proxy statement/prospectus. The summary of TPH's opinion set forth in this proxy statement/prospectus is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of

Table of Contents

the opinion. However, neither TPH's written opinion nor the summary of its opinion and the related analyses set forth in this proxy statement/prospectus are intended to be, and they do not constitute, a recommendation as to how the Midstream Conflicts Committee or the board of directors of Midstream GP, Midstream GP, any holder of securities in Midstream or any other person should act or vote with respect to any matter relating to the merger, the Transaction or any other matter.

TPH's opinion to the Midstream Conflicts Committee was among several factors taken into consideration by the Midstream Conflicts Committee in making its recommendation to the board of directors of Midstream GP regarding the merger.

In connection with rendering its opinion and performing its related financial analyses, TPH reviewed, among other things:

- (i) a draft, dated May 4, 2015, of the merger agreement and a draft, received by TPH on May 5, 2015, of the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment;
- (ii) annual reports to unitholders and Annual Reports on Form 10-K of Midstream and CEQP for each of the years ended 2012, 2013 and 2014;
- (iii) certain interim reports to unitholders and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q of Midstream and CEQP;
- (iv) certain other communications from Midstream and CEQP to their respective unitholders;
- (v) certain internal financial information and forecasts for Midstream and CEQP prepared and adjusted by the management of Midstream and CEQP, including with respect to the future financial performance of Midstream on a stand-alone basis (the "Midstream Forecasts"), CEQP on a stand-alone basis (the "CEQP Forecasts") and CEQP after giving effect to the Transaction, including certain estimates of cost savings and other synergies ("Synergies") projected by the management of Midstream and CEQP to result from the Transaction (the "Pro Forma Forecasts"); and
- (vi) certain publicly available research analyst reports with respect to the future financial performance of Midstream and CEQP, which TPH discussed with the senior management of Midstream and CEQP.

TPH also held discussions with members of the senior management of Midstream and CEQP regarding their assessment of the strategic rationale for, and the potential benefits of, the Transaction and the past and current business operations, financial condition and future prospects of Midstream and CEQP. In addition, TPH reviewed the reported price and trading activity for Midstream common units and CEQP common units, compared certain financial and stock market information for Midstream and CEQP with similar information for certain other companies the securities of which are publicly traded, reviewed the financial terms of certain recent business combinations that TPH deemed relevant, compared the relative contributions of Midstream and CEQP to certain pro forma financial statistics for CEQP after giving effect to the Transaction, and reviewed such other documents, performed such other studies and analyses, and considered such other factors, as TPH considered appropriate. TPH understood that (i) the management of Midstream were employees of Crestwood Operations LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP, (ii) certain members of Midstream's management have responsibilities for managing both Midstream and CEQP and (iii) the Midstream Forecasts, the CEQP Forecasts, the Synergies and the Pro Forma Forecasts were developed by or under the supervision of the senior management of Midstream and CEQP.

The Midstream Conflicts Committee advised TPH, and for purposes of its analyses and opinion TPH assumed, that each outstanding Midstream preferred unit would, as a result of the merger, be converted into the Preferred Merger Consideration and that the units in CEQP comprising the

Table of Contents

Preferred Merger Consideration would constitute "Substantially Equivalent Units" as defined in Midstream's partnership agreement.

For purposes of its opinion, TPH assumed and relied upon, without assuming any responsibility for independent verification, the accuracy and completeness of all of the financial, accounting, legal, tax, regulatory and other information provided to, discussed with or reviewed by or for TPH, or publicly available. In that regard, TPH assumed with the Midstream Conflicts Committee's consent that the Midstream Forecasts and the CEQP Forecasts had been reasonably prepared on a basis reflecting the best currently available estimates and judgments of the management of Midstream and CEQP with respect to the future financial performance of Midstream and CEQP on a standalone basis and that the Pro Forma Forecasts were reasonably prepared on a basis reflecting the best currently available estimates and judgments of the management of Midstream and CEQP with respect to the future financial performance of the combined company after giving effect to the Transaction. TPH expressed no view or opinion with respect to the Midstream Forecasts, the CEQP Forecasts, the Synergies, the Pro Forma Forecasts or the assumptions on which they were based, and TPH assumed, at the Midstream Conflicts Committee's direction, that the Midstream Forecasts, the CEQP Forecasts, the Synergies and the Pro Forma Forecasts provided a reasonable basis upon which to evaluate Midstream, CEQP and the proposed Transaction. TPH relied upon and assumed, without independent verification, that (a) the representations and warranties of all parties to the merger agreement and all other related documents and instruments referred to therein were true and correct, (b) each party to the merger agreement and such other related documents and instruments would fully and timely perform all of the covenants and agreements required to be performed by such party, (c) all conditions to the consummation of the Transaction would be satisfied without waiver thereof, and (d) the Transaction would be consummated in a timely manner in accordance with the terms described in the merger agreement and such other related documents and instruments, without any amendments or modifications thereto. TPH also assumed, with the consent of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, no gain or loss would be recognized by Unaffiliated Common Unitholders as a result of the receipt of CEQP common units in the merger (other than any income or gain resulting from any actual or constructive distribution of cash and cash received in lieu of fractional CEQP common units pursuant to the merger agreement). TPH also assumed that all governmental, regulatory or other consents or approvals necessary for the consummation of the Transaction would be obtained without any effect on Midstream, CEQP, or the expected benefits of the Transaction. In addition, TPH relied upon and assumed, without independent verification, that the final forms of any draft documents identified above would not differ in any respect from the drafts of said documents.

TPH was not requested to, and did not, solicit indications of interest from third parties with respect to a potential alternative transaction involving Midstream. TPH also assumed that there had been no material changes in the business, operations, financial condition and prospects of Midstream or CEQP since the respective dates of the most recent financial statements and other information provided to TPH. In addition, TPH did not make an independent evaluation or appraisal of the assets and liabilities (including any contingent, derivative or off-balance-sheet assets and liabilities) of Midstream, CEQP or any of their respective affiliates and TPH was not furnished with any such evaluation or appraisal.

The estimates contained in TPH's analyses and the results from any particular analysis are not necessarily indicative of future results, which may be significantly more or less favorable than suggested by such analyses. In addition, analyses relating to the value of businesses or assets neither purport to be appraisals nor do they necessarily reflect the prices at which businesses or assets may actually be sold. Accordingly, TPH's analyses and estimates are inherently subject to substantial uncertainty.

In arriving at its opinion, TPH did not attribute any particular weight to any particular analysis or factor considered by it, but rather made qualitative judgments as to the significance and relevance of

Table of Contents

each analysis and factor. Several analytical methodologies were employed by TPH in its analyses, and no one single method of analysis should be regarded as determinative of the overall conclusion reached by TPH. Each analytical technique has inherent strengths and weaknesses, and the nature of the available information may further affect the significance of particular techniques. Accordingly, TPH believes that its analyses must be considered as a whole and that selecting portions of its analyses and of the factors considered by it, without considering all analyses and factors in their entirety, could create a misleading or incomplete view of the evaluation process underlying its opinion. The conclusion reached by TPH, therefore, is based on the application of TPH's experience and judgment to all analyses and factors considered by TPH, taken as a whole.

TPH's opinion did not address any accounting, legal, tax or regulatory matters. In addition, its opinion did not address the underlying business decision of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, the board of directors of Midstream GP, Midstream GP or any other party to engage in the Transaction, or the relative merits of the Transaction as compared to any other alternative transaction that might have been available to Midstream, CEQP or any other party. TPH's opinion addressed only the fairness from a financial point of view, as of the date thereof, to the Unaffiliated Common Unitholders of the Common Merger Consideration to be received by such Unaffiliated Common Unitholders in the merger pursuant to the merger agreement. TPH did not express any view on, and its opinion did not address, any other term or aspect of the merger agreement or the Transaction, including, without limitation, the fairness of the Preferred Merger Consideration to the holders of Midstream preferred units, the fairness of the Common Merger Consideration relative to the Preferred Merger Consideration, the allocation of the aggregate consideration to be received by holders of Midstream preferred units and Midstream common units among the holders of Midstream preferred units and Midstream common units or groups thereof, the fairness of the Transaction to, or any consideration received in connection therewith by, creditors or other constituencies of Midstream or CEQP; nor as to the fairness of the amount or nature of any compensation to be paid or payable to any of the officers, directors or employees of Midstream or CEQP, or any class of such persons, in connection with the Transaction, whether relative to the Common Merger Consideration, the Preferred Merger Consideration or otherwise. TPH did not express any opinion as to the price at which CEQP common units will trade when issued in the merger or as to the prices at which the Midstream common units, Midstream preferred units, CEQP common units or CEQP preferred units may be purchased or sold at any time. TPH's opinion was necessarily based on economic, monetary, market and other conditions as in effect on, and the information made available to TPH as of, the date of its opinion. TPH assumed no obligation to update, revise or reaffirm its opinion and expressly disclaimed any responsibility to do so whether based on circumstances, developments or events occurring after the date of its opinion or otherwise. TPH's opinion and related analyses were provided for the information and assistance of the Midstream Conflicts Committee (in its capacity as such) in connection with its consideration of the merger and such opinion and analyses do not constitute a recommendation as to how the Midstream Conflicts Committee, the board of directors of Midstream GP, Midstream GP, any holder of securities in Midstream or any other person should act or vote with respect to any matter relating to the Transaction or any other matter. The issuance of TPH's opinion was approved by TPH's fairness opinion committee.

The following is a summary of the material financial analyses performed by TPH in connection with the preparation of its opinion and reviewed with the Midstream Conflicts Committee on May 5, 2015. Unless the context indicates otherwise, enterprise values and equity values used in the selected companies analysis described below were calculated using the closing price of the Midstream common units and the equity securities of the selected companies listed below as of May 4, 2015, and transaction values for the selected transactions analysis described below were calculated on an enterprise value basis based on the value of the equity consideration and other public information available at the time of the relevant transaction's announcement. The analyses summarized below

Table of Contents

include information presented in tabular format. In order to fully understand the financial analyses performed, the tables must be considered together with the textual summary of the analyses.

For purposes of its analyses, TPH reviewed a number of financial metrics including:

Enterprise Value generally the value as of a specified date of the relevant company's outstanding equity securities (taking into account its options and other outstanding convertible securities) plus the value as of such date of its net debt (the value of its outstanding indebtedness, preferred stock and capital lease obligations less the amount of cash on its balance sheet).

EBITDA generally the amount of the relevant company's earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization for a specified time period.

Distributable Cash Flow generally EBITDA minus interest expense and maintenance capital expenditures, as adjusted for special items for a specified time period. LP Distributable Cash Flow is generally the Distributable Cash Flow available for distribution to holders of limited partnership units for a specified time period.

In addition, for purposes of certain of TPH's analyses, with the Midstream Conflicts Committee's consent, TPH treated future distributions on the Midstream preferred units that may be payable-in-kind as paid in cash.

No company or transaction used in the analyses of companies or transactions summarized below is identical or directly comparable to Midstream, CEQP or the Transaction. As a consequence mathematical derivations (such as the high, low, mean and median) of financial data are not by themselves meaningful, and these analyses must take into account differences in the financial and operating characteristics of the selected publicly traded companies and differences in the structure and timing of the selected transactions and other factors that would affect the public trading value and acquisition value of the companies considered.

Forecasts

The Midstream Forecasts, the CEQP Forecasts and the Pro Forma Forecasts each included a base case prepared by Midstream and CEQP management, as well as an upside case and a downside case, resulting from adjustments by Midstream and CEQP management to the applicable base case. In addition, the Pro Forma Forecasts included the Synergies.

Contribution Analysis

TPH reviewed the contributions of Midstream and CEQP of certain financial metrics to the combined company resulting from the Transaction based on the Midstream Forecasts and the CEQP Forecast and certain publicly available financial information for Midstream and CEQP. The financial metrics reviewed included (i) equity value as of May 4, 2015; (ii) distributable cash flow for the year 2014; and (iii) estimated distributable cash flow for the years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019, using the base, downside and upside cases for Midstream included in the Midstream Forecasts and the base case for CEQP included in the CEQP Forecasts. The contribution analysis did not give effect to the Synergies. The contribution analysis indicated a range of implied exchange ratios in the merger of 1.432x to 4.179x, as set forth in the table below, as compared to the exchange ratio of 2.750x provided for in the merger. For purposes of the contribution analyses, TPH excluded the general partner and

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

incentive distribution rights of Midstream held by CEQP, the common units of Midstream held by CEQP and the Midstream preferred units from its analysis of Midstream.

	Implied Exchange Ratio
Market Value	2.398x
2014A Distributable Cash Flow	4.179x
<u>Base</u>	
2015E LP Distributable Cash Flow	3.607x
2016E LP Distributable Cash Flow	3.642x
2017E LP Distributable Cash Flow	3.023x
2018E LP Distributable Cash Flow	2.384x
2019E LP Distributable Cash Flow	2.079x
Levered Discounted Cash Flow	1.679x - 1.853x
Discounted Distribution Analysis	2.434x - 2.726x
<u>Downside</u>	
2015E LP Distributable Cash Flow	3.372x
2016E LP Distributable Cash Flow	3.019x
2017E LP Distributable Cash Flow	3.043x
2018E LP Distributable Cash Flow	3.143x
2019E LP Distributable Cash Flow	2.887x
Levered Discounted Cash Flow	2.223x - 2.465x
Discounted Distribution Analysis	2.812x - 3.323x
<u>Upside</u>	
2015E LP Distributable Cash Flow	3.580x
2016E LP Distributable Cash Flow	3.260x
2017E LP Distributable Cash Flow	2.854x
2018E LP Distributable Cash Flow	2.064x
2019E LP Distributable Cash Flow	1.755x
Levered Discounted Cash Flow	1.432x - 1.578x
Discounted Distribution Analysis	2.132x - 2.380x

Discounted Cash Flow Analysis

TPH calculated implied value reference ranges of Midstream and CEQP common units on a standalone basis by discounting projected levered distributable cash flows to holders of Midstream and CEQP common units. TPH applied equity discount rates ranging from 11.0% to 13.0% and terminal value multiples ranging from 9.0x to 12.0x to the projected levered LP distributable cash flow for Midstream based on the Midstream Forecasts, which resulted in implied value reference ranges per Midstream common unit of \$14.42 to \$18.84 based on the downside case, \$17.72 to \$23.24 based on the base case, and \$17.44 to \$22.88 based on the upside case. TPH applied discount rates ranging from 12.0% to 14.0% and terminal value multiples ranging from 14.0x to 16.0x to the projected levered distributable cash flow for CEQP based on the CEQP Forecasts, which resulted in implied value reference ranges per CEQP common unit of \$6.49 to \$7.64 based on the downside case, \$10.55 to \$12.54 based on the base case, and \$12.18 to \$14.50 based on the upside case.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

Discounted Distribution Analysis

TPH calculated implied value reference ranges of Midstream and CEQP common units on a standalone basis by discounting projected distributed cash flows to holders of Midstream and CEQP common units. TPH applied equity discount rates ranging from 11.0% to 13.0% and terminal yields ranging from 7.00% to 10.5% to the projected LP distributed cash flow for Midstream based on the Midstream Forecasts, which resulted in implied value reference ranges per Midstream common unit of \$15.20 to \$21.63 based on the downside case, \$18.05 to \$26.02 based on the base case, and \$17.81 to \$25.67 based on the upside case. TPH applied discount rates ranging from 12.0% to 14.0% and terminal yields ranging from 7.00% to 9.00% to the projected distributed cash flow for CEQP based on the CEQP Forecasts, which resulted in implied value reference ranges per CEQP common unit of \$5.41 to \$6.87 based on the downside case, \$7.40 to \$9.55 based on the base case, and \$8.34 to \$10.79 based on the upside case.

Selected Companies Analysis

For purposes of the discounted cash flow and distribution analyses, TPH reviewed and compared certain financial, operating and stock market information for selected companies deemed similar to CEQP or Midstream on a standalone basis in one or more respects, using estimates of financial performance for the selected companies based on publicly available research analyst consensus estimates for the selected companies.

The information reviewed and compared included: estimated distribution yield for the year 2015, or "2015E yield"; unit price as a multiple of estimated LP distributable cash flow per unit for the years 2015 and 2016, or "2015E LP DCF/unit" and "2016E LP DCF/unit," for Midstream and the selected master limited partnerships; equity value as a multiple of estimated distributable cash flow for the years 2015 and 2016, or "2015E DCF" and "2016E DCF," for CEQP and the selected general partners of master limited partnerships; and enterprise value as a multiple of estimated EBITDA for the years 2015 and 2016, or "2015E EBITDA" and "2016E EBITDA."

Midstream

The selected companies for Midstream were: Enable Midstream Partners, Targa Resources Partners LP, DCP Midstream Partners LP, American Midstream Partners, LP, Midcoast Energy Partners, Martin Midstream Partners LP and Southcross Energy Partners LP. The resulting high, low, mean and median data for such companies and the corresponding data for Midstream were:

	Distribution Yield	Price/ LP DCF/Unit		Enterprise Value/ EBITDA		
		2015E	2015E	2016E	2015E	2016E
		Mean	9.0%	11.0x	9.9x	13.5x
Median	8.7%	11.2x	10.6x	12.8x	11.2x	
Low	7.4%	8.3x	8.2x	11.2x	8.4x	
High	10.8%	13.5x	11.0x	16.7x	16.3x	
Midstream (based on publicly available consensus analyst estimates)	10.5%	9.3x	8.5x	13.3x	12.2x	
Midstream (based on Midstream Forecasts and Upside and Downside Cases)						
Downside	10.5%	10.9x	11.7x	13.8x	13.9x	
Base	10.5%	10.2x	9.8x	13.0x	12.1x	
Upside	10.5%	10.2x	10.1x	12.9x	11.1x	

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

CEQP

The selected companies for CEQP were: Energy Transfer Equity, L.P., Western Gas Equity Partners, LP, Targa Resources Corp., EnLink Midstream LLC, Plains GP Holdings LP, The Williams Companies, Inc., Alliance Holdings GP, L.P., ONEOK, Inc. and NuStar GP Holdings, LLC. The resulting high, low, mean and median data and corresponding data for CEQP were:

	Yield	Equity Value/ DCF		Enterprise Value/ EBITDA		
		2015E	2015E	2016E	2015E	2016E
		Mean	4.2%	31.1x	30.2x	31.2x
Median	3.4%	28.7x	24.5x	33.2x	28.3x	
Low	2.3%	13.5x	12.3x	13.4x	12.3x	
High	7.5%	62.9x	72.4x	62.7x	58.3x	
CEQP (based on publicly available consensus analyst estimates)	8.1%	15.0x	13.8x	16.0x	14.9x	
CEQP (based on CEQP Forecasts and Upside and Downside Cases)						
Downside	8.1%	16.5x	15.9x	16.5x	15.7x	
Base	8.1%	16.5x	16.0x	16.5x	15.8x	
Upside	8.1%	16.4x	14.8x	16.4x	14.9x	

Selected Transactions Analysis

For purposes of the discounted cash flow analysis, TPH reviewed the financial terms of certain recent business combinations involving target companies that TPH deemed similar to Midstream in one or more respects. The information reviewed and compared included enterprise value as a multiple of estimated EBITDA for the next twelve months "NTM" or next fiscal year "FY1" following announcement, based on publicly available research analyst estimates for those targets.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

The selected transactions and resulting high, low, mean and median data were:

Acquiror	Seller(s)/Target(s)
Tesoro Logistics LP*	QEP Midstream Partners
EQT Midstream Partners LP*	EQT Corporation
Energy Transfer Partners*	Regency Energy Partners LP
Western Gas Partners LP	Nuevo Midstream LLC
Williams Partners LP*	Access Midstream Partners
Tesoro Logistics	QEP Field Services Company
Targa Resources	Atlas Pipeline Partners LP
EQT Midstream Partners LP*	EQT Corporation
Regency Energy Partners LP	Eagle Rock Energy Partners, L.P.
Devon	Crosstex Energy LP
Regency Energy Partners LP	PVR Partners LP
Crestwood Holdings LLC	Inergy LP
Atlas Pipeline Partners LP	TEAK Midstream LLC
Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP*	Kinder Morgan Inc.
Regency Energy Partners LP*	Southern Union Gathering Company
Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP	Copano Energy LLC
Access Midstream Partners LP*	Chesapeake Energy Corporation
Penn Virginia Resource Partners LP	Chief Oil & Gas LLC
MarkWest Energy Partners LP*	The Energy & Minerals Group
Enterprise Products Partners*	Duncan Energy Partners LP

*

Related Party Transaction

	Enterprise Value/ FY1/NTM EBITDA
<u>Related Party Transactions</u>	
Median	11.2x
Mean	11.5x
<u>Other Selected Transactions</u>	
Median	12.8x
Mean	12.9x
<u>All Transactions</u>	
Median	12.2x
Mean	12.2x
Low	7.8x
High	15.7x

Give/Gets Discounted Cash Flow and Distribution Analyses

TPH calculated implied value reference ranges of CEQP common units pro forma for the Transaction by discounting projected levered distributable cash flows to holders of CEQP common units based on the Pro Forma Forecasts. TPH applied discount rates ranging from 11.0% to 13.0% and terminal value multiples ranging from 9.0x to 12.0x to the projected levered distributable cash flow for CEQP based on the Pro Forma Forecasts and adjusted the resulting per unit value reference ranges by the exchange ratio provided for in the merger of 2.750x. The discounted cash flow analysis for CEQP pro forma for the Transaction resulted in implied value reference ranges per CEQP common unit of \$14.11 to \$18.54 based on the downside case, \$19.20 to \$25.35 based on the base case, and \$20.39 to \$26.98 based on the upside case, as compared to the implied value reference ranges for Midstream common units indicated by the discounted cash flow analysis with respect thereto of \$14.42 to \$18.84 based on the downside case, \$17.72 to \$23.24 based on the base case, and \$17.44 to \$22.88 based on the upside case.

TPH also calculated implied value reference ranges of CEQP common units pro forma for the Transaction by discounting projected unlevered free cash flows based on the Pro Forma Forecasts. TPH

Table of Contents

applied discount rates ranging from 8.0% to 10.0% and terminal value EBITDA multiples ranging from 11.0x to 13.0x to the projected unlevered free cash flows for CEQP based on the Pro Forma Forecasts, deducted net debt, minority interests and preferred equity to calculate pro forma CEQP implied value reference ranges per unit and adjusted the resulting per unit value reference ranges by the exchange ratio provided for in the merger of 2.750x. The discounted cash flow analysis for CEQP pro forma for the Transaction resulted in adjusted implied value reference ranges per CEQP common unit of \$14.95 to \$21.04 based on the downside case, \$20.19 to \$27.63 based on the base case, and \$23.47 to \$32.49 based on the upside case, as compared to the implied value reference ranges for Midstream common units indicated by the discounted cash flow analysis with respect thereto of \$14.42 to \$18.84 based on the downside case, \$17.72 to \$23.24 based on the base case, and \$17.44 to \$22.88 based on the upside case.

TPH also calculated implied value reference ranges of CEQP common units pro forma for the Transaction by discounting projected distributed cash flows to holders of CEQP common units based on the Pro Forma Forecasts. TPH applied discount rates ranging from 11.0% to 13.0% and terminal yields ranging from 7.00% to 10.5% to the projected distributed cash flow for CEQP based on the Pro Forma Forecasts and adjusted the resulting per unit value reference ranges by the exchange ratio provided for in the merger of 2.750x. The discounted cash flow analysis for CEQP pro forma for the Transaction resulted in adjusted implied value reference ranges per CEQP common unit of \$14.65 to \$20.95 based on the downside case, \$19.25 to \$28.00 based on the base case, and \$20.42 to \$29.79 based on the upside case, as compared to the implied value reference ranges for Midstream common units indicated by the discounted cash flow analysis with respect thereto of \$15.20 to \$21.63 based on the downside case, \$18.05 to \$26.02 based on the base case, and \$17.81 to \$25.67 based on the upside case.

For purposes of the discounted cash flow and distribution analyses, TPH reviewed and compared certain financial, operating and stock market information for selected companies deemed similar to CEQP pro forma for the Transaction in one or more respects, using estimates of financial performance for the selected companies based on publicly available research analyst consensus estimates for those companies.

The information reviewed and compared included: estimated yield for the year 2015, or "2015E yield"; unit price as a multiple of estimated distributable cash flow per unit for the years 2015 and 2016, or "2015E DCF/unit" and "2016E DCF/unit"; and enterprise value as a multiple of EBITDA for the years 2015 and 2016, or "2015E EBITDA" and "2016E EBITDA."

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

The selected companies were: Summit Midstream Partners LP, EnLink Midstream Partners, MarkWest Energy Partners LP, Enable Midstream Partners, Targa Resources Partners LP, DCP Midstream Partners LP, American Midstream Partners, LP, Midcoast Energy Partners, Martin Midstream Partners LP and Southcross Energy Partners LP. The resulting high, low, mean and median data and corresponding data for Midstream on a standalone basis and CEQP on a pro forma basis were:

	Distribution	Price/		Enterprise	
	Yield	DCF/Unit		Value	
	2015E	2015E	2016E	2015E	2016E
Mean	8.2%	12.5x	11.0x	14.5x	12.1x
Median	7.9%	11.8x	10.8x	13.3x	11.5x
Low	5.5%	8.3x	8.2x	11.2x	8.4x
High	10.8%	18.3x	16.1x	19.5x	16.3x
Midstream (standalone, based on publicly available consensus analyst estimates)	10.5%	9.3x	8.5x	13.3x	12.2x
Midstream (standalone, based on Midstream Forecasts and Upside and Downside Cases)					
Downside	10.5%	10.9x	11.7x	13.8x	13.9x
Base	10.5%	10.2x	9.8x	13.0x	12.1x
Upside	10.5%	10.2x	10.1x	12.9x	11.1x
CEQP (pro forma, based on the Pro Forma Forecasts)					
Downside	8.1%	14.7x	15.7x	14.6x	14.6x
Base	8.1%	13.5x	12.5x	13.9x	12.9x
Upside	8.1%	13.3x	12.5x	13.7x	11.9x

General

TPH and its affiliates, as part of their investment banking business, are regularly engaged in performing financial analyses with respect to businesses and their securities in connection with mergers and acquisitions, negotiated underwritings, competitive biddings, secondary distributions of listed and unlisted securities, private placements and other transactions as well as for estate, corporate and other purposes.

TPH and its affiliates also engage in securities trading and brokerage, private equity and investment management activities, equity research and other financial services, and in the ordinary course of these activities, TPH and its affiliates may from time to time acquire, hold or sell, for their own accounts and for the accounts of their customers, (i) equity, debt and other securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans and other obligations) of Midstream, CEQP, First Reserve Management, L.P. (including private equity and investment funds affiliated or associated therewith and the portfolio companies thereof "First Reserve"), which substantially owns and controls CEQP's general partner, their respective affiliates or any of the other parties that may be involved in the Transaction and (ii) any currency or commodity that may be involved in the Transaction and the other matters contemplated by the merger agreement.

In addition, TPH and its affiliates and certain of its employees, including members of the team performing services in connection with the Transaction, as well as certain private equity or other investment funds associated or affiliated with TPH in which they may have financial interests, may from time to time acquire, hold or make direct or indirect investments in or otherwise finance a wide variety

Table of Contents

of companies, including Midstream, CEQP, First Reserve, other actual or potential transaction participants and their respective affiliates and may have committed to invest in private equity or other investment funds managed or advised by First Reserve, and in portfolio companies of such funds, and may have co-invested with First Reserve or certain of its affiliates, and may do so in the future.

The Midstream Conflicts Committee selected TPH to provide financial advice in connection with its evaluation of the merger because of TPH's experience, reputation and familiarity with the midstream sector of the energy industry and because its investment banking professionals have substantial experience in transactions similar to the merger.

The description set forth above constitutes a summary of the analyses employed and factors considered by TPH in rendering its opinion to the Midstream Conflicts Committee. The preparation of a fairness opinion is a complex, analytical process involving various determinations as to the most appropriate and relevant methods of financial analysis and the application of those methods to the particular circumstances and is not necessarily susceptible to partial analysis or summary description.

Pursuant to the terms of the engagement of TPH, TPH will receive a fee of \$2,250,000 for its services, of which \$1,250,000 became payable upon the rendering of the opinion and \$1,000,000 is contingent upon the consummation of the merger. In addition, Midstream has agreed to reimburse certain of TPH's expenses and indemnify TPH and certain related parties against certain liabilities arising out of its engagement.

TPH and certain of its affiliates have in the past provided and may currently be providing investment banking, financial advisory and other financial services to Midstream, First Reserve and/or certain of their affiliates for which TPH and its affiliates have received, and may receive, compensation, including during the past two years, providing certain advisory services to First Reserve in January 2015 related to exploration and production activity in selected basins in which Midstream operates for which TPH expects to receive approximately \$100,000 in fees and serving as financial advisor to the Midstream Conflicts Committee in connection with Midstream's acquisition of a majority interest in Tres Palacios Holdings LLC in 2014 and serving as financial advisor to the Conflicts Committee of Inergy Midstream, L.P. ("Inergy") in connection with Inergy's merger with Midstream in 2013 for which TPH received aggregate fees of approximately \$2,150,000. TPH and certain of its affiliates may provide investment banking, financial advisory and other financial services to Midstream, CEQP, First Reserve, other participants in the Transaction or certain of their respective affiliates or security holders in the future, for which TPH and its affiliates may receive compensation.

Unaudited Financial Projections

CEQP and Midstream do not as a matter of course make public projections as to future sales, earnings or other results. However, in connection with the proposed merger, the management of CEQP and Midstream prepared and provided the Midstream Forecasts, the CEQP Forecasts and the Pro Forma Forecasts to the CEQP and Midstream Conflicts Committees. These forecasts were prepared solely for the purposes of the merger, and were provided to the Midstream and CEQP Conflicts Committee in connection with their evaluation of the merger. They were also provided to TPH, which was authorized by the Midstream Conflicts Committee to use and rely upon such projections for purposes of its analyses and opinion, and to Evercore and Citi who were authorized by the CEQP Conflicts Committee to use and rely upon such projections.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

CEQP and Midstream each caution you that uncertainties are inherent in projections of any kind. None of CEQP or Midstream or any of their affiliates, officers, directors, managers, advisors or other representatives has made or makes any representation or can give any assurance to any CEQP or Midstream unitholder regarding the ultimate performance of CEQP or Midstream compared to the summarized information set forth below or that any projected results will be achieved.

The accompanying prospective financial information was not prepared with a view toward public disclosure or with a view toward complying with the guidelines established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants with respect to prospective financial information, but, in the view of CEQP's and Midstream's management, was prepared on a reasonable basis, reflects the best currently available estimates and judgments, and presents, to the best of such management's knowledge and belief, the expected course of action and the expected future financial performance of CEQP and Midstream. However, this information is not fact.

Neither Crestwood's independent auditors, nor any other independent accountants, have compiled, examined or performed any procedures with respect to the prospective financial information contained herein, nor have they expressed any opinion or any other form of assurance on such information or its achievability, and assume no responsibility for, and disclaim any association with, this prospective financial information. The reports of the independent registered public accounting firms incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus relate to the historical financial information of CEQP and Midstream. Such reports do not extend to the unaudited financial projections and should not be read to do so.

The Midstream Forecasts, the CEQP Forecasts and the Pro Forma Forecasts included the information set forth in the following table:

(\$ millions)	2015(1)	2016	Projections		
			2017	2018	2019
EBITDA					
Midstream	\$ 507	\$ 537	\$ 620	\$ 718	\$ 794
CEQP	\$ 59	\$ 62	\$ 74	\$ 78	\$ 82
Pro Forma CEQP(2)	\$ 571	\$ 604	\$ 699	\$ 801	\$ 880
Distributable Cash Flow					
Midstream(3)	\$ 348	\$ 375	\$ 413	\$ 467	\$ 538
CEQP	\$ 77	\$ 91	\$ 119	\$ 150	\$ 188
Pro Forma CEQP(3)(4)	\$ 391	\$ 422	\$ 470	\$ 527	\$ 602
Distributable Cash Flow Per LP Unit					
Midstream(2)	\$ 1.65	\$ 1.74	\$ 1.84	\$ 1.98	\$ 2.17
CEQP	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.80	\$ 1.01
Pro Forma CEQP(3)(4)	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.88
Distributions Per LP Unit					
Midstream	\$ 1.64	\$ 1.70	\$ 1.79	\$ 1.92	\$ 2.10
CEQP	\$ 0.55	\$ 0.55	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.80	\$ 1.01
Pro Forma CEQP	\$ 0.55	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.65	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.84
Growth Capital Expenditures					
Midstream(5)	\$ 141	\$ 212	\$ 291	\$ 176	\$ 80
CEQP	\$ 7	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5
Pro Forma CEQP(5)	\$ 148	\$ 217	\$ 296	\$ 181	\$ 85

Notes:

- (1) Assumes 1/1/2015 effective date.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

- (2) Pro forma CEQP EBITDA assumes \$5 million of public company synergies.
- (3) Represents adjusted distributable cash flow available to common unitholders. Includes deduct for cash distributions payable to GE (Crestwood Niobara preferred units) and Midstream's Class A Preferred Units (noting that cash distributions are payable on the Class A Preferred Units commencing in 2017).
- (4) Does not include CEQP DCF attributable to the cash received for the 7.2 million LP units and GP / IDR interest that CEQP owns in Midstream.
- (5) Excludes \$40 million earn-out payment paid to Antero in February 2015.

General

While the unaudited financial projections summarized above were prepared in good faith and based on information available at the time of preparation, no assurance can be made regarding future events. The estimates and assumptions underlying the unaudited financial projections involve judgments with respect to, among other things, future economic, competitive, regulatory and financial market conditions and future business decisions that may not be realized and that are inherently subject to significant business, economic, competitive and regulatory uncertainties and contingencies, including, among others, risks and uncertainties described under "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Statements Regarding Forward-Looking Statements," all of which are difficult to predict and many of which are beyond the control of Crestwood, and will be beyond the control of the combined partnership. There can be no assurance that the underlying assumptions will prove to be accurate or that the projected results will be realized and actual results will likely differ, and may differ materially, from those reflected in the unaudited financial projections, whether or not the transactions are completed. As a result, the unaudited financial projections cannot be considered a reliable predictor of future operating results.

While presented with numerical specificity, the unaudited financial projections reflect numerous estimates and assumptions made by CEQP's and Midstream's management with respect to industry performance and competition, general business, economic, market and financial conditions and matters specific to CEQP's and Midstream's business, all of which are difficult to predict and many of which are beyond CEQP's and Midstream's control. In developing the projections, management of CEQP and Midstream made numerous material assumptions with respect to CEQP and Midstream for the period from 2015 to 2019, including:

the cash flow from existing assets and business activities;

organic growth opportunities and projected volume growth and the amounts and timing of related costs and potential economic returns;

the amount of maintenance and growth capital expenditures;

outstanding debt during applicable periods, and the availability and cost of capital; and

other general business, market and financial assumptions.

By including in this proxy statement/prospectus a summary of certain of the unaudited financial projections, neither CEQP or Midstream nor any of its representatives has made or makes any representation to any person regarding the ultimate performance of CEQP or Midstream compared to the information contained in the financial projections. The unaudited financial projections cover multiple years and such information by its nature becomes less predictive with each succeeding year. Neither CEQP or Midstream nor, following completion of the merger, the combined partnership undertakes any obligation, except as required by law, to update or otherwise revise the unaudited financial projections contained in this proxy statement/prospectus to reflect circumstances existing since their preparation or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events or to reflect changes in general

Table of Contents

economic or industry conditions, even in the event that any or all of the underlying assumptions are shown to be in error.

The summaries of the unaudited financial projections are not included in this proxy statement/prospectus in order to induce any Midstream unitholder to vote in favor of the proposal to approve the merger agreement or any of the other proposals to be voted on at the special meeting of Midstream unitholders.

Neither CEQP nor Midstream intends to update or otherwise revise the above projections to reflect circumstances existing after the date when made or to reflect the occurrence of future events, even if any or all of the assumptions underlying such projections are no longer appropriate.

No Dissenters' or Appraisal Rights

Neither Midstream common unitholders nor Midstream preferred unitholders have dissenters' or appraisal rights under Midstream's partnership agreement, the merger agreement or applicable Delaware law.

Antitrust and Regulatory Matters

Due to rules applicable to partnerships and the common control of Midstream and CEQP, no filing is required under the HSR Act and the rules promulgated thereunder by the FTC. However, at any time before or after completion of the merger, the DOJ, the FTC, or any state request additional information or could take such action under the antitrust laws as it deems necessary or desirable in the public interest, including seeking to enjoin the completion of the merger, to rescind the merger or to seek divestiture of particular assets of CEQP or Midstream. Private parties also may seek to take legal action under the antitrust laws under certain circumstances. In addition, non-U.S. governmental and regulatory authorities may seek to take action under applicable antitrust laws. A challenge to the merger on antitrust grounds may be made and, if such a challenge is made, it is possible that CEQP and Midstream will not prevail.

Listing of Common Units to be Issued in the Merger; Delisting and Deregistration of Midstream Common Units

CEQP expects to obtain approval to list on the NYSE the CEQP common units to be issued pursuant to the merger agreement, which approval is a condition to closing the merger. Upon completion of the merger, Midstream common units currently listed on the NYSE will cease to be listed on the NYSE and will be subsequently deregistered under the Exchange Act.

Accounting Treatment of the Merger

The proposed merger will be accounted for in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification 810, *Consolidations - Overall Changes in Parent's Ownership Interest in a Subsidiary*. Because CEQP controls Midstream both before and after the merger and related transactions, the changes in CEQP's ownership interest in Midstream will be accounted for as an equity transaction and no gain or loss will be recognized in CEQP's consolidated statements of operations resulting from the merger. The proposed merger represents CEQP's acquisition of the noncontrolling interests in Midstream.

Pending Litigation

On May 20, 2015, Lawrence G. Farber, a purported unitholder of Midstream, filed a complaint in the Southern District of the United States, Houston Division, as a putative class action on behalf of the Midstream unitholders, captioned Lawrence G. Farber, individually and on behalf of all others similarly

Table of Contents

situated v. Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, Crestwood Midstream GP, LLC, Robert G. Phillips, Alvin Bledsoe, Michael G. France, Philip D. Gettig, Warren H. Gfeller, David Lumpkins, John J. Sherman, David Wood, Crestwood Equity Partners LP, Crestwood Equity GP LLC, CEQP ST Sub LLC, MGP GP, LLC, Crestwood Midstream Holdings LP, and Crestwood Gas Services GP, LLC, Civil Action No. 4:15-cv-1367. This complaint alleges, among other things, that Midstream GP breached its fiduciary duties, certain individual defendants have breached their fiduciary duties of loyalty and due care, and that other defendants have aided and abetted such breaches. On July 6, 2015, the plaintiff in such lawsuit filed an amended complaint, which further alleges that the named defendants violated Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 14a-9 promulgated thereunder by disseminating a false and materially misleading proxy statement in connection with the merger. The plaintiff seeks to enjoin the merger unless and until such alleged breaches have been cured.

On July 21, 2015, Isaac Aron, another purported unitholder of Midstream, filed a complaint in the Southern District of the United States, Houston Division, as a putative class action on behalf of the Midstream unitholders, captioned Isaac Aron, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Robert G. Phillips, Alvin Bledsoe, Michael G. France, Philip D. Gettig, Warren H. Gfeller, David Lumpkins, John J. Sherman, David Wood, Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, Crestwood Midstream Holdings LP, Crestwood Midstream GP LLC, Crestwood Gas Services GP, LLC, Crestwood Equity Partners LP, Crestwood Equity GP LLC, CEQP ST SUB LLC and MGP GP, LLC, Civil Action No. 4:15-cv-2101. The complaint alleges, among other things, that Midstream GP and certain individual defendants violated Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 14a-9 promulgated thereunder by disseminating a false and materially misleading proxy statement in connection with the merger. The plaintiff seeks to enjoin the merger unless and until certain information is disclosed to Midstream unitholders.

On August 10, 2015, the Kenneth C. Halter Trust, another purported unitholder of Midstream, by and through its trustee, filed a complaint in the Delaware Court of Chancery seeking to inspect and make copies and extracts of certain books and records of Midstream for the purpose of investigating possible mismanagement and alleged breaches of Midstream's partnership agreement by the Midstream Board in connection with merger.

While CEQP and Midstream cannot predict the outcome of these lawsuits or any other lawsuits that might be filed subsequent to the date of the filing of this proxy statement/prospectus, nor can CEQP and Midstream predict the amount of time and expense that will be required to resolve these lawsuits or any other lawsuits, CEQP, Midstream and the other defendants named in this lawsuit intend to defend vigorously against this and any other actions.

Support Agreements and Letter Agreements Regarding Change of Control Election

Support Agreements

In connection with the merger agreement, Midstream entered into (i) a support agreement, dated as of May 5, 2015 (the "CGS Support Agreement"), by and among CEQP, Midstream and CGS, pursuant to which, CEQP, which directly owns 7,137,841 Midstream common units, and CGS, which directly owns 21,597 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders and (ii) a support agreement, dated as of May 5, 2015 (the "Holdings Support Agreement," and together with the CGS Support Agreement, the "Support Agreements"), by and among CEQP, Midstream, Holdings and CGS LLC (collectively with CEQP, CGS and Holdings, the "Supporting Parties"), pursuant to which, Holdings, which directly owns 2,497,071 Midstream common units, and CGS LLC, which directly owns 18,339,314 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream

Table of Contents

unitholders. As a result, holders of a total of 27,995,823 Midstream common units, which represents 13.5% of the total outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (on an "as if converted" basis), have agreed to vote in favor of the proposal.

The Support Agreements will terminate upon the earlier of (i) the effective time, (ii) the termination of the merger agreement in accordance with its terms, (iii) a change in recommendation of the Midstream Board that the Midstream unitholders vote in favor of the merger agreement and the merger as permitted under the merger agreement, (iv) the written consent of CEQP and the Midstream Conflicts Committee, on behalf of Midstream, to terminate the Support Agreements, (v) December 31, 2015 or (vi) the making of any change, by amendment, waiver or other modification by any party to any provision of the merger agreement that is adverse to any of the Supporting Parties without the prior written consent of the Supporting Parties.

Letter Agreements Regarding Change of Control Election

In connection with the merger agreement, Midstream entered into (i) a letter agreement regarding change of control election, dated as of May 5, 2015 by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GE (the "GE Letter Agreement"), (ii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election, dated as of May 5, 2015, by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GSO (the "GSO Letter Agreement") and (iii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election, dated as of May 5, 2015, by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS, Magnetar and the Magnetar preferred holders (the "Magnetar Letter Agreement," and collectively with the GE Letter Agreement and the GSO Letter Agreement, the "Letter Agreements"), pursuant to which, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Letter Agreements, each preferred holder expressed an intention to support the merger and also agreed, solely with respect to the Change of Control (as defined in Midstream's partnership agreement) that will result from the merger, if consummated: (A) to elect to have all of the Midstream preferred units held of record by such preferred holder exchanged, in accordance with the terms of Midstream's partnership agreement, as amended, for CEQP preferred units created pursuant to the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, and to become a limited partner in CEQP in accordance with the terms of CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended by the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment; and (B) if CEQP preferred units are created pursuant to the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment, that the CEQP preferred units shall constitute Substantially Equivalent Units (as defined in Midstream's partnership agreement). These three preferred holders that have expressed an intention to support the merger pursuant to the letter agreements hold a total of 21,580,244 Midstream preferred units.

Table of Contents

THE MERGER AGREEMENT

The following is a summary of the material terms of the merger agreement and the related transactions. The provisions of the merger agreement are extensive and not easily summarized. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached to this proxy statement/prospectus as *Annex A* and is incorporated into this proxy statement/prospectus by reference. You should read the merger agreement because it, and not this proxy statement/prospectus, is the legal document that governs the terms of the merger.

The merger agreement contains representations and warranties by each of the parties to the merger agreement. The assertions embodied in those representations and warranties are qualified by information in confidential disclosure schedules that the parties have exchanged in connection with signing the merger agreement. The disclosure schedules contain information that modifies, qualifies and creates exceptions to the representations and warranties set forth in the attached merger agreement. Accordingly, you should keep in mind that the representations and warranties are modified in part by the underlying disclosure schedules. The disclosure schedules contain information that has been included in Midstream's and CEQP's general prior public disclosures, as well as additional information, some of which is non-public. Information concerning the subject matter of the representations and warranties may have also changed since the date of the merger agreement, and all of this information may or may not be fully reflected in the companies' public disclosures. To the extent there are any conflicts between any representations and warranties in the merger agreement and the additional information included or incorporated by reference in the proxy statement/prospectus, the information included or incorporated by reference herein will control. Accordingly, the representations, warranties and covenants in the merger agreement and the description of them in this proxy statement/prospectus should not be read alone but instead should be read in conjunction with the other information contained in the reports, statements and filings of CEQP and Midstream filed with the SEC.

CEQP and Midstream will provide additional disclosure in their public reports to the extent they become aware of the existence of any material facts that are required to be disclosed under federal securities law that might otherwise contradict the representations and warranties contained in the merger agreement and will update such disclosure as required by the federal securities laws.

In the following summary of the material terms of the merger agreement, all references to the subsidiaries of CEQP or Equity GP do not include Midstream GP or its subsidiaries (including Midstream), unless explicitly stated.

Structure of the Merger and Related Transactions

Pursuant to the merger agreement, MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings will merge with and into Midstream, with Midstream surviving the merger (the "surviving entity"). Immediately following the effective time of the merger, CEQP will contribute 100% of the equity interests of Crestwood Operations to Midstream in exchange for additional limited partner interests in Midstream, such that following the merger and the related transactions provided for in the merger agreement, Midstream GP will be a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP and continue to be the sole general partner of Midstream, and CEQP and CGS will own a 99.9% limited partner interest and a 0.1% limited partner interest, respectively, in Midstream. At the effective time, each issued and outstanding Midstream common unit, except for any Midstream common units owned by CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries, will be converted into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP common units, and each issued and outstanding Midstream preferred unit, except for any Midstream preferred units owned by CEQP or its subsidiaries, will be converted into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP preferred units. No fractional CEQP common units or fractional CEQP preferred units will be issued in the merger, and holders of Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units will, instead, receive cash in lieu of fractional units, if any. This merger consideration represents a 17% premium to the closing price of

Table of Contents

Midstream common units based on the closing prices of Midstream common units and CEQP common units on May 5, 2015, the last trading day before CEQP announced its initial proposal to acquire all of the Midstream common units owned by the public and the parties entered into the merger agreement. Based on the \$6.82 closing price of CEQP common units on May 5, 2015, the 2.75 exchange ratio and the approximately 153.5 million Midstream common units owned by Midstream unitholders (other than Midstream common units held by CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries, if any), the value of the merger consideration to be received by such holders was approximately \$2.9 billion, or \$18.76 for each Midstream common unit. As of May 5, 2015, there were 181,204,695 CEQP common units and 187,423,322 Midstream common units outstanding. Based on the 187,423,322 Midstream common units outstanding at such date that are owned by Midstream unitholders (other than Midstream common units held by CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries, if any) and eligible for exchange into CEQP common units pursuant to the merger agreement, CEQP expects to issue approximately 498.1 million CEQP common units in connection with the merger.

When the Merger Becomes Effective

The closing of the merger will take place on either (i) the third business day after the date on which the last of the conditions set forth in the merger agreement (other than those conditions that by their nature cannot be satisfied until the closing date) have been satisfied or waived in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, or (ii) such other date to which the parties may agree in writing. Please read " Conditions to the Merger" beginning on page 83 for a more complete description of the conditions that must be satisfied or waived prior to closing. The date on which the closing occurs is referred to as the "closing date."

The merger will become effective at the effective time, which will occur upon Midstream filing a certificate of merger with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware or at such later date and time as may be set forth in the certificate of merger. At the effective time, the certificates of formation for each of MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings will be cancelled and Midstream's certificate of limited partnership will be the certificate of limited partnership of the surviving entity, until duly amended in accordance with applicable Law. At the effective time, Midstream's partnership agreement will be amended and restated in the form attached to the merger agreement, and will be the limited partnership agreement of the surviving entity until duly amended in accordance with the terms thereof and applicable Law.

Effect of Merger on Outstanding Midstream Common Units, Midstream Preferred Units and Other Interests

At the effective time, by virtue of the merger and without any further action on the part of any holder of Midstream common units, the following will occur:

The general partner interest in Midstream Holdings, the limited partner interest in Midstream Holdings, the limited liability company interests in MGP GP and the incentive distribution rights in Midstream issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time will be cancelled and no consideration will be received therefor.

Each Midstream common unit (other than Midstream common units held by CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries, if any) immediately prior to the effective time will be converted into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP common units.

All of the Midstream common units issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time held by CEQP and its subsidiaries (including CGS) will remain outstanding in the surviving entity as set forth in Midstream's partnership agreement, and CEQP and CGS will continue as limited partners of the surviving entity, and no consideration will be delivered to CEQP and CGS in respect thereof.

Table of Contents

Each Midstream preferred unit issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time (other than Midstream preferred units held by CEQP or its subsidiaries, if any) will be converted into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP preferred units. In addition, if the effective time occurs after the end of a calendar quarter but before Midstream has paid distributions with respect to such calendar quarter with respect to the Midstream preferred units, then (i) such distributions with respect to the Midstream preferred units for such calendar quarter will be treated as having been paid in Midstream PIK Units (as such term is defined in Midstream's partnership agreement) immediately prior to the effective time, (ii) such Midstream PIK Units will be treated as if they were a Midstream preferred unit issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time (other than Midstream preferred units held by CEQP or its subsidiaries, if any), (iii) each such Midstream PIK Unit will at the effective time be converted into the right to receive 2.75 CEQP preferred units, and (iv) such distributions with respect to the Midstream preferred units for such calendar quarter will be deemed satisfied in all respects as a result of the treatment specified in this sentence.

All Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units, when converted in the merger, will cease to be outstanding and will automatically be cancelled and cease to exist. At the effective time, each holder of a certificate representing Midstream units and each holder of non-certificated Midstream units represented by book-entry will cease to be a unitholder of Midstream and will cease to have any rights as a unitholder of Midstream, except the right to receive (i) the merger consideration, (ii) any cash to be paid in lieu of any fractional new CEQP common unit or new CEQP preferred unit in accordance with the merger agreement and (iii) any distributions in accordance with the merger agreement, in each case, to be issued or paid, without interest, in accordance with the merger agreement. In addition, to the extent applicable, holders of Midstream units as of the effective time will have continued rights to any distribution with respect to such Midstream units with a record date occurring prior to the effective time that may have been declared or made by Midstream with respect to such Midstream units in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement and which remains unpaid as of the effective time. The unit transfer books of Midstream will be closed at the effective time and there will be no further registration of transfers on the unit transfer books of Midstream with respect to Midstream units.

For a description of the CEQP common units, please read "Description of CEQP common units," and for a description of the comparative rights of the holders of CEQP common units and Midstream common units, please read "Comparison of the Rights of CEQP and Midstream Unitholders."

Exchange of Certificates; Fractional Units

Exchange Agent

In connection with the merger, CEQP has appointed American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC to act as "exchange agent" for the issuance of CEQP common units and CEQP preferred units and for cash payments for fractional CEQP common units and fractional CEQP preferred units. Promptly after the effective time (and in any event within two business days thereafter), CEQP will deposit or will cause to be deposited with the exchange agent for the benefit of the holders of Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units, for exchange through the exchange agent, new CEQP common units, new CEQP preferred units and cash as required by the merger agreement. CEQP has agreed to make available to the exchange agent, from time to time as needed, cash sufficient to pay any distributions pursuant to the merger agreement and to make payments in lieu of any fractional new CEQP common units and new CEQP preferred units pursuant to the merger agreement. Any cash, new CEQP common units, and new CEQP preferred units deposited with the exchange agent (including as payment for any fractional new CEQP units and any distributions with respect to such fractional new CEQP units) are referred to as the "exchange fund." The exchange agent will deliver the merger consideration contemplated to be paid for Midstream common units

Table of Contents

(other than those held by CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries, if any) and Midstream preferred units pursuant to the merger agreement out of the exchange fund. Except as contemplated by the merger agreement, the exchange fund will not be used for any other purpose.

Exchange of Units

Promptly after the effective time of the merger, CEQP will instruct the exchange agent to mail to each applicable holder of Midstream common units (other than CEQP, CGS or their respective subsidiaries, if any) a letter of transmittal and instructions explaining how to surrender Midstream common units to the exchange agent. This letter will contain instructions on how to surrender certificates or book-entry units formerly representing Midstream common units in exchange for the merger consideration the holder is entitled to receive under the merger agreement.

Midstream common unit certificates should NOT be returned with the enclosed proxy card. Midstream unitholders who deliver a properly completed and signed letter of transmittal and any other documents required by the instructions to the transmittal letter, together with their Midstream common unit certificates, if any, will be entitled to receive:

new CEQP common units representing, in the aggregate, the whole number of new CEQP common units that the holder has the right to receive pursuant to the terms of the merger agreement and as described above under " Effect of Merger on Outstanding Midstream Common Units, Midstream preferred units and Other Interests," and

a check in an amount equal to the aggregate amount of cash that the holder has the right to receive pursuant to the merger agreement, including cash payable in lieu of any fractional new CEQP common units and distributions pursuant to the terms of the merger agreement.

No interest will be paid or accrued on any merger consideration or on any unpaid distributions payable to holders of certificated or book-entry Midstream common units.

In the event of a transfer of ownership of Midstream common units that is not registered in the transfer records of Midstream, the merger consideration payable in respect of those Midstream common units may be paid to a transferee, if the certificate representing those Midstream common units or evidence of ownership of the book-entry Midstream common units is presented to the exchange agent, and in the case of both certificated and book-entry Midstream common units, accompanied by all documents required to evidence and effect the transfer and the person requesting the exchange will pay to the exchange agent in advance any transfer or other taxes required by reason of the delivery of the merger consideration in any name other than that of the record holder of those Midstream common units, or will establish to the satisfaction of the exchange agent that any transfer or other taxes have been paid or are not payable. Until the required documentation has been delivered and certificates, if any, have been surrendered, as contemplated by the merger agreement, each certificate or book-entry Midstream common unit will be deemed at any time after the effective time to represent only the right to receive, upon the surrender of the Midstream common units, the merger consideration payable in respect of the Midstream common units (including any cash in lieu of fractional units pursuant to the merger agreement) and any distributions to which the holder is entitled pursuant to the terms of the merger agreement.

All new CEQP common units to be issued in the merger will be issued in book-entry form, without physical certificates. Upon the issuance of new CEQP common units to the holders of Midstream common units in accordance with the merger agreement and the compliance by such holders with the requirements of Section 10.3 of CEQP's partnership agreement, Equity GP will consent to the admission of such holders as a limited partners of CEQP and will reflect such admission on the books and records of CEQP.

Table of Contents

The exchange agent will deliver to CEQP any new CEQP units to be issued in the merger, cash in lieu of fractional new CEQP units to be paid in connection with the merger and any distributions paid on new CEQP units, in each case without interest, to be issued in the merger that are not claimed by former Midstream unitholders within 180 days after the effective time of the merger. Thereafter, CEQP will act as the exchange agent and former Midstream unitholders may look only to CEQP for their new CEQP units, cash in lieu of fractional new CEQP units and unpaid distributions, in each case without interest. The merger consideration issued upon conversion of a Midstream common unit in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement is deemed issued in full satisfaction of all rights pertaining to such unit.

Distributions

No distributions declared or made with respect to CEQP common units or CEQP preferred units with a record date after the effective time will be paid to the holder of any Midstream common units with respect to new CEQP units that such holder would be entitled to receive in accordance with the merger agreement, and no cash payment in lieu of fractional new CEQP units will be paid to any holder of Midstream common units, in each case until the holder has delivered the required documentation and surrendered any certificates as contemplated by the merger agreement. Subject to applicable law, after satisfying the requirements of the merger agreement, the following will be paid to a holder of new CEQP units, without interest, (i) promptly after satisfying the merger agreement's procedures, the amount of distributions with a record date after the effective time theretofore paid with respect to the new CEQP units and payable with respect to such new CEQP units, and (ii) at the appropriate payment date, the amount of distributions with a record date after the effective time but prior to such surrender and a payment date subsequent to such compliance payable with respect to such new CEQP units.

Fractional Units

No fractional CEQP common units or CEQP preferred units will be issued upon the surrender of Midstream common units or Midstream preferred units outstanding immediately prior to the effective time. In lieu of any fractional CEQP common unit or CEQP preferred unit, each holder of Midstream common units or Midstream preferred units who would otherwise be entitled to a fraction of a new CEQP common unit or new CEQP preferred unit will be paid in cash (without interest rounded up to the nearest whole cent) an amount equal to, (A) with respect to a new CEQP common unit, the product of (i) the closing sale price of the CEQP common units on the NYSE as reported by The Wall Street Journal on the trading day immediately preceding the date on which the effective time occurs and (ii) the fraction of a new CEQP common unit that the holder would otherwise be entitled to receive pursuant to the merger agreement, and (B) with respect to a new CEQP preferred unit, the product of (i) the closing sale price of the CEQP common units on the NYSE as reported by The Wall Street Journal on the trading day immediately preceding the date on which the effective time occurs, (ii) the number of CEQP common units into which one new CEQP preferred unit would be convertible if the new CEQP preferred units were convertible as of the effective time at the Conversion Rate (as such term is defined in the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment), and (iii) the fraction of a new CEQP preferred unit that such holder would otherwise be entitled to receive pursuant to the merger agreement. Any fractional CEQP common unit or CEQP preferred unit interest will not entitle its owner to vote or to have any rights as a CEQP unitholder with regard to such interest.

No Liability

None of CEQP, Equity GP, Midstream, Midstream GP or the surviving entity will be liable to any holder of Midstream common units for any new CEQP units (or distributions with respect thereto) or

Table of Contents

cash from the exchange fund delivered to a public official pursuant to any abandoned property, escheat or similar law.

Lost, Stolen or Destroyed Certificates

If any certificate representing Midstream units has been lost, stolen or destroyed, upon the making of an affidavit of that fact by the person claiming such certificate to be lost, stolen or destroyed and, if required by CEQP, the posting by such person of a bond, in a reasonable amount that CEQP may direct, as indemnity against any claim that may be made against it with respect to such certificate, the exchange agent will pay in exchange for the lost, stolen or destroyed certificate the merger consideration payable in respect of Midstream units represented by the certificate and any distributions to which the holders thereof are entitled pursuant to the terms of the merger agreement.

Withholding Rights

Each of CEQP, the surviving entity and the exchange agent will be entitled to deduct and withhold from the consideration otherwise payable pursuant to the merger agreement to any holder of Midstream units any amount that CEQP, the surviving entity or the exchange agent are required to deduct and withhold under any provision of federal, state, local, or foreign tax law with respect to the making of such payment; *provided, however*, that CEQP, the surviving entity or the exchange agent, as the case may be, will provide reasonable notice to the applicable holders of Midstream units prior to withholding any amounts pursuant to the merger agreement. To the extent that amounts are deducted and withheld by CEQP, the surviving entity or the exchange agent as described in this paragraph, the deducted and withheld amounts will be treated for all purposes of the merger agreement as having been paid to the holder of Midstream units in respect of whom such deduction and withholding was made by CEQP, the surviving entity or the exchange agent, as the case may be.

Anti-Dilution Provisions

In the event of any subdivision, reclassification, recapitalization, split, combination or distributions in the form of equity interests with respect to the Midstream common units, the CEQP common units, the Midstream preferred units or the CEQP preferred units (in each case, as permitted pursuant to the merger agreement), the number of new CEQP common units and new CEQP preferred units to be issued in the merger and the average closing sales prices of the CEQP common units determined in accordance with the merger agreement, will be correspondingly adjusted.

Midstream LTIP Restricted Common Units and Phantom Units

Each Midstream Restricted Common Unit and each Midstream Phantom Unit credited to a participant under the Midstream LTIP immediately prior to the effective time will be converted into 2.75 CEQP Restricted Common Units or 2.75 CEQP Phantom Units, respectively, credited under the CEQP LTIP, which the Midstream Compensation Committee has determined is the equivalent in economic value of each Midstream Restricted Common Unit and each Midstream Phantom Unit, respectively, except that if the aggregate number of CEQP Restricted Common Units or CEQP Phantom Units that would be credited to a participant after such conversion would result in such participant being credited with a fractional CEQP Restricted Common Unit, then, in lieu thereof, such participant will be entitled to receive cash (without interest rounded up to the nearest whole cent), in an amount calculated as provided in the merger agreement.

Prior to, or as of, the effective time, the Midstream Board will take all necessary actions, if any, pursuant to, in accordance with, and to the extent authorized under the terms of the Midstream LTIP and the grant agreements evidencing the Midstream Restricted Common Units or Midstream Phantom Units, as the case may be, to provide for the automatic conversion on the effective time of the

Table of Contents

Midstream Restricted Common units and Midstream Phantom Units into CEQP Restricted Common Units or CEQP Phantom Units, respectively, under the CEQP LTIP in accordance with the merger agreement, without the consent of the holders of the Midstream Restricted Common Units or Midstream Phantom Units.

On, or as soon as reasonably practicable after, the effective time, CEQP will deliver to each affected participant in the Midstream LTIP a new grant agreement setting forth the terms of such participant's CEQP Restricted Common Units or CEQP Phantom Units, as the case may be, credited under the CEQP LTIP as a result of the automatic conversion of the participant's Midstream Restricted Common Units or Midstream Phantom Units as provided in the merger agreement, which grant agreement will continue the same terms applicable to the Midstream Restricted Common Units or Midstream Phantom Units credited under the Midstream LTIP, subject to adjustment made pursuant to the merger agreement.

CEQP will take all necessary actions on, or prior to, the effective time, to authorize and reserve for issuance a sufficient number of CEQP common units for delivery with respect to the CEQP Restricted Common Units and CEQP Phantom Units credited under the CEQP LTIP on the conversion of the Midstream Restricted Common Units or Midstream Phantom Units in accordance with the merger agreement.

The Midstream LTIP will be terminated on, or immediately following, the effective time.

Tax Characterization of Merger

Midstream and CEQP each acknowledged and agreed that for U.S. federal income tax purposes the exchange of the Midstream units for new CEQP units pursuant to the merger will qualify as an exchange to which Section 721(a) of the Internal Revenue Code applies. Each of CEQP and Midstream agrees to prepare and file all U.S. federal income tax returns in accordance with the foregoing qualification and treatment and will not take any position inconsistent therewith on any such tax return, or in the course of any audit, litigation or other proceeding with respect to U.S. federal income taxes, except as otherwise required by applicable laws following a final determination by a court of competent jurisdiction or other final administrative decision by an applicable governmental authority.

Actions Pending the Merger

Conduct of Business by Midstream

From the date of the merger agreement until the effective time of the merger, except as expressly contemplated by the merger agreement or, as set forth in the Midstream disclosure letter, without the prior written consent of the CEQP Conflicts Committee (which consent will not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned), Midstream and Midstream GP have agreed that it will not, and will cause each of Midstream's subsidiaries not to:

conduct its business and the business of Midstream's subsidiaries other than in the ordinary and usual course;

fail to use commercially reasonable efforts to preserve intact its business organizations, goodwill and assets and maintain its rights, franchises and existing relations with customers, suppliers, employees or business associates;

take any action that would have a material adverse effect with respect to Midstream (please read " Representations and Warranties" for a summary of the definition of "material adverse effect" in the merger agreement);

other than with respect to grants of equity or other rights made in the ordinary and usual course pursuant to the Midstream LTIP, the conversion of any Midstream preferred units into

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

Midstream common units in accordance with the terms of Midstream's partnership agreement or the issuance by Midstream of additional Midstream preferred units in accordance with Article 2.02 of the Class A Purchase Agreement or Midstream PIK Units in accordance with Midstream's partnership agreement, (a) issue, sell or otherwise permit to become outstanding, or authorize the creation of, any additional equity, any appreciation rights or any rights, (b) enter into any agreement with respect to the foregoing or (c) permit any additional equity interests to become subject to new grants of employee unit options, unit appreciation rights or similar equity-based employee rights;

make, declare or pay any distribution on or in respect of, or declare or make any distribution on, any of its equity securities (except regular quarterly cash distributions of Available Cash (as defined in Midstream's partnership agreement)), in the ordinary course consistent with past practice in amounts no greater than distributions per Midstream common unit declared with respect to the first quarter of 2015;

split, combine or reclassify any of its equity interests or issue or authorize or propose the issuance of any other securities in respect of, in lieu of or in substitution for its equity interests;

repurchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, or permit any of its subsidiaries to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire any partnership interests, except as required by the terms of its securities outstanding on the date hereof or as contemplated by any existing compensation and benefit plan;

sell, lease, dispose of or discontinue any portion of its assets, business or properties, which is material to it and such subsidiaries taken as a whole, or acquire, by merger or otherwise, or lease (other than by way of foreclosures or acquisitions of control in a bona fide fiduciary capacity or in satisfaction of debts previously contracted in good faith, in each case in the ordinary and usual course of business consistent with past practice) any assets or all or any portion of, the business or property of any other entity which, in either case, is material to it and such subsidiaries taken as a whole, or would be likely to have a material adverse effect with respect to Midstream;

amend Midstream's partnership agreement, except as contemplated by the merger agreement or the limited liability company agreement of Midstream GP;

implement or adopt any material change in its accounting principles, practices or methods, other than as may be required by law or generally accepted accounting principles;

fail to use commercially reasonable best efforts to maintain, with financially responsible insurance companies, insurance in such amounts and against such risks and losses as has been customarily maintained by it in the past;

(i) change in any material respect any of its express or deemed elections relating to taxes, including elections for any and all joint ventures, partnerships, limited liability companies or other investments where it has the capacity to make such binding election; (ii) settle or compromise any material claim, action, suit, litigation, proceeding, arbitration, investigation, audit or controversy relating to taxes; or (iii) change in any material respect any of its methods of reporting income or deductions for U.S. federal income tax purposes from those employed in the preparation of its U.S. federal income tax return for the most recent taxable year for which a return has been filed, except as may be required by applicable law;

(a) incur, assume or guarantee any indebtedness for borrowed money issue, assume or guarantee any debt securities, grant any option, warrant or right to purchase any debt securities, or issue any securities convertible into or exchangeable for any debt securities of others, (b) enter into any material lease (whether operating or capital), (c) create any lien on its property or the property of its subsidiaries in connection with any pre-existing indebtedness, new indebtedness or lease, or (d) make or commit to make any capital expenditures, in each case in excess of \$100,000,000 in the aggregate;

authorize, recommend, propose or announce an intention to adopt a plan of complete or partial dissolution or liquidation;

Table of Contents

except as permitted by the merger agreement, knowingly take any action that is intended or is reasonably likely to result in (a) any of its representations and warranties set forth in the merger agreement being or becoming untrue in any material respect at the closing date, (b) any of the conditions set forth in Article VII of the merger agreement not being satisfied, (c) any material delay or prevention of the consummation of the merger or (d) a material violation of any provision of the merger agreement except, in each case, as may be required by applicable law; or

agree or commit to do any of the prohibited actions described above.

Conduct of Business by CEQP

From the date of the merger agreement until the effective time of the merger, except as expressly contemplated by the merger agreement or as set forth in the CEQP disclosure letter, without the prior written consent of the Midstream Conflicts Committee (which consent will not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned), CEQP and Equity GP have agreed that it will not, and will cause each of CEQP's subsidiaries not to:

conduct its business and the business of the CEQP subsidiaries other than in the ordinary and usual course;

fail to use commercially reasonable efforts to preserve intact its business organizations, goodwill and assets and maintain its rights, franchises and existing relations with customers, suppliers, employees or business associates;

take any action that would have a material adverse effect with respect to CEQP;

other than with respect to grants of equity or other rights made in the ordinary and usual course pursuant to the CEQP LTIP, (a) issue, sell or otherwise permit to become outstanding, or authorize the creation of, any additional equity, any appreciation rights or any rights, (b) enter into any agreement with respect to the foregoing or (c) permit any additional equity interests to become subject to new grants of employee unit options, unit appreciation rights or similar equity-based employee rights;

except as contemplated by the merger agreement, (i) make, declare or pay any distribution on or in respect of, or declare or make any distribution on, any of its equity securities (except regular quarterly cash distributions of Available Cash (as defined in CEQP's partnership agreement), in the ordinary course consistent with past practice in amounts no greater than distributions per CEQP common unit and CEQP Class A Unit by CEQP declared by CEQP with respect to the first quarter of 2015), (ii) split, combine or reclassify any of its equity interests or issue or authorize or propose the issuance of any other securities in respect of, in lieu of or in substitution for its equity interests or (iii) repurchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, or permit any of its subsidiaries to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire any partnership interests, except as required by the terms of its securities outstanding on the date hereof or as contemplated by any existing compensation and benefit plan;

subject to the merger agreement, sell, lease, dispose of or discontinue any portion of its assets, business or properties, which is material to it and such subsidiaries taken as a whole, or acquire, by merger or otherwise, or lease (other than by way of foreclosures or acquisitions of control in a bona fide fiduciary capacity or in satisfaction of debts previously contracted in good faith, in each case in the ordinary and usual course of business consistent with past practice) any assets or all or any portion of, the business or property of any other entity which, in either case, is material to it and such subsidiaries taken as a whole, or would be likely to have a material adverse effect with respect to CEQP, (a) merge, consolidate or enter into any other business combination transaction with any Person or make any acquisition or disposition that would be likely to have a material adverse effect with respect to CEQP, or (b) enter into a definitive

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

agreement with respect to a proposal or offer from or by any person other than Midstream and its subsidiaries relating to (i) any direct or indirect acquisition of (A) more than 35% of the assets of CEQP and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, (B) more than 35% of the outstanding equity securities of CEQP or (C) a business or businesses that constitute more than 50% of the cash flow, net revenues, net income or assets of CEQP and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole; (ii) any tender offer or exchange offer, as defined pursuant to the Exchange Act, that, if consummated, would result in any person beneficially owning more than 50% of the outstanding equity securities of CEQP; or (iii) any merger, consolidation, share exchange, business combination, recapitalization, liquidation, dissolution or similar transaction involving CEQP other than the Merger (a "CEQP Acquisition Proposal");

amend CEQP's partnership agreement, except as contemplated by the merger agreement;

implement or adopt any material change in its accounting principles, practices or methods, other than as may be required by law or generally accepted accounting principles;

fail to use commercially reasonable efforts to maintain with financially responsible insurance companies, insurance in such amounts and against such risks and losses as has been customarily maintained by it in the past;

(i) change in any material respect its express or deemed elections relating to taxes, including elections for any and all joint ventures, partnerships, limited liability companies or other investments where it has the capacity to make such binding election, (ii) settle or compromise any material claim, action, suit, litigation, proceeding, arbitration, investigation, audit or controversy relating to Taxes or (iii) change in any material respect any of its methods of reporting income or deductions for federal income tax purposes from those employed in the preparation of its federal income tax return for the most recent taxable year for which a return has been filed, except as may be required by applicable law;

(a) incur, assume or guarantee any indebtedness for borrowed money, issue, assume or guarantee any debt securities, grant any option, warrant or right to purchase any debt securities, or issue any securities convertible into or exchangeable for any debt securities, (b) enter into any material lease (whether operating or capital), (c) create any Lien on its property or the property of its subsidiaries in connection with any pre-existing indebtedness, new indebtedness or lease, or (d) make or commit to make any capital expenditures, in each case in excess of \$100,000,000 in the aggregate;

(i) enter into any material contract or agreement or terminate or amend in any material respect any material contract or agreement to which it is a party or waive any material rights under any material contract or agreement to which it is a party or (ii) enter into any contract, agreement or commitment with any affiliate of CEQP or its subsidiaries;

purchase any securities of or make any investment in any person (other than (i) ordinary-course overnight investments of such party, (ii) investments in wholly-owned subsidiaries, (iii) purchases and investments in addition to those contemplated by (i) and (ii) up to an aggregate amount of \$20,000,000;

(i) settle any claims, demands, lawsuits or state or federal regulatory proceedings for damages to the extent such settlements in the aggregate assesses damages in excess of \$20,000,000 (other than any claims, demands, lawsuits or proceedings to the extent insured (net of deductibles), to the extent reserved against in the CEQP financial statements, or to the extent covered by an indemnity obligation not subject to dispute or adjustment from a solvent indemnitor) or (ii) settle any claims, demands, lawsuits or state or federal regulatory proceedings seeking an injunction or other equitable relief where such settlements would have a material adverse effect with respect to CEQP;

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

fail to file on a timely basis all applications and other documents necessary to maintain, renew or extend any permit, license, variance or any other approval required by any governmental authority for the continuing operation of its business, which failure would, individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect with respect to CEQP;

grant any increases in the equity compensation of any of its officers, employees or independent contractors, except in the ordinary course of business not materially inconsistent with past practices;

authorize, recommend, propose or announce an intention to adopt a plan of complete or partial dissolution or liquidation;

except as permitted by the merger agreement, knowingly take any action that is intended or is reasonably likely to result in (a) any of its representations and warranties set forth in the merger agreement being or becoming untrue in any material respect at the Closing Date, (b) any of the conditions set forth in Article VII of the merger agreement not being satisfied, (c) any material delay or prevention of the consummation of the merger or (d) a material violation of any provision of the merger agreement except, in each case, as may be required by applicable law; or

agree or commit to do any of the prohibited actions described above.

Conditions to the Merger

Conditions of Each Party

The respective obligations of the parties to effect the merger are subject to the satisfaction or, if applicable, waiver, on or prior to the closing date of the merger, of each of the following conditions:

the merger, the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated therein will have been approved by the affirmative vote or consent of holders (as of the record date for the Midstream meeting) of a majority of the outstanding Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units (voting together as a single class, with the Midstream preferred units voting on an "as-converted" basis);

all filings required to be made prior to the effective time with, and all other consents, approvals, permits and authorizations required to be obtained prior to the effective time from, any regulatory authority in connection with the execution and delivery of the merger agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated thereby by the parties to the merger agreement or their affiliates will have been made or obtained, except where the failure to obtain such consents, approvals, permits and authorizations would not be reasonably likely to result in a material adverse effect on CEQP or Midstream;

no order, decree or injunction of any court or agency of competent jurisdiction will be in effect, and no law will have been enacted or adopted, that enjoins, prohibits or makes illegal the consummation of any of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, and no action, proceeding or investigation by any regulatory authority with respect to the merger or the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement will be pending that seeks to restrain, enjoin, prohibit, delay or make illegal the consummation of the merger or such other transaction or to impose any material restrictions or requirements thereon or on CEQP or Midstream with respect to the merger or the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement; *provided, however*, that prior to invoking this condition, each party must have used its commercially reasonable efforts in good faith to consummate the merger as required under the merger agreement;

the registration statement of which this proxy statement/prospectus is a part will have become effective under the Securities Act and no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

registration statement will have been issued and no proceedings for that purpose will have been initiated or threatened by the SEC; and

the new CEQP common units to be issued in the merger will have been approved for listing on the NYSE, subject to official notice of issuance.

Additional Conditions to the Obligations of Midstream

The obligations of Midstream to effect the merger are further subject to the satisfaction or written waiver by Midstream, on or prior to the closing date of the merger, of each of the following conditions:

each of the representations and warranties contained in the merger agreement of CEQP and Equity GP are true and correct as of the date of the merger agreement and on the closing date, except for any representations and warranties made as of a specified date, which are true and correct as of that date, in any case, in all material respects, except for any representations and warranties that are qualified by materiality or material adverse effect are true and correct in all respects;

each and all of the agreements and covenants of CEQP and Equity GP to be performed and complied with pursuant to the merger agreement on or prior to the closing date must have been duly performed and complied with in all material respects;

Midstream will have received a certificate signed by the chief executive officer of Equity GP, dated the closing date, to the effect that the conditions set forth in the first two bullet points immediately above have been satisfied;

Midstream will have received an opinion, and provided a copy to the Midstream Conflicts Committee, from Vinson & Elkins LLP or another nationally-recognized tax counsel dated as of the closing date in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to Midstream and a copy of which will have been provided to CEQP to the effect that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, no gain or loss should be recognized by Midstream unitholders as a result of the receipt of new CEQP units in the merger (other than any income or gain resulting from (a) any actual or constructive distribution of cash, including as a result of any decrease in partnership liabilities pursuant to Section 752 of the Code; and (b) cash received in lieu of fractional new CEQP units pursuant to the merger agreement);

Equity GP will have executed and made effective at or prior to the effective time the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment; and

there has not occurred a material adverse effect with respect to CEQP between the date of the merger agreement and the closing date.

Additional Conditions to the Obligations of CEQP

The obligations of CEQP to effect the merger are further subject to the satisfaction or written waiver by CEQP, on or prior to the closing date of the merger, of each of the following conditions:

each of the representations and warranties contained in the merger agreement of Midstream and Midstream GP are true and correct as of the date of the merger agreement and on the closing date, except for any representations and warranties made as of a specified date, which are true and correct as of such date, in any case, in all material respects, except for any representations and warranties that are qualified by materiality or material adverse effect are true and correct in all respects;

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

each and all of the agreements and covenants of Midstream and Midstream GP to be performed and complied with pursuant to the merger agreement on or prior to the closing date must have been duly performed and complied with in all material respects;

CEQP will have received a certificate signed by the chief financial officer of Midstream GP, dated the closing date, to the effect that the conditions set forth in the first two bullet points immediately above have been satisfied;

CEQP will have received an opinion, and provided a copy to the CEQP Conflicts Committee, from Vinson & Elkins LLP or another nationally-recognized tax counsel dated as of the closing date in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to CEQP and a copy of which will have been provided to Midstream to the effect that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (a) no gain or loss should be recognized by existing CEQP unitholders as a result of the merger (other than any gain resulting from any decrease in partnership liabilities pursuant to Section 752 of the Code), and (b) 90% or more of the combined gross income of CEQP and Midstream for the most recent four complete calendar quarters ending before the Closing Date for which the necessary financial information is available is from sources treated as "qualifying income" within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Code; and

there has not occurred a material adverse effect with respect to Midstream between the date of the merger agreement and the closing date.

Representations and Warranties

The merger agreement contains representations and warranties of the parties to the merger agreement, many of which provide that the representations and warranties do not extend to matters where the failure of the representation and warranty to be accurate would not result in a material adverse effect on the party making the representation and warranty. These representations and warranties concern, among other things:

legal organization, existence, good standing and authority;

capitalization;

ownership of all equity interests of each party's subsidiaries;

power and authorization to enter into and carry out the obligations of the merger agreement, and enforceability of the merger agreement;

the absence of defaults, breaches, violations and other conflicts caused by entering into the merger agreement and completing the merger;

the accuracy of financial statements and reports filed with the SEC;

the absence of brokers other than those noted therein;

tax matters;

regulatory approvals;

required board and committee consents and approvals;

operations of MergerCo;

the opinion delivered to the Midstream Conflicts Committee by TPH;

the opinion delivered to the CEQP Conflicts Committee by Evercore; and

the absence of any material adverse effects.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

For purposes of the merger agreement, "material adverse effect," when used with respect to Midstream or CEQP, means any effect that:

is or would reasonably be expected to be material and adverse to the financial position, results of operations, business or assets of such party and its subsidiaries taken as a whole, respectively; or

materially impairs or would reasonably be expected to materially impair, the ability of such party to perform its obligations under the merger agreement or otherwise materially threaten or materially impede the consummation of the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

A material adverse effect does not include any of the following or the impact thereof (so long as, in the case of the first through third bullet points immediately below, the impact on Midstream or CEQP is not disproportionately adverse as compared to others in the petroleum product transportation, terminaling, storage and distribution industry generally):

circumstances affecting the natural gas production, processing, gathering, transportation, pipeline compression and natural gas marketing industries generally (including the price of natural gas or natural gas liquids and the costs associated with its production, processing, gathering, compression or marketing), or in any region in which Midstream or CEQP, respectively, operates;

any general market, economic, financial or political conditions, or outbreak of hostilities or war, in the United States or elsewhere;

changes in law;

earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, or other natural disasters;

any failure of CEQP or Midstream to meet any internal or external projections, forecasts or estimates of revenue or earnings for any period;

changes in the market price or trading volume of Midstream common units or CEQP common units;

the announcement or pendency of the merger agreement or the matters contemplated by the merger agreement or the compliance by any party with the provisions of the merger agreement; or

with respect to CEQP only, any effect to the extent resulting from a fact, event or circumstance that has a material adverse effect with respect to Midstream under the first bullet of the definition of material adverse effect above.

Covenants

Midstream and CEQP made the covenants described below:

Commercially Reasonable Efforts

Subject to the terms and conditions of the merger agreement, each of Midstream and CEQP will use its commercially reasonable efforts in good faith to take, or cause to be taken, all actions, and to do, or cause to be done, all things necessary, proper, desirable or advisable under applicable laws, in order to permit consummation of the merger promptly and otherwise enable consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including, without limitation, obtaining (and cooperating with the other parties to obtain) any third-party approval that

is required to be obtained by CEQP or Midstream or any of their respective subsidiaries in connection with the merger and the

Table of Contents

other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, and using commercially reasonable efforts to lift or rescind any injunction or restraining order or other order adversely affecting the ability of the parties to consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, and using commercially reasonable efforts to defend any litigation seeking to enjoin, prevent or delay the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement or seeking material damages, and each will cooperate fully with the other parties to the merger agreement to that end, and will furnish to the other party copies of all correspondence, filings and communications between it and its affiliates and any regulatory authority with respect to the transactions contemplated under the merger agreement. In complying with the foregoing, neither party nor their subsidiaries will be required to take measures that would have a material adverse effect on it and such subsidiaries taken as a whole.

Equityholder Approval

Subject to the terms and conditions of the merger agreement, Midstream will take, in accordance with applicable law, applicable stock exchange rules and Midstream's partnership agreement, all action necessary to call, hold and convene an appropriate meeting of the holders of Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units to consider and vote upon the approval of the merger, the merger agreement and any other matters required to be approved by Midstream's unitholders for consummation of the merger (including any adjournment or postponement), promptly after the date of the merger agreement. Subject to the provisions of the merger agreement permitting a change in recommendation, the Midstream Board has recommended approval of the merger, the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated therein to the Midstream unitholders, and Midstream will take all reasonable lawful action to solicit such approval by the Midstream unitholders.

Agreement to Support

Contemporaneously with the execution and delivery of the merger agreement, CEQP and CGS executed and delivered a support agreement. In addition, each of CEQP and CGS covenanted and agreed that, except for the support agreement to which it is a party it (a) has not entered into, and will not enter into at any time, any voting agreement or voting trust with respect to its Midstream common units held as of the date of the merger agreement and (b) has not granted, and will not grant at any time, a proxy, consent or power of attorney with respect to such Midstream common units. Clauses (a) and (b) will remain in effect until the earliest to occur of (i) the effective time, (ii) a Midstream change in recommendation, (iii) the termination of the merger agreement in accordance with its terms and (iv) the written agreement of Midstream and CEQP to terminate this covenant. After the occurrence of such applicable event, this covenant will terminate and be of no further force and effect.

Registration Statement

Each of CEQP and Midstream agrees to cooperate in the preparation of the registration statement (including this proxy statement/prospectus) to be filed by CEQP with the SEC in connection with the issuance of new CEQP common units and new CEQP preferred units in the merger as contemplated by the merger agreement. Each of Midstream and CEQP agrees to use all commercially reasonable efforts to cause the registration statement to be declared effective under the Securities Act as promptly as practicable after filing of the registration statement. CEQP also agrees to use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain all necessary state securities law or "Blue Sky" permits and approvals required to carry out the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. Each of CEQP and Midstream agrees to furnish to the other party all information concerning CEQP, Equity GP and its subsidiaries or Midstream and Midstream GP, as applicable, and the officers, directors and unitholders of CEQP and Midstream and any applicable affiliates, as applicable, and to take such other action as may be reasonably requested in connection with the foregoing.

Table of Contents

Each of Midstream and CEQP agrees, as to itself and its subsidiaries, that (i) none of the information supplied or to be supplied by it for inclusion or incorporation by reference in this registration statement will, at the time this registration statement and each amendment or supplement to this registration statement, if any, becomes effective under the Securities Act, contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact required to be stated in this registration statement or any amendment or supplement or necessary to make the statements in this registration statement or any amendment or supplement, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, and (ii) the proxy statement/prospectus and any amendment or supplement to this proxy statement/prospectus will, at the date of mailing to unitholders and at the time of the Midstream special meeting, not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact required to be stated in this proxy statement/prospectus or any amendment or supplement or necessary to make the statements in this proxy statement/prospectus or any amendment or supplement hereto, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. Each of Midstream and CEQP further agrees that if it becomes aware prior to the closing date of any information that would cause any of the statements in this registration statement or any amendment or supplement to be false or misleading with respect to any material fact, or omit to state any material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not false or misleading, it will promptly inform the other party of such information and take the necessary steps to correct such information in an amendment or supplement to this registration statement.

CEQP will advise Midstream, promptly after CEQP receives notice of the time when this registration statement has become effective or any supplement or amendment has been filed, of the issuance of any stop order or the suspension of the qualification of the new CEQP common units and new CEQP preferred units for offering or sale in any jurisdiction, of the initiation or threat of any proceeding for any such purpose, or of any request by the SEC for the amendment or supplement of this registration statement or for additional information.

Each of CEQP and Midstream will use its commercially reasonable efforts to cause this proxy statement/prospectus to be mailed to the Midstream unitholders as soon as practicable after the effective date of this registration statement.

Press Releases

Prior to a Midstream change in recommendation, if any, neither Midstream nor CEQP will, without the prior approval of the Midstream Conflicts Committee in the case of Midstream and the CEQP Conflicts Committee in the case of CEQP, issue any press release or written statement for general circulation relating to the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, except as otherwise required by applicable law or the rules of the NYSE, in which case it will consult with the other party before issuing any such press release or written statement.

Access; Information

Upon reasonable notice and subject to applicable laws relating to the exchange of information, each party will, and will cause its subsidiaries to, afford the other parties and their officers, employees, accountants, counsel and other authorized representatives, access, during normal business hours throughout the period prior to the effective time, to all of its properties, books, contracts, commitments and records, and to its officers, employees, accountants, counsel or other representatives, and, during such period, it and its subsidiaries will furnish promptly to such person and its representatives (i) a copy of each material report, schedule and other document filed by it pursuant to the requirements of federal or state securities law (other than reports or documents that CEQP or Midstream or their respective subsidiaries, as the case may be, are not permitted to disclose under applicable law) and (ii) all other information concerning the business, properties and personnel of it as the other may reasonably request. Neither Midstream nor CEQP nor any of their respective subsidiaries will be

Table of Contents

required to provide access to or to disclose information where such access or disclosure would jeopardize the attorney-client privilege of the institution in possession or control of such information or contravene any law, fiduciary duty or binding agreement entered into prior to the date of the merger agreement. The parties to the merger agreement will make appropriate substitute disclosure arrangements under the circumstances in which the restrictions described in the preceding sentence apply.

CEQP and Midstream, respectively, will not use any information obtained pursuant to the merger agreement (to which it was not entitled under law or any agreement other than the merger agreement) for any purpose unrelated to (i) the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement or (ii) the matters contemplated by the provisions of the merger agreement concerning acquisition proposals and a Midstream change in recommendation in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, and will hold all information and documents obtained pursuant to the merger agreement in confidence. No investigation by either such party of the business and affairs of the other will affect or be deemed to modify or waive any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement in the merger agreement, or the conditions to either such party's obligation to consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

Acquisition Proposals; Change in Recommendation

None of Midstream GP, Midstream and its subsidiaries will, and they will use their commercially reasonable efforts to cause their representatives not to, directly or indirectly,

knowingly initiate, solicit, or encourage the submission of any acquisition proposal; or

participate in any discussions or negotiations regarding, or furnish to any person any non-public information with respect to, any acquisition proposal.

As defined in the merger agreement, "acquisition proposal" means any proposal or offer from or by any person other than CEQP, Equity GP, and MergerCo relating to (a) any direct or indirect acquisition of (i) more than 20% of the assets of Midstream and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, (ii) more than 20% of the outstanding equity securities of Midstream or (iii) a business or businesses that constitute more than 20% of the cash flow, net revenues, net income or assets of Midstream and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole; (b) any tender offer or exchange offer, as defined pursuant to the Exchange Act, that, if consummated, would result in any person beneficially owning more than 20% of the outstanding equity securities of Midstream; or (c) any merger, consolidation, share exchange, business combination, recapitalization, liquidation, dissolution or similar transaction involving Midstream, other than the merger. As defined in the merger agreement, "superior proposal" means any bona fide acquisition proposal (except that references to 20% within the definition of "acquisition proposal" will be replaced by "35%") made by a third party on terms that the Midstream Conflicts Committee determines, in its good faith judgment and after consulting with its financial advisor(s) and outside legal counsel, and taking into account the financial, legal, regulatory and other aspects of the acquisition proposal (including, without limitation, any conditions to and the expected timing of consummation and any risks of non-consummation), to be more favorable to the holders of both the Midstream common units and the Midstream preferred units, provided, that, to the extent any acquisition proposal includes a CEQP Acquisition Proposal, it will not be a superior proposal without the consent of the CEQP Conflicts Committee.

Notwithstanding the prohibitions described above, but subject to the limitations described below and set forth in the merger agreement, nothing contained in the merger agreement will prohibit Midstream and Midstream GP from furnishing any information to, including information pertaining to CEQP or its subsidiaries, or entering into or participating in discussions or negotiations with, any person that makes an unsolicited written acquisition proposal that did not result from a knowing and intentional breach of the provisions of the merger agreement summarized under this section

Table of Contents

" Acquisition Proposals; Change in Recommendation" (a "Receiving Party"), if (i) the Midstream Board, after consultation with its outside legal counsel and financial advisors, determines in good faith (a) that such acquisition proposal constitutes or is likely to result in a superior proposal, and (b) that failure to take such action would be inconsistent with its fiduciary duties under Midstream's partnership agreement and applicable law and (ii) prior to furnishing any such non-public information to such Receiving Party, Midstream receives from such Receiving Party an executed confidentiality agreement, *provided, however*, that if Midstream receives an acquisition proposal that includes a CEQP Acquisition Proposal, Midstream may, in its discretion, respond to a Receiving Party to indicate that Midstream cannot entertain an acquisition proposal that includes a CEQP Acquisition Proposal.

Midstream will not provide any Receiving Party with any non-public information or data pertaining to CEQP.

Except as otherwise provided in the merger agreement, the Midstream Board will not:

(i) withdraw, modify or qualify in any manner adverse to CEQP its recommendation of the merger agreement and the merger or (ii) publicly approve or recommend, or publicly propose to approve or recommend, any acquisition proposal (any action described in this clause being referred to as a "Midstream change in recommendation"); or

approve, adopt or recommend, or publicly propose to approve, adopt or recommend, or allow Midstream or any of its subsidiaries to execute or enter into, any letter of intent, memorandum of understanding, agreement in principle, merger agreement, acquisition agreement, option agreement, joint venture agreement, partnership agreement, or other similar contract or any tender or exchange offer providing for, with respect to, or in connection with, any acquisition proposal.

Notwithstanding the limitations described in the immediately preceding paragraph, at any time prior to obtaining the Midstream unitholder approval, the Midstream Board may make a Midstream change in recommendation if it has concluded in good faith, after consultation with its outside legal counsel and financial advisors, that failure to make a Midstream change in recommendation would be inconsistent with its fiduciary duties under Midstream's partnership agreement and applicable law; *provided, however*, that the Midstream Board will not be entitled to exercise its right to make a Midstream change in recommendation pursuant to this sentence unless Midstream and Midstream GP have: (a) complied in all material respects with the provisions of the merger agreement summarized under this section " Acquisition Proposals; Change in Recommendation," (b) provided to CEQP and the CEQP Conflicts Committee two business days prior written notice advising CEQP that the Midstream Board intends to make a Midstream change in recommendation and specifying the reasons for the change in reasonable detail, including, if applicable, the terms and conditions of any superior proposal that is the basis of the proposed action and the identity of the person making the proposal and contemporaneously providing a copy of all relevant proposed transaction documents for such superior proposal (it being understood and agreed that any amendment to the terms of any such superior proposal will require a new notice of the proposed recommendation change and an additional two business day period), (c) during such period, Midstream and its representatives will negotiate in good faith with CEQP and its representatives to amend the merger agreement so as to enable the Midstream Board and/or the Midstream Conflicts Committee to proceed with its recommendation and at the end of such period, maintain its recommendation (after taking into account any agreed modification to the terms of the merger agreement), and (d) if applicable, provided to CEQP all materials and information delivered or made available to the person or group of persons making any superior proposal in connection with such superior proposal (to the extent not previously provided). Any Midstream change in recommendation will not change the approval of the merger agreement or any other approval of the Midstream Board, including in any respect that would have the effect of causing any takeover law to be applicable to the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement,

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

including the merger. Notwithstanding any provision in the merger agreement to the contrary, CEQP and Equity GP will maintain, and cause their representatives to maintain, the confidentiality of all information received from Midstream pursuant to the merger agreement, subject to certain exceptions.

In addition to the obligations of Midstream set forth in the provisions of the merger agreement summarized under this section " Acquisition Proposals; Change in Recommendation," Midstream will as promptly as practicable (and in any event within 24 hours after receipt) advise CEQP orally and in writing of any acquisition proposal and the material terms and conditions of any such acquisition proposal (including any changes thereto) and the identity of the person making such acquisition proposal. Midstream will keep CEQP informed on a reasonably current basis of material developments with respect to any such acquisition proposal.

Nothing contained in the merger agreement will prevent Midstream or the Midstream Board from taking and disclosing to the holders of Midstream common units and Midstream preferred units a position contemplated by Rule 14d-9 and Rule 14e-2(a) promulgated under the Exchange Act (or any similar communication to limited partners) or from making any legally required disclosure to unitholders. Any "stop-look-and-listen" communication by Midstream or the Midstream Board to the limited partners of Midstream pursuant to Rule 14d-9(f) promulgated under the Exchange Act (or any similar communication to the limited partners of Midstream) will not be considered a failure to make, or a withdrawal, modification or change in any manner adverse to CEQP of, all or a portion of the Midstream recommendation.

Nothing in the merger agreement is intended or will be construed to restrict Equity GP, CEQP or their representatives from initiating, soliciting or encouraging the submission of any CEQP Acquisition Proposal or participating in any discussions or negotiations regarding, or furnishing to any person any non-public information with respect to any acquisition proposal, provided that CEQP will not take any of the actions referred to in the sixth bullet of section " Conduct of Business by CEQP" above, prior to the termination of the merger agreement.

Affiliate Arrangements

Not later than the 15th day after the mailing of this proxy statement/prospectus, Midstream will deliver to CEQP a schedule of each person that, to the best of its knowledge, is or is reasonably likely to be, as of the date of the Midstream special meeting, deemed to be an "affiliate" of Midstream (a "Rule 145 Affiliate") as that term is used in Rule 145 under the Securities Act.

Midstream will use its commercially reasonable efforts to cause its Rule 145 Affiliates not to sell any securities received under the merger in violation of the registration requirements of the Securities Act, including Rule 145 thereunder.

Takeover Laws

No party will take any action that would cause the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement to be subject to requirements imposed by any takeover laws, and each of them will take all necessary steps within its control to exempt (or ensure the continued exemption of) the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement from, or if necessary challenge the validity or applicability of, any rights plan adopted by such party or any applicable takeover law, as in effect on the date of the merger agreement or thereafter, including, without limitation, takeover laws of any state that purport to apply to the merger agreement or the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

No Rights Triggered

Each of Midstream and CEQP will take all steps necessary to ensure that the entering into of the merger agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

and any other action or combination of actions, or any other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, do not and will not result in the grant of any rights to any person (i) in the case of Midstream, under Midstream's partnership agreement, and, in the case of CEQP, under CEQP's partnership agreement or (ii) under any material agreement to which it or any of its subsidiaries is a party.

New CEQP Common Units Listed

In the case of CEQP, CEQP will use its commercially reasonable efforts to list, prior to the closing, on the NYSE, upon official notice of issuance, the new CEQP common units to be issued as merger consideration in connection with the merger.

Third Party Approvals

CEQP and Midstream and their respective subsidiaries will cooperate and use their respective commercially reasonable efforts to prepare all documentation, to effect all filings, to obtain all permits, consents, approvals and authorizations of all third parties necessary to consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement and to comply with the terms and conditions of such permits, consents, approvals and authorizations and to cause the merger to be consummated as expeditiously as practicable. Each of CEQP and Midstream will have the right to review in advance, and to the extent practicable each will consult with the other, in each case subject to applicable laws relating to the exchange of information, with respect to, all material written information submitted to any third party or any regulatory authorities in connection with the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. In exercising the foregoing right, each of the parties to the merger agreement agrees to act reasonably and promptly. Each party to the merger agreement agrees that it will consult with the other parties with respect to the obtaining of all material permits, consents, approvals and authorizations of all third parties and regulatory authorities necessary or advisable to consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, and each party will keep the other parties apprised of the status of material matters relating to completion of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

Each party agrees, upon request, to furnish the other party with all information concerning itself, its subsidiaries, directors, officers and unitholders and such other matters as may be reasonably necessary or advisable in connection with this registration statement, this proxy statement/prospectus or any filing, notice or application made by or on behalf of such other party or any of such subsidiaries to any regulatory authority in connection with the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

Indemnification; Directors' and Officers' Insurance

Without limiting any additional rights that any director, officer, trustee, employee, agent, or fiduciary may have under any employment or indemnification agreement or under Midstream's partnership agreement, the limited liability company agreement of Midstream GP or the merger agreement or, if applicable, similar organizational documents or agreements of any of Midstream's subsidiaries, from and after the effective time, CEQP and the surviving entity, jointly and severally, will: (i) indemnify and hold harmless each person who is at the date of the merger agreement or during the period from the date of the merger agreement through the date of the effective time serving as a director or officer of Midstream or any of its subsidiaries (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Midstream GP) or as a fiduciary under or with respect to any employee benefit plan (within the meaning of Section 3(3) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA")) (collectively, the "Indemnified Parties") to the fullest extent authorized or permitted by applicable law, as in effect at or after the time of the merger agreement, in connection with any claim arising from his or her service in such capacity and any losses, claims, damages, liabilities, costs, indemnification expenses, judgments, fines, penalties and amounts paid in settlement (including all

Table of Contents

interest, assessments and other charges paid or payable in connection with or in respect of any thereof) resulting therefrom; and (ii) promptly pay on behalf of or, within 10 days after any request for advancement, advance to each of the Indemnified Parties, any indemnification expenses incurred in defending, serving as a witness with respect to or otherwise participating with respect to any such claim in advance of the final disposition of such claim, including payment on behalf of or advancement to the Indemnified Party of any indemnification expenses incurred by such Indemnified Party in connection with enforcing any rights with respect to such indemnification and/or advancement, in each case without the requirement of any bond or other security. The indemnification and advancement obligations of CEQP and the surviving entity pursuant to the merger agreement will extend to acts or omissions occurring at or before the effective time and any claim relating thereto (including with respect to any acts or omissions occurring in connection with the approval of the merger agreement and the consummation of the merger and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the consideration and approval thereof and the process undertaken in connection therewith and any claim relating thereto), and all rights to indemnification and advancement conferred under the merger agreement will continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director or officer of Midstream or any of its subsidiaries or as a fiduciary under or with respect to an any employee benefit plan (within the meaning of Section 3(3) of ERISA) after the date of the merger agreement and will inure to the benefit of such person's heirs, executors and personal and legal representatives. Neither CEQP nor the surviving entity will settle, compromise or consent to the entry of any judgment in any actual or threatened action in respect of which indemnification has been or could be sought by such Indemnified Party under the merger agreement unless the settlement, compromise or judgment includes an unconditional release of that Indemnified Party from all liability arising out of that action without admission or finding of wrongdoing, or that Indemnified Party otherwise consents to such settlement, compromise or judgment.

Without limiting the foregoing, CEQP and Midstream agree that all rights to indemnification, advancement of expenses and exculpation from liabilities for acts or omissions occurring at or prior to the effective time existing as of the time of the merger agreement in favor of the indemnitees as provided in Midstream's partnership agreement (and, as applicable, the charter, bylaws, partnership agreement, limited liability company agreement, or other organizational documents of any of Midstream's subsidiaries including, without limitation, the limited liability company agreement of Midstream GP) and indemnification agreements of Midstream or any of its respective subsidiaries will be assumed by the surviving entity, CEQP and Equity GP in the merger, without further action, at the effective time and will survive the merger and will continue in full force and effect in accordance with their terms.

For a period of six years from the effective time, CEQP's partnership agreement will contain provisions no less favorable with respect to indemnification, advancement of expenses and limitations on liability of directors and officers than were set forth in CEQP's partnership agreement on the date of the merger agreement, which provisions will not be amended, repealed or otherwise modified for a period of six years from the effective time in any manner that would affect adversely the rights under CEQP's partnership agreement of individuals who, at or prior to the effective time, were Indemnified Parties, unless such modification is required by law and then only to the minimum extent required by law; *provided, however*, that any such modification will be prospective only and will not limit or eliminate any such right with respect to any claim or action involving any occurrence or alleged occurrence of any action or omission to act that took place prior to modification; and provided further that all rights to indemnification in respect of any action pending or asserted or any claim made within such period continue until the disposition of such action or resolution of such claim.

CEQP will, or will cause the surviving entity to, maintain for a period of at least six years following the effective time, the current policies of directors' and officers' liability insurance maintained by Midstream and its subsidiaries (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Midstream GP) (provided, that

Table of Contents

the surviving entity may substitute therefor policies of at least the same coverage and amounts containing terms and conditions which are not less advantageous to such directors and officers of Midstream than the terms and conditions of such existing policy from carriers with the same or better rating as the carrier under the existing policy provided that such substitution will not result in gaps or lapses of coverage with respect to matters occurring before the effective time) with respect to claims arising from facts or events that occurred on or before the effective time, including in respect of the merger and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement; provided, that CEQP will not be required to pay annual premiums in excess of 300% of the last annual premium paid by Midstream prior to the date hereof but in such case will purchase as much coverage as reasonably practicable for such amount.

The provisions of the above paragraph will be deemed to have been satisfied if prepaid "tail" policies have been obtained by the surviving entity for purposes of this section " Indemnification; Directors' and Officers' Insurance" from carriers with the same or better rating as the carrier of such insurances as of the date of the merger agreement, which policies provide such directors and officers with the coverage described in the above paragraph for an aggregate period of not less than six years with respect to claims arising from facts or events that occurred on or before the effective time, including, in respect of the merger and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

If CEQP, Equity GP, the surviving entity or any of their respective successors or assigns (i) consolidates with or merges with or into any other person and will not be the continuing or surviving corporation, partnership or other entity of such consolidation or merger or (ii) transfers or conveys all or substantially all of its properties and assets to any person, then, and in each such case, proper provision will be made so that the successors and assigns of CEQP, Equity GP and the surviving entity assume the obligations set forth in the provisions of the merger agreement summarized under this section " Indemnification; Directors' and Officers' Insurance."

Following the merger, CEQP and Equity GP will cause the surviving entity to perform all of the obligations of the surviving entity under these provisions of the merger agreement. These provisions will survive the consummation of the merger and are intended to be for the benefit of, and will be enforceable by, the Indemnified Parties and the indemnitees and their respective heirs and personal representatives, and will be binding on CEQP Equity GP, the surviving entity and their respective successors and assigns.

Notification of Certain Matters

Each of Midstream and CEQP will give prompt notice to the other of (i) any fact, event or circumstance known to it that (a) is reasonably likely, individually or taken together with all other facts, events and circumstances known to it, to result in any material adverse effect with respect to it or (b) would cause or constitute a material breach of any of its representations, warranties, covenants or agreements contained in the merger agreement, and (ii) any change in its condition (financial or otherwise) or business or any litigation or governmental complaint, investigation or hearing, in each case to the extent such change, litigation, complaint, investigation or hearing, individually or in the aggregate, results in, or would reasonably be expected to result in, a Material Adverse Effect with respect to it.

Rule 16b-3

Prior to the Midstream unitholder approval, CEQP and Midstream will take any steps that are reasonably requested by any party to the merger agreement to cause dispositions of Midstream equity securities (including derivative securities) and acquisitions of CEQP equity securities, as applicable, pursuant to the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement by each individual who is a director or officer of Midstream and any person who may be deemed to be a "director by

Table of Contents

deputization" under applicable securities laws, as applicable, to be exempt under Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act in accordance with the No-Action Letter dated January 12, 1999 issued by the SEC regarding such matters.

Distribution of Limited Liability Company Interest of Midstream GP

After the Midstream unitholder approval and prior to the effective time, Midstream Holdings will distribute the limited liability interests of Midstream GP to CEQP, such that Midstream GP will be a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP.

Contribution of Midstream Common Units to CGS

After the Midstream unitholder approval and prior to the effective time, CEQP will contribute or cause to be contributed a number of the Midstream common units that it owns directly to CGS, so that after giving effect to the merger and the contribution by CEQP to Midstream of 100% of the issued and outstanding equity interests of Crestwood Operations in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, CEQP and CGS will hold Midstream limited partner interests in Midstream equal to 99.9% and 0.1% respectively, of the total Midstream limited partner interests then outstanding, and immediately thereafter but prior to the effective time will cause CGS to be treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

CEQP Preferred Unit Designation

Equity GP will execute and make effective at or prior to the effective time the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment.

Issuance of Additional Midstream Preferred Units; PIK Unit Election

Prior to the first to occur of (a) not less than three Business Days prior to the effective time and (b) September 30, 2015, the Full Funding Date (as such term is defined in Midstream's partnership agreement) will have occurred. Prior to the earlier of the effective time and the termination of the merger agreement, Midstream GP will cause all distributions paid by Midstream to holders of the outstanding Midstream preferred units pursuant to Midstream's partnership agreement will be paid in additional Midstream PIK Units (and cash in lieu of any fractional Midstream PIK Unit) in accordance with terms of Midstream's partnership agreement.

CEQP Operating Surplus

Equity GP will execute and make effective at or prior to the effective time an amendment to CEQP's partnership agreement providing for, among other things, a change in the definition of "Operating Surplus" to provide that such term includes an amount equal to the operating surplus of Midstream immediately prior to the effective time.

CEQP Defeasance or Call For Redemption of Senior Notes Due 2018

Prior to the effective time, CEQP will take all actions necessary or appropriate to defease or call for redemption the issued and outstanding CEQP 7% Senior Notes due 2018, which redemption will be effected in accordance with Section 3.07 of the Indenture dated as of September 27, 2010, as supplemented by the First Supplemental Indenture, Second Supplemental Indenture and Third Supplemental Indenture thereto among CEQP, CEQP Finance Corp., each of the Guarantors thereof and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee.

Table of Contents

Contribution to Midstream of Crestwood Operations

Immediately after the effective time CEQP will contribute to Midstream 100% of the issued and outstanding equity interests of Crestwood Operations as an additional contribution to Midstream's capital in exchange for additional limited partner interests in Midstream.

Termination

The merger agreement may be terminated at any time prior to the effective time of the merger, whether before or after approval by the Midstream unitholders, in any of the following ways:

by mutual written consent of Midstream and CEQP;

by either Midstream or CEQP upon written notice to the other, if:

the merger is not completed on or before December 31, 2015; provided, the right to terminate the merger agreement pursuant to this bullet point will not be available to a party whose failure to fulfill any material obligation under the merger agreement or other material breach of the merger agreement has been the primary cause of, or resulted in, the failure of the merger to have been consummated on or before such date;

any regulatory authority has issued a final and nonappealable statute, rule, order, decree or regulation or taken any other action that permanently restrains, enjoins or prohibits the consummation of the merger or any of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, or makes the merger or any of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement illegal, so long as the terminating party is not then in material breach of its obligation to use commercially reasonable efforts to complete the merger promptly;

Midstream fails to obtain the approval of the Midstream unitholders at the Midstream special meeting; *provided, however,* that the right to terminate the merger agreement as described in this bullet point will not be available to Midstream where the failure to obtain the Midstream unitholder approval was caused by the action or failure to act of Midstream and such action or failure to act constitutes a material breach by Midstream of the merger agreement;

there has been a material breach of or any material inaccuracy in any of the representations or warranties set forth in the merger agreement on the part of any of the other parties (treating CEQP and Equity GP as one party, and Midstream and Midstream GP as one party, for the purposes of the provision summarized in this bullet point), which breach is not cured within 30 days following receipt by the breaching party of written notice of its breach from the terminating party, or which breach, by its nature, cannot be cured prior to December 31, 2015 (provided in any such case that the terminating party is not then in material breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or other agreement contained in the merger agreement). No party will have the right, however, to terminate the merger agreement pursuant to the provision summarized in this bullet point unless the breach of a representation or warranty, together with all other such breaches, would entitle the party receiving such representation not to consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement because the closing conditions described in the first bullet point under " Conditions to the Merger Additional Conditions to the Obligations of Midstream" or " Conditions to the Merger Additional Conditions to the Obligations of CEQP," as applicable, have not been met; or

there has been a material breach of any of the covenants or agreements set forth in the merger agreement on the part of any of the other parties to the merger agreement, and the breach has not been cured within 30 days following receipt by the breaching party of written

Table of Contents

notice of such breach from the terminating party, or which breach, by its nature, cannot be cured prior to the termination date (so long as the terminating party itself is not then in material breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or other agreement contained in the merger agreement). In no event, however, will any party have the right to terminate the merger agreement pursuant to the provision summarized in this bullet point unless the breach of covenants or agreements, together with all other such breaches, would entitle the party receiving the benefit of such covenants or agreements not to consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement because the closing conditions described in the first bullet point under " Conditions to the Merger Additional Conditions to the Obligations of Midstream" or " Conditions to the Merger Additional Conditions to the Obligations of CEQP," as applicable, have not been met.

by CEQP upon written notice to Midstream, in the event that a Midstream change in recommendation has occurred;

by Midstream, upon written notice to CEQP, in the event that (a) a Midstream change in recommendation has occurred, (b) Midstream has not knowingly and intentionally materially breached the covenants described under " Acquisition Proposals; Change in Recommendation," and (c) Midstream has paid CEQP's expenses pursuant to the second and fourth bullets under " Fees and Expenses"; and

by CEQP, at any time prior to obtaining the Midstream unitholder approval, upon written notice to Midstream, in the event that the Equity GP Board determines to abandon the transactions contemplated in the merger agreement.

Effect of Termination

In the event of the termination of the merger agreement, written notice of the termination will be given by the terminating party to the other parties specifying the provision of the merger agreement pursuant to which the termination is made, and except as provided in the provision summarized in this paragraph (other than certain provisions with regard to confidentiality, payment of fees and expenses, governing law, jurisdiction, remedies and other matters), the merger agreement will become null and void after the expiration of any applicable period following such notice. In the event of such termination, there will be no liability on the part of CEQP, Equity GP, Merger Co, Midstream GP or Midstream, except with respect to (i) fees and expenses summarized below under " Fees and Expenses" and (ii) the requirements set forth above in the second paragraph of " Access; Information". Nothing in the merger agreement, however, will relieve any party from any liability or obligation with respect to any fraud or intentional breach of the merger agreement.

Fees and Expenses

Whether or not the merger is consummated, all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement will be paid by the party incurring such costs and expenses; *provided*, that:

if the merger agreement is terminated by CEQP (a) after a Midstream change in recommendation has occurred or (b) by Midstream, upon written notice to CEQP, in the event that (i) a Midstream change in recommendation has occurred and (ii) Midstream has not knowingly and intentionally materially breached the covenants described under " Acquisition Proposals; Change in Recommendation;"

in the event that (a) an acquisition proposal with respect to Midstream has been publicly proposed by any person (meaning, for the purpose of this bullet, a person other than CEQP, Equity GP and MergerCo) or any person has publicly announced its intention (whether or not

Table of Contents

conditional) to make such an acquisition proposal or such an acquisition proposal or such intention has otherwise become publicly known to Midstream's unitholders generally and in any event such proposal or intention is not subsequently withdrawn prior to the termination of the merger agreement, (b) thereafter the merger agreement is terminated by either Midstream or CEQP pursuant to the provisions described in the first and third bullet under " Termination By either Midstream or CEQP upon written notice to the other, if," or by CEQP pursuant to the provisions described in the fourth and fifth bullet under " Termination By either Midstream or CEQP upon written notice to the other, if" and (c) within 12 months after the termination of the merger agreement, Midstream or any of its subsidiaries enters into any definitive agreement providing for an acquisition proposal, or an acquisition proposal with respect to Midstream or any of its subsidiaries is consummated, then Midstream will pay to CEQP, if and when consummation of such acquisition proposal occurs, all of the expenses of CEQP less the expenses of CEQP previously paid to CEQP, if any; provided that for purposes of this bullet, "35%" will be substituted for "20%" in the definition of acquisition proposal;

if the merger agreement is terminated by Midstream pursuant to the provisions described in the fourth and fifth bullet under " Termination By either Midstream or CEQP upon written notice to the other, if", or by CEQP, at any time prior to obtaining the Midstream unitholder approval, upon written notice to Midstream, in the event that the Equity GP Board determines to abandon the transactions contemplated in the merger agreement, then CEQP will pay to Midstream the expenses of Midstream;

if the merger agreement is terminated by (a) CEQP pursuant to the provisions described in the fourth and fifth bullet under " Termination By either Midstream or CEQP upon written notice to the other, if" or (b) Midstream or CEQP pursuant to the provisions described in the third bullet under " Termination By either Midstream or CEQP upon written notice to the other, if", then Midstream will pay to CEQP the expenses of CEQP;

except as otherwise provided in the merger agreement, any payment of expenses described above will be made by wire transfer of immediately available funds to an account designated by CEQP or an account designated by Midstream, as applicable, within one business day after such payment becomes payable; provided, however, that any payment by Midstream of the expenses of CEQP as a result of termination by Midstream, upon written notice to CEQP, in the event that (i) a Midstream change in recommendation has occurred and (ii) Midstream has not knowingly and intentionally materially breached the covenants described under " Acquisition Proposals; Change in Recommendation," will be made prior to or concurrently with termination of the merger agreement; provided, however, that any payment of the expenses of CEQP pursuant to the second bullet of this section will be made contemporaneously with the consummation of the acquisition proposal as provided in clause (c) of the second bullet of this section.

expenses incurred in connection with filing, printing and mailing this proxy statement/prospectus and the registration statement will be paid by CEQP; and

any filing fees payable pursuant to regulatory laws and other filing fees incurred in connection with the merger agreement will be paid by the party incurring the fees. For purposes of this section, the term "expenses" includes all out-of-pocket expenses (including all fees and expenses of counsel, accountants, investment bankers, experts and consultants to a party to the merger agreement and its affiliates) incurred by a party or on its behalf in connection with or related to the authorization, preparation, negotiation, execution and performance of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the preparation, printing, filing and mailing of this proxy statement/prospectus and this registration statement and the solicitation of unitholder approvals and all other matters related to the transactions

Table of Contents

contemplated by the merger agreement; provided that the amount of expenses payable by one party to another will not exceed \$10.0 million.

Waiver and Amendment

Subject to compliance with applicable law, prior to the closing, any provision of the merger agreement may be waived in writing by the party benefited by the provision and approved by the CEQP Conflicts Committee in the case of CEQP and by the Midstream Conflicts Committee in the case of Midstream and executed in the same manner as the merger agreement, or (b) amended or modified at any time, whether before or after the Midstream unitholder approval, by an agreement in writing between the parties to the merger agreement approved by the CEQP Conflicts Committee in the case of CEQP and by the Midstream Conflicts Committee in the case of Midstream and executed in the same manner as this Agreement, provided, that after the Midstream unitholder approval, no amendment will be made that requires further Midstream unitholder approval without such approval.

Governing Law

The merger agreement is governed by and interpreted under Delaware law.

Table of Contents

THE MERGER PARTIES' BUSINESSES

Mainstream's Business

This section summarizes information from Midstream's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, Midstream's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015 and the other filings incorporated into this proxy statement/prospectus by reference. For a more detailed discussion of Midstream's business, please read the "Business" section contained in Midstream's 2014 Annual Report on Form 10-K and the other filings incorporated into this document by reference.

General

Midstream, a Delaware limited partnership formed in 2004, is a growth-oriented MLP that develops, acquires, owns and operates primarily fee-based assets and operations within the energy midstream sector. Headquartered in Houston, Texas, it provides broad-ranging infrastructure solutions across the value chain to service premier liquids-rich and crude oil shale plays across the United States. Midstream's common units representing limited partner interests are listed on the NYSE under the symbol "CMLP."

Midstream owns and operates a diversified portfolio of crude oil and natural gas gathering, processing, storage and transportation assets that connect fundamental energy supply with energy demand across North America. Its consolidated operating assets primarily include:

natural gas facilities with approximately 2.5 Bcf/d of gathering capacity, 481 MMcf/d of processing capacity, 1.1 Bcf/d of firm transmission capacity, and 41 Bcf of certificated working gas storage capacity;

NGL facilities with approximately 1.7 million barrels of storage capacity; and

crude oil facilities with approximately 125,000 Bbls/d of gathering capacity, approximately 1.1 million barrels of storage capacity, 48,000 Bbls/d of transportation capacity and 160,000 Bbls/d of rail loading capacity.

Midstream's principal executive offices are located at 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002, and its telephone number is (832) 519-2200.

Midstream's Business Segments

Midstream has three reporting segments: (i) gathering and processing, (ii) storage and transportation, and (iii) NGL and crude services.

CEQP's Business

This section summarizes information from CEQP's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, CEQP's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015 and the other filings incorporated into this proxy statement/prospectus by reference. For a more detailed discussion of CEQP's business, please read the "Business" section contained in its 2014 Annual Report on Form 10-K and the other filings incorporated into this proxy statement/prospectus by reference.

General

CEQP, a Delaware limited partnership formed in 2004, is a master limited partnership (an "MLP") that develops, acquires, owns or controls, and operates primarily fee-based assets and operations within the energy midstream sector. Headquartered in Houston, Texas, it provides broad-ranging infrastructure solutions across the value chain to service premier liquids-rich and crude oil shale plays

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

across the United States. Our common units representing limited partner interests are listed on the NYSE under the symbol "CEQP."

CEQP owns and operates a diversified portfolio of crude oil and natural gas gathering, processing, storage and transportation assets that connect fundamental energy supply with energy demand across North America. CEQP's operating assets consist of a proprietary NGL supply and logistics business. Its other consolidated assets are owned by or through Midstream. CEQP's consolidated operating assets include:

natural gas facilities with approximately 2.5 Bcf/d of gathering capacity, 481 MMcf/d of processing capacity, 1.1 Bcf/d of firm transmission capacity, and 41 Bcf of certificated working gas storage capacity;

NGL facilities with approximately 24,000 Bbls/d of fractionation capacity and 2.8 million barrels of storage capacity;

crude oil facilities with approximately 125,000 Bbls/d of gathering capacity, approximately 1.1 million barrels of storage capacity, 48,000 Bbls/d of transportation capacity and 160,000 Bbls/d of rail loading capacity; and

a fleet of transportation assets supporting our proprietary NGL supply and logistics business, including 8 truck and rail terminals and approximately 543 truck/trailer units and 1,600 rail units that can transport more than 294,000 Bbls/d of NGLs.

CEQP's principal executive offices are located at 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002, and its telephone number is (832) 519-2200.

CEQP's Business Segments

CEQP has three reporting segments: (i) gathering and processing, (ii) storage and transportation, and (iii) NGL and crude services.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS; INTERESTS OF CERTAIN PERSONS IN THE MERGER

Relationship of CEQP and Midstream

General

CEQP and Midstream are currently under common control. Midstream is currently owned 100% by its limited partners and its non-economic general partner, Midstream GP. Midstream was formed by CEQP in September 2004 for the purpose of holding certain of CEQP's midstream investments. Midstream GP and 100% of Midstream's IDRs are currently owned by a wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP, Midstream Holdings. CEQP and CGS own collectively 7,159,438 of Midstream's outstanding common units.

CEQP and its general partner are effectively controlled by First Reserve, through its subsidiary Holdings. Given that CEQP effectively owns and controls Midstream's general partner, First Reserve effectively controls Midstream as well as CEQP.

In addition, some of the executive officers and directors of Midstream GP are also executive officers or directors of Equity GP, as more fully described below under "Interests of Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger."

Omnibus Agreement

CEQP, Midstream, Equity GP and Midstream GP are parties to an omnibus agreement that governs certain aspects of their relationship with each other. Under the terms of the omnibus agreement, CEQP provides to Midstream certain administrative services and such employees as may be necessary to operate and manage Midstream's business. In return, Midstream reimburses CEQP for all reasonable costs and expenses incurred in connection with such services. Midstream also reimburses CEQP for all expenses it incurs as a result of Midstream being a publicly traded partnership.

In addition, the omnibus agreement provides for certain indemnification obligations. CEQP's indemnification obligations to Midstream includes certain liabilities relating to (i) the ownership and operation of Midstream's assets prior to Midstream's initial public offering (IPO), provided that amounts are only payable to Midstream after Midstream's liabilities have exceeded \$100,000 and then only for such amounts in excess of \$100,000 and (ii) until the first day after the applicable statute of limitations, any of Midstream's federal, state and local income tax liabilities attributable to the ownership and operation of Midstream's assets prior to Midstream's IPO. CEQP will not be required to indemnify Midstream for any claims, losses or expenses or income taxes referred to above to the extent such were either (i) reserved for in Midstream's financial statements as of the closing of Midstream's IPO or (ii) Midstream recovers any such amounts under available insurance coverage, from contractual rights or other recoveries against any third party.

Midstream's indemnification obligations to CEQP, Equity GP and their affiliates (other than Midstream, Midstream GP and Midstream's subsidiaries) includes certain liabilities relating to (i) certain environmental liabilities attributable to the ownership and operation of Midstream's assets, but only to the extent the violations, events, omissions or conditions giving rise to such covered environmental liabilities occur after the closing of Midstream's IPO; provided, that (a) Midstream's aggregate liability for such covered environmental liabilities will not exceed \$15 million and (b) amounts are only payable by Midstream pursuant to this provision after liabilities relating to such covered environmental losses have exceeded \$100,000 and then only for such amounts in excess of \$100,000 and (ii) losses suffered or incurred by CEQP by reason of or arising out of events and conditions associated with the operation of Midstream's assets that occur on or after Midstream's IPO.

Table of Contents

Tax Sharing Agreement

CEQP and Midstream are parties to a tax sharing agreement pursuant to which Midstream will reimburse CEQP for Midstream's share of state and local income and other taxes borne by CEQP as a result of Midstream's income being included in a combined or consolidated tax return filed by CEQP with respect to taxable periods that included or began on the closing date of Midstream's IPO. The amount of any such reimbursement is limited to the tax Midstream and its subsidiaries would have paid had Midstream not been included in a combined group with CEQP.

Interests of Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger

General

In considering the recommendation of the Midstream Board with respect to the merger, Midstream unitholders should be aware that certain of the executive officers and directors of Midstream GP have interests in the transaction that differ from, or are in addition to, the interests of Midstream unitholders generally, including:

All of the directors and executive officers of Midstream GP will receive continued indemnification for their actions as directors and executive officers.

Certain directors of Midstream GP, none of whom is a member of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, own CEQP common units.

Some of Midstream GP's directors, none of whom is a member of the Midstream Conflicts Committee, also serve as executive officers of Equity GP, have certain duties to the limited partners of CEQP and are compensated, in part, based on the performance of CEQP.

Each of the executive officers and directors of Equity GP is currently expected to remain an executive officer and director of Equity GP following the merger. The persons who will be elected as additional executive officers or directors of Equity GP following the merger have not yet been determined.

The members of the Midstream Conflicts Committee and the Midstream Board were aware of these interests and the relationships described below and considered them in making their determinations and recommendations with respect to the merger agreement and the merger. These interests and relationships, to the extent material, are further described below. For more information, please read "The Merger Background of the Merger," and "The Merger Recommendation of the Midstream Board and Midstream Conflicts Committee's Reasons for the Merger."

Relationships of Equity GP Board Members

Robert G. Phillips, Alvin Bledsoe, Michael G. France, Warren H. Gfeller, John J. Sherman and David M. Wood, who are directors of Midstream GP, also serve as directors of Equity GP.

Relationships of Midstream GP Management

All current executive officers of Midstream GP also serve as executive officers of Equity GP.

Treatment of Equity Awards

Certain Executive Officers and Directors of Midstream GP hold Midstream Restricted Common Units and Midstream Phantom Units pursuant to the Midstream LTIP. Under the merger agreement, each Midstream Restricted Common Unit and each Midstream Phantom Unit credited to a participant under the Midstream LTIP immediately prior to the effective time will be converted into 2.75 CEQP Restricted Common Units or 2.75 CEQP Phantom Units, respectively, credited under the CEQP LTIP.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

Equity Interests of Equity GP's and Midstream GP's Directors and Executive Officers in Midstream and CEQP

The following table sets forth the beneficial ownership of the directors and executive officers of Equity GP and Midstream GP in the equity of (i) Midstream, (ii) CEQP prior to the merger and (iii) CEQP after giving effect to the merger, each as of July 17, 2015:

Name	Positions with Equity GP	Positions with Midstream GP	Midstream Common Units(1)	CEQP Common Units Prior to the Merger(2)	CEQP Common Units After the Merger
Robert G. Philips	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	139,577	265,420	649,256
J. Heath Deneke	Chief Operating Officer and President, Pipeline Services Group	Chief Operating Officer and President, Pipeline Services Group	45,591	77,271	202,646
William C. Gautreaux(3)	Chief Marketing Officer and President, Supply and Logistics Group	Chief Marketing Officer and President, Supply and Logistics Group	1,242,733	2,538,666	5,956,181
Robert T. Halpin	Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer	Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer	47,292	66,225	196,278
Steven M. Dougherty	Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer	Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer	47,028	60,789	190,116
Joel C. Lambert	Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary	Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary	30,361	71,733	155,225
William H. Moore	Senior Vice President, Strategy and Corporate Development	Senior Vice President, Strategy and Corporate Development	47,644	80,103	211,124
Joel D. Moxley(4)	Senior Vice President, Operations Services	Senior Vice President, Operations Services	41,468	88,576	202,613
Alvin Bledsoe	Director	Director	76,602	16,975	227,630
Michael G. France	Director	Director	16,652	16,975	62,768
Warren H. Gfeller(5)	Director	Director	73,562	137,494	339,789
Arthur B. Krause(6)	Director	Director	58,173	132,884	292,859
Randy E. Moeder(7)	Director	Director		25,607	25,607
John J. Sherman(8)	Director	Director	4,882,587	18,707,643	32,134,757
John W. Somerhalder II	Director	Director		16,975	16,975
David M. Wood	Director	Director	9,397	36,975	62,816
Philip D. Gettig	Director	Director	34,493		94,855
David Lumpkins	Director	Director	49,397		135,841

(1) Excludes an aggregate of 130,644 Midstream Phantom Units held by certain executive officers of Midstream GP, which will be converted into 359,272 CEQP Phantom Units pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement.

(2) Excludes an aggregate of 294,024 CEQP Phantom Units held by certain executive officers of CEQP GP.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

- (3) The Midstream common units presented for Mr. Gautreaux include (i) 932,780 Midstream common units held by a revocable trust for which Mr. Gautreaux serves as trustee and (ii) 150,048 Midstream common units held by grantor retained annuity trusts for which Mr. Gautreaux serves as a co-trustee. The CEQP common units presented for Mr. Gautreaux include (i) 1,810,200 CEQP common units held by a revocable trust for which Mr. Gautreaux serves as trustee and (ii) 347,295 CEQP common units held by grantor retained annuity trusts for which Mr. Gautreaux serves as a co-trustee.
- (4) Mr. Moxley resigned from his positions with Equity GP and Midstream GP effective June 30, 2015.
- (5) The Midstream common units presented for Mr. Gfeller include 40,395 Midstream common units held by a revocable trust for which Mr. Gfeller serves as trustee. The CEQP common units presented for Mr. Gfeller include 93,496 CEQP common units held by a revocable trust for which Mr. Gfeller serves as trustee.

Table of Contents

- (6) The Midstream common units presented for Mr. Krause include (i) 56,342 Midstream common units held by a revocable trust for which Mr. Krause serves as a co-trustee and (ii) 1,080 Midstream common units held by a family trust for which Mr. Krause serves as trustee. The CEQP common units presented for Mr. Krause include (i) 117,888 CEQP common units held by a revocable trust for which Mr. Krause serves as a co-trustee and (ii) 2,500 CEQP common units held by a family trust for which Mr. Krause serves as trustee.
- (7) The CEQP common units presented for Mr. Moeder include 2,300 CEQP common units held by a revocable trust for which Mr. Moeder serves as a co-trustee.
- (8) The Midstream common units presented for Mr. Sherman include (i) 4,628,859 Midstream common units held by a revocable trust for which Mr. Sherman serves as trustee and (ii) 140,443 Midstream common units held by a grantor retained annuity trust for which Mr. Sherman serves as trustee. The CEQP common units presented for Mr. Sherman include (i) 18,103,814 CEQP common units held by a revocable trust for which Mr. Sherman serves as trustee and (ii) 577,853 CEQP common units held by a grantor retained annuity trust for which Mr. Sherman serves as trustee.

Director and Officer Insurance; Indemnification

The merger agreement requires CEQP to maintain, or to cause the surviving entity in the merger to maintain, for six years after the effective time of the merger, officers' and directors liability insurance for the benefit of persons who are or were at any time before the effective time of the mergers covered by the existing directors' and officers' liability insurance policies applicable to Midstream, Midstream GP or any of their subsidiaries, as described more fully under "The Merger Agreement Covenants Indemnification; Directors' and Officers' Insurance."

The merger agreement also provides for indemnification and advancement of expenses by CEQP and the surviving entity in the merger, jointly and severally, of directors and officers of Midstream GP and Equity GP to the fullest extent authorized or permitted by applicable law, in addition to existing rights, as described more fully under "The Merger Agreement Covenants Indemnification; Directors' and Officers' Insurance."

Support Agreements

In connection with the merger agreement, CEQP entered into (i) a support agreement by and among CEQP, Midstream and CGS, pursuant to which, CEQP, which directly owns 7,137,841 Midstream common units, and CGS, which directly owns 21,597 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders and (ii) a support agreement by and among CEQP, Midstream, Holdings and CGS LLC pursuant to which, Holdings, which directly owns 2,497,071 Midstream common units, and CGS LLC, which directly owns 18,339,314 Midstream common units, agreed to vote their respective Midstream common units in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement at any meeting of Midstream unitholders. Pursuant to (i) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GE, (ii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS and GSO and (iii) a letter agreement regarding change of control election by and among CEQP, Midstream, CGS, Magnetar and the Magnetar preferred holders, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in such letter agreements, each preferred holder expressed an intention to support the merger and agreed to elect to have all of the Midstream preferred units held of record by such preferred holder exchanged for CEQP preferred units upon the consummation of the merger in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement.

For additional information about the support agreements, please read "The Merger Support Agreements and Letter Agreements Regarding Change of Control Election."

Table of Contents

DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF CEQP AFTER THE MERGER

The directors and executive officers of CEQP prior to the merger will continue as directors and executive officers of CEQP after the merger.

Table of Contents

COMPARISON OF THE RIGHTS OF CEQP AND MIDSTREAM UNITHOLDERS

The following describes the material differences between the rights of the CEQP unitholders, after giving effect to the transactions contemplated by the merger, and the current rights of Midstream unitholders. It is not a complete summary of the provisions affecting, and the differences between, the rights of the CEQP unitholders and Midstream unitholders. The rights of the CEQP unitholders will be governed by the Fifth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of CEQP, as amended by the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment, which is attached as Annex A to the merger agreement. The rights of Midstream unitholders are governed by the First Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Inergy Midstream, L.P., as amended. You should refer to each document for a complete description of the rights of the CEQP and Midstream unitholders, respectively. If the merger is consummated, Midstream unitholders will become CEQP unitholders, and their rights as CEQP unitholders will be governed by Delaware law and CEQP's partnership agreement. In accordance with the terms of the merger agreement and pursuant to the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment, the Midstream preferred units will be exchanged for newly issued CEQP preferred units, which will constitute Substantially Equivalent Units (as defined in Midstream's partnership agreement). For CEQP's partnership agreement, please refer to CEQP's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on April 11, 2014. For Midstream's partnership agreement and the amendments thereto, please refer to Midstream's Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed with the Commission on December 21, 2011 and Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on October 1, 2013, October 10, 2013 and June 19, 2014. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act, as amended from time to time, and any successor to such act (the "Delaware Act"), CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, and Midstream's partnership agreement, as amended.

Purpose and Term of Existence

CEQP

CEQP's stated purposes under its partnership agreement are to serve as a member of its operating company and to engage in any business activities that may be engaged in by its operating company or that are approved by its general partner and which lawfully may be conducted by a limited partnership under Delaware law.

CEQP's existence will continue until dissolved pursuant to the terms of CEQP's partnership agreement.

Outstanding Units

CEQP

As of May 5, 2015, CEQP had outstanding (a) 181,204,695 CEQP common units, (b) 4,867,252 CEQP Class A Units, (c) 4,387,889 subordinated units and (d) no CEQP Preferred Units.

Midstream

Midstream's stated purpose under its partnership agreement is to engage in any business activities that are approved by its general partner and which lawfully may be conducted by a limited partnership under Delaware law so long as the business activity does not cause Midstream to be taxed as a corporation.

Midstream's existence will continue until dissolved pursuant to the terms of Midstream's partnership agreement.

Midstream

As of May 5, 2015, Midstream had outstanding (a) 187,423,322 Midstream common units, (b) 18,756,098 Midstream preferred units and (c) the incentive distribution rights.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

CEQP

The rights and obligations of CEQP Class A Units are identical to the rights and obligations of CEQP common units except that the CEQP Class A Units (i) do not have the right to vote on, approve or disapprove, or otherwise consent or not consent with respect to any matter (including mergers, share exchanges and similar statutory authorizations) except as otherwise required by any non-waivable provision of law and (ii) do not share in (a) any income, gains, losses, deductions and credits which are attributable to CEQP's ownership of, or sale or other disposition of, the shares of common stock of IPCH Acquisition Corp. ("IPCH") and the membership interests of Crestwood Partners LLC ("Crestwood Partners") or (b) any cash and cash equivalents on hand derived from or attributable to CEQP's ownership of, or sale or other disposition of, the shares of common stock of IPCH and the membership interests of Crestwood Partners.

The rights and obligations of the subordinated units are identical to the rights and obligations of CEQP common units except that the subordinated units are subordinate to CEQP common units with respect to distribution during the subordination period.

In accordance with the terms of the merger agreement and pursuant to the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment, the newly issued CEQP preferred units will confer such rights and obligations to their holders so as to constitute Substantially Equivalent Units (as defined in Midstream's partnership agreement).

The CEQP preferred units are convertible by the holders (a) at any time on or after June 17, 2017 in an aggregate amount equaling or exceeding the minimum conversion amount set forth in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended into CEQP common units at the then-applicable conversion ratio set forth in the CEQP partnership agreement and (b) in the event of (i) a change of control, as that term is defined in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, prior to June 17, 2017 or (ii) any voluntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of CEQP into CEQP common units at the then-applicable conversion ratio.

Midstream

The incentive distribution rights in Midstream issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time will be cancelled and no consideration will be received therefor.

The Midstream preferred units are convertible by the holders (a) at any time on or after June 17, 2017 in an aggregate amount equaling or exceeding the minimum conversion amount set forth in Midstream's partnership agreement into Midstream common units at the then-applicable conversion ratio set forth in the Midstream partnership agreement and (b) in the event of (i) a change of control, as that term is defined in Midstream's partnership agreement, prior to June 17, 2017 or (ii) any voluntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Midstream into Midstream common units at the then-applicable conversion ratio.

Table of Contents

Distributions of Available Cash

CEQP

During the subordination period and beginning with the first quarter after the effective time, within 45 days after the end of each quarter, CEQP will distribute all of its available cash to its unitholders of record on the applicable record date as follows:

first, to the holders of CEQP preferred units to the extent of the distribution preference on the CEQP preferred units, as described below;

second, to all unitholders holding CEQP common units and CEQP Class A Units, pro rata, an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter;

third, to all unitholders holding CEQP common units and CEQP Class A Units, pro rata, an amount equal to the Cumulative Common Unit Arrearage (as defined in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended) existing with respect to that quarter;

fourth, to all unitholders holding subordinated units, pro rata, an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter; and

thereafter, to all CEQP unitholders, pro rata.

Cash attributable to the income, gains, losses, deductions and credits that are attributable to CEQP's ownership of, or sale or other disposition of, the shares of common stock of IPCH and the membership interests of Crestwood Partners will be distributed as follows:

first, to the holders of CEQP common units, pro rata, an amount equal to the excess of the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter over the amount distributed with respect to each common unit outstanding pursuant to the second bullet above;

second, to the holders of CEQP common units, pro rata, an amount equal to the excess of the Common Unit Arrearage (as defined in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended) existing with respect to that quarter over the amount distributed with respect to each common unit outstanding pursuant to the third bullet above;

Midstream

Within 45 days after the end of each quarter, Midstream will distribute all of its available cash to its unitholders of record on the applicable record date and the holders of incentive distribution rights as follows:

first, to the holders of Midstream preferred units to the extent of the distribution preference on the Midstream preferred units, as described below;

second, 100% to all Midstream unitholders pro rata until Midstream distributes for each outstanding unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter (the "IMQD"); and

thereafter, 50% to all Midstream unitholders pro rata and 50% to the holders of incentive distribution rights the excess above the IMQD.

References to "Midstream unitholders" made in the context of the recipients of cash distributions refer to Midstream common unitholders and Midstream preferred unitholders.

Table of Contents

CEQP

Midstream

third, to the holders of subordinated units, pro rata, an amount equal to the excess of the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter over the amount distributed with respect to each subordinated unit outstanding pursuant to the fourth bullet above; and

thereafter, to the holders of CEQP common units and subordinated units, pro rata.

References to "CEQP unitholders" made in the context of the recipients of cash distributions refer to CEQP common unitholders, CEQP Class A unitholders, subordinated unitholders and CEQP preferred unitholders.

CEQP Preferred Unit Distribution Preference. The CEQP preferred units will receive distributions at a rate of \$0.21105 per CEQP preferred unit, as adjusted in accordance with the terms of CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended (the "CEQP preferred unit distribution amount"), payable quarterly on the same date as the distribution payment date for the Midstream common units for each quarter beginning with the first quarter ending after the effective time through and including the quarter ending September 30, 2017 (the "Initial Distribution Period"), and such distribution will be paid, in the sole discretion of the general partner, in additional CEQP preferred units, in cash, or in a combination of CEQP preferred units and cash (the "CEQP preferred unit distribution"). The record date for the determination of holders entitled to receive distributions of the CEQP preferred units will be the same as the record date for determination of CEQP common unitholders entitled to receive quarterly distributions. The number of CEQP PIK units to be issued in connection with a CEQP preferred unit distribution during the Initial Distribution Period will be the quotient of (A) the applicable CEQP preferred unit distribution amount divided by (B) the CEQP preferred unit price.

Midstream Preferred Unit Distribution Preference. The Midstream preferred units will receive distributions at a rate of \$0.5804 per Midstream preferred unit, as adjusted in accordance with the terms of Midstream's partnership agreement (the "Midstream preferred unit distribution amount"), payable quarterly on the same date as the distribution payment date for the Midstream common units for each of the first twelve quarters following the quarter ending June 30, 2014 (the "Initial Distribution Period"), and such distribution will be paid, in the sole discretion of the general partner, in additional Midstream preferred units, in cash, or in a combination of Midstream preferred units and cash (the "Midstream preferred unit distribution"). The record date for the determination of holders entitled to receive distributions of the Midstream preferred units will be the same as the record date for determination of Midstream common unitholders entitled to receive quarterly distributions. The number of Midstream PIK units to be issued in connection with a Midstream preferred unit distribution during the Initial Distribution Period will be the quotient of (A) the applicable Midstream preferred unit distribution amount divided by (B) the Midstream preferred unit price.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

CEQP

Each CEQP preferred unit distribution paid for any quarter after the Initial Distribution Period will be paid in cash at the CEQP preferred unit distribution amount unless (x) no distribution is made with respect to such quarter pursuant to CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended with respect to any parity securities and junior securities (including the CEQP common units and incentive distribution rights) and (y) CEQP's Available Cash (not including any deduction to provide funds for distributions under CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended in respect of any one or more of the next four quarters) is insufficient to pay the CEQP preferred unit distribution.

If CEQP fails to pay distributions on the CEQP preferred units, then (x) such distributions will automatically accrue and accumulate until paid in cash, (y) commencing on the immediately following quarter, the CEQP preferred unit distribution amount will be \$0.27305 per quarter, until all accrued and unpaid distributions are paid in full in cash and (z) CEQP is prohibited from declaring or making (i) any distributions in respect of any junior securities and (ii) any distributions in respect of any parity securities, other than as permitted by CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended.

Any accrued and unpaid distributions will increase at a rate of 2.8125% per quarter.

Definition of Available Cash. Available cash is defined in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended and generally means, with respect to any calendar quarter, all cash and cash equivalents on hand at the end of such quarter:

less the amount of cash reserves that is necessary or appropriate in the reasonable discretion of the general partner to:
provide for the proper conduct of CEQP's business (including reserves for future capital expenditures and for CEQP's future credit needs); or
comply with applicable law or any debt instruments or other agreements; or
provide funds for distributions to CEQP unitholders for any one or more of the next four quarters;

Midstream

Each Midstream preferred unit distribution paid for any quarter after the Initial Distribution Period will be paid in cash at the Midstream preferred unit distribution amount unless (x) no distribution is made with respect to such quarter pursuant to Midstream's partnership agreement with respect to any parity securities and junior securities (including the Midstream common units and incentive distribution rights) and (y) Midstream's Available Cash (not including any deduction to provide funds for distributions under Midstream's partnership agreement in respect of any one or more of the next four quarters) is insufficient to pay the Midstream preferred unit distribution.

If Midstream fails to pay distributions on the Midstream preferred units, then (x) such distributions will automatically accrue and accumulate until paid in cash, (y) commencing on the immediately following quarter, the Midstream preferred unit distribution amount will be \$0.7059 per quarter, until all accrued and unpaid distributions are paid in full in cash and (z) Midstream is prohibited from declaring or making (i) any distributions in respect of any junior securities and (ii) any distributions in respect of any parity securities, other than as permitted by Midstream's partnership agreement.

Any accrued and unpaid distributions will increase at a rate of 2.8125% per quarter.

Definition of Available Cash. Available cash is defined in Midstream's partnership agreement and generally means, with respect to any calendar quarter, all cash and cash equivalents on hand at the end of such quarter:

less the amount of cash reserves established by the general partner to:
provide for the proper conduct of Midstream's business (including reserves for future capital expenditures and for Midstream's future credit needs);
comply with applicable law or any debt instruments or other agreements; or
provide funds for distributions to Midstream unitholders for any one or more of the next four quarters;

Table of Contents

plus all cash and cash equivalents on hand on the date of determination of available cash for the quarter resulting from working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter and, if the managing general partner so determines, certain interim capital transactions after the end of such quarter.

Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation

CEQP

If CEQP dissolves in accordance with its partnership agreement, it will sell or otherwise dispose of its assets in a process called a liquidation. Upon dissolution, subject to Section 17-804 of the Delaware LP Act, the holders of the CEQP preferred units will be entitled to receive the sum of \$9.13 per unit plus all accrued and unpaid distributions on such CEQP preferred units, if any, and will have the status of, and will be entitled to all remedies available to, a creditor of CEQP, and will have priority over any entitlement of any other unitholders with respect to any distributions by CEQP. CEQP will distribute any remaining proceeds to its partners in accordance with their respective capital account balances, as adjusted. The general rules for determining the capital account balances of the unitholders are set forth in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended.

Merger and Consolidation

CEQP

Merger or consolidation of CEQP requires the prior approval of the general partner. The merger agreement must include certain information as set forth in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended. Once approved by the general partner, in most instances, the merger agreement must be submitted to a vote of CEQP's limited partners, and the merger agreement will be approved upon receipt of the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of CEQP's limited partner units (with CEQP preferred unitholders voting on an "as if" converted basis). Further, if any such merger or consolidation would adversely affect any of the rights, powers, privileges or preferences of the CEQP preferred units in any respect, the affirmative vote of a majority of such CEQP preferred unitholders voting separately as a class is required.

plus if the general partner so determines, all or a portion of cash on hand on the date of determination of available cash for the quarter resulting from working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter.

Midstream

If Midstream dissolves in accordance with its partnership agreement, it will sell or otherwise dispose of its assets in a process called a liquidation. Upon dissolution, subject to Section 17-804 of the Delaware LP Act, the holders of the Midstream preferred units will be entitled to receive the sum of \$25.10 per unit plus all accrued and unpaid distributions on such Midstream preferred units, if any, and will have the status of, and will be entitled to all remedies available to, a creditor of Midstream, and will have priority over any entitlement of any other unitholders with respect to any distributions by Midstream. Midstream will distribute any remaining proceeds to its partners in accordance with their respective capital account balances, as adjusted. The general rules for determining the capital account balances of the unitholders and the general partner are set forth in Midstream's partnership agreement.

Midstream

Merger or consolidation of Midstream requires the prior consent of the general partner. The merger agreement must include certain information as set forth in Midstream's partnership agreement. Once approved by the general partner, in most instances, the merger agreement must be submitted to a vote of Midstream's limited partners, and the merger agreement will be approved upon receipt of the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of Midstream's limited partner units (with Midstream preferred unitholders voting on an "as if" converted basis). Further, if any such merger or consolidation would adversely affect any of the rights, powers, privileges or preferences of the Midstream preferred units in any respect, the affirmative vote of a majority of such Midstream preferred unitholders voting separately as a class is required.

Table of Contents

Disposal of Assets

CEQP

The general partner generally may not sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of the assets of CEQP in a single transaction or a series of related transactions or approve on behalf of CEQP, the sale, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all the assets of CEQP's operating company and its subsidiaries (including by way of merger, consolidation, or other combination) without the approval of the holders of a majority of CEQP's outstanding units. However, the general partner may mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or grant a security interest in all or substantially all of the assets of CEQP and its subsidiaries. In addition, the general partner may sell any or all of the assets of CEQP, its operating company and their subsidiaries in a forced sale pursuant to the foreclosure or other realization of any encumbrance without the approval of CEQP's unitholders.

Transfer of General Partner Interest

CEQP

The general partner may transfer all or any of its general partner interest without unitholder approval. However, no transfer by the general partner of all or any part of its interest will be permitted unless (i) the transferee agrees to assume the rights and duties of the general partner and be bound by the provisions of CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, (ii) CEQP receives an opinion of counsel as to limited liability and tax matters and (iii) such transferee agrees to purchase all of the partnership interest of the general partner or managing member of each of CEQP, its operating company and any of their subsidiaries.

The general partner may also transfer, at any time, the common units it owns.

In addition, CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended does not prohibit or require unitholder approval for any transfer, in whole or in part, of the ownership of the general partner.

Midstream

The general partner generally may not sell or exchange all or substantially all of the assets of Midstream and its subsidiaries in a single transaction or a series of related transactions without the approval of the holders of a majority of Midstream's limited partner units. However, the general partner may mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or grant a security interest in all or substantially all of the assets of Midstream and its subsidiaries. In addition, the general partner may sell any or all of the assets of Midstream and its subsidiaries in a forced sale pursuant to the foreclosure or other realization of any encumbrance without the approval of Midstream unitholders.

Midstream

The general partner may transfer all or any of its general partner interest without unitholder approval. However, no transfer by the general partner of all or any part of its interest will be permitted unless (i) the transferee agrees to assume the rights and duties of the general partner and be bound by the provisions of Midstream's partnership agreement, (ii) Midstream receives an opinion of counsel as to limited liability and tax matters and (iii) such transferee agrees to purchase all of the partnership interest of the general partner or managing member of each of Midstream and any of its subsidiaries.

The general partner may also transfer, at any time, the common units it owns.

In addition, Midstream's partnership agreement does not prohibit or require unitholder approval for any transfer, in whole or in part, of the ownership of the general partner.

Table of Contents

Withdrawal of General Partner

CEQP

The general partner may voluntarily withdraw as CEQP's general partner at any time by giving 90 days notice of its intention to withdraw to the CEQP unitholders. CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended provides for other events of withdrawal, including the transfer of all of its rights as general partner and removal of the general partner by the unitholders, each in accordance with the terms of CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, and withdrawal by the general partner upon the occurrence of such events will not constitute a violation of CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended.

Upon the notice of voluntary withdrawal of the general partner, the holders of a majority of CEQP's outstanding units may elect a successor to the withdrawing general partner. If a successor is not elected, or is elected but an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters cannot be obtained, CEQP will be dissolved.

If the general partner withdraws under circumstances that do not violate CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, the general partner will have the right to require its successor to purchase its interests in CEQP, its operating company and their subsidiaries in exchange for cash. If the general partner withdraws under circumstances where such withdrawal violates CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, its successor will have the option to purchase such interests.

Midstream

The general partner may voluntarily withdraw as Midstream's general partner at any time by giving 90 days notice of its intention to withdraw to the unitholders. Midstream's partnership agreement provides for other events of withdrawal, including the transfer of all of its general partner interest and removal of the general partner by the unitholders, each in accordance with the terms of Midstream's partnership agreement, and withdrawal by the general partner upon the occurrence of such events will not constitute a violation of Midstream's partnership agreement.

Upon the voluntary withdrawal of the general partner, the holders of a majority of Midstream's outstanding units may elect a successor to the withdrawing general partner. If a successor is not elected, or is elected but an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters cannot be obtained, Midstream will be dissolved, unless within 180 days after such withdrawal, the holders of a majority of Midstream's outstanding units, excluding the units held by the withdrawing general partner and its affiliates, agree to continue Midstream's business and to appoint a successor general partner.

If the general partner withdraws under circumstances that do not violate Midstream's partnership agreement, the general partner will have the right to require its successor to purchase its and its affiliates' interests in Midstream and its affiliates in exchange for cash. If the general partner withdraws under circumstances where such withdrawal violates Midstream's partnership agreement, its successor will have the option to purchase such interests.

Table of Contents**Removal of General Partner****CEQP**

The general partner may not be removed unless that removal is approved by the vote of the holders of not less than 66²/₃% of CEQP's outstanding units, including units held by the general partner and its affiliates, and CEQP receives an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. Action for removal must also provide for the election of a successor general partner by a vote of a majority of the outstanding units.

In addition, if the general partner is removed as the general partner under circumstances where "cause" does not exist, the general partner will have the right to receive cash in exchange for such interests. "Cause" is defined to mean that a court of competent jurisdiction has entered a final, non-appealable judgment finding the general partner liable for actual fraud, gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct in its capacity as the general partner. If the general partner is removed by the limited partners under circumstances where cause exists, its successor will have the option to purchase the general partner's interest.

Limited Call Rights**CEQP**

If at any time the general partner and its affiliates own 80% or more of the limited partner interests of any class then outstanding, other than the CEQP Class A Units, the general partner will have the right, assignable to CEQP or any of the general partner's affiliates, to purchase all, but not less than all, of the outstanding limited partner interests of that class that are held by non-affiliated persons. The record date for determining ownership of the limited partner interests will be selected by the general partner on at least 10, but not more than 60, days' notice. The purchase price in the event of a purchase under these provisions would be the greater of (i) the current market price (as defined in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended) of the limited partner interests as of the date three days prior to the date that notice is mailed and (ii) the highest price paid by a general partner or any of its affiliates for any limited partner interest of the class purchased within the 90 days preceding the date the general partner mails notice of its election to purchase the units.

Midstream

The general partner may be removed if such removal is approved by a vote of at least 66²/₃% of the outstanding units voting as a single class, including units held by the general partner and its affiliates, and Midstream receives an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. Action for removal must also provide for the election of a successor general partner by a vote of a majority of the outstanding common units.

In addition, if the general partner is removed as the general partner under circumstances where "cause" does not exist, the general partner will have the right to receive cash in exchange for such interests. "Cause" is defined to mean that a court of competent jurisdiction has entered a final, non-appealable judgment finding the general partner liable for actual fraud or willful misconduct in its capacity as the general partner. If the general partner is removed by the limited partners under circumstances where cause exists, its successor will have the option to purchase the general partner's and its affiliates' interests in Midstream and its affiliates.

Midstream

If at any time the general partner and its affiliates own 80% or more of the issued and outstanding limited partner interests of any class, the general partner will have the right, assignable to Midstream or any of the general partner's affiliates, to purchase all, but not less than all, of the outstanding units of that class that are held by non-affiliated persons. The record date for determining ownership of the limited partner interests will be selected by the general partner on at least 10, but not more than 60, days' notice. The purchase price in the event of a purchase under these provisions would be the greater of (i) the current market price (as defined in Midstream's partnership agreement) of limited partner interests as of the date three days prior to the date that notice is mailed and (ii) the highest price paid by the general partner or any of its affiliates for any limited partner interest of the class purchased within the 90 days preceding the date the general partner mails notice of its election to purchase the units.

Table of Contents

Limited Preemptive Rights

CEQP

Neither the general partner nor any other person has any preemptive, preferential or other similar right with respect to the issuance of any CEQP partnership interests under CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended.

Midstream

The general partner has the right, which it may from time to time assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates, to purchase partnership interests from Midstream whenever, and on the same terms that, Midstream issues those interests to persons other than its general partner and its affiliates, to the extent necessary for the general partner to maintain its percentage interest or its affiliates' percentage interests in Midstream that existed immediately prior to the issuance of such interests. The holders of common units have no preemptive rights to acquire additional units or other partnership interests in Midstream.

General Partner's Authority to Take Action Not Contemplated by the Agreement

CEQP

The general partner may not, without written approval of all outstanding limited partner interests, take any action in contravention of CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended including (i) committing any act that would make it impossible to carry on the ordinary business of CEQP, (ii) possessing CEQP property, or assigning any rights in specific CEQP property, for other than a partnership purpose and (iii) other actions listed in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended.

Midstream

The general partner may not, without the approval of holders of a majority of the Midstream common units, sell or exchange all or substantially all of the assets of Midstream and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, in a single transaction or series of related transactions, except as provided by Midstream's partnership agreement.

Amendment of Partnership Agreement

CEQP

Amendments to CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended may be proposed only by or with the consent of its general partner. Except in certain circumstances where CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended is amended in connection with a merger, any amendment that would have a material adverse effect on the rights or preferences of any class of partnership interests in relation to other classes of partnership interests requires the approval of a majority of the class of outstanding limited partner interests so affected. However, in some circumstances, more particularly described in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, the general partner may make amendments to CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended without the approval of CEQP's limited partners to reflect:

Midstream

Amendments to Midstream's partnership agreement may be proposed only by its general partner. Except in certain circumstances where Midstream's partnership agreement is amended in connection with a merger, any amendment that would have a material adverse effect on the rights or preferences of any class of partnership interests in relation to other classes of partnership interests requires the approval of a majority of the class of limited partner interests so affected. However, in some circumstances, more particularly described in Midstream's partnership agreement, the general partner may make amendments to Midstream's partnership agreement without the approval of Midstream's limited partners to reflect:

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

CEQP

a change in CEQP's name, the location of its principal place of business, its registered agent or its registered office;

the admission, substitution, withdrawal or removal of partners in accordance with CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended;

a change that, in the sole discretion of the general partner, is necessary or advisable to qualify or continue CEQP's qualification as a limited partnership or a partnership in which its limited partners have limited liability under the laws of any state or to ensure that neither CEQP nor its operating partnership will be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes;

a change that, in the discretion of the general partner, does not adversely affect CEQP's limited partners in any material respect;

a change that, in the discretion of the general partner, is necessary or advisable (i) to satisfy any requirements, conditions or guidelines contained in any opinion, directive, order, ruling or regulation of any federal or state agency or judicial authority or contained in any federal or state statute, (ii) to facilitate the trading of CEQP's limited partner interests or to comply with any rule, regulation, guideline or requirement of any national securities exchange on which its limited partner interests are or will be listed for trading or (iii) in connection with a distribution, subdivision or combination of securities of CEQP in accordance with CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended;

a change that, in the discretion of the general partner, is required to effect the intent of CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended or otherwise contemplated by CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended;

a change in CEQP's fiscal year or taxable year and related changes;

Midstream

a change in Midstream's name, the location of its principal place of business, its registered agent or its registered office;

the admission, substitution, withdrawal or removal of partners in accordance with Midstream's partnership agreement;

a change that the general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate to qualify or continue Midstream's qualification as a limited partnership or a partnership in which its limited partners have limited liability under the laws of any state or to ensure that none of Midstream, its general partner or any of its subsidiaries will be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes;

a change that the general partner determines does not adversely affect Midstream's limited partners in any material respect;

a change that the general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate (i) to satisfy any requirements, conditions or guidelines contained in any opinion, directive, order, ruling or regulation of any federal or state agency or judicial authority or contained in any federal or state statute, (ii) to facilitate the trading of Midstream's limited partner interests or to comply with any rule, regulation, guideline or requirement of any national securities exchange on which its limited partner interests are or will be listed or admitted for trading or (iii) in connection with a distribution, subdivision or combination of securities of Midstream in accordance with Midstream's partnership agreement;

a change that the general partner determines is required to effect the intent expressed in the prospectus used in Midstream's initial public offering or the intent of Midstream's partnership agreement or otherwise contemplated by Midstream's partnership agreement;

a change in Midstream's fiscal year or taxable year and related changes;

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

CEQP

an amendment that is necessary in the opinion of counsel to prevent CEQP, or its general partner or its directors, officers, trustees or agents from in any manner being subjected to the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, or "plan asset" regulations adopted under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended;

an amendment that, in the discretion of the general partner, is necessary or advisable in connection with the authorization or issuance of any class or series of CEQP's securities;

any amendment expressly permitted in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended to be made by its general partner acting alone;

an amendment effected, necessitated or contemplated by a merger agreement approved in accordance with CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended;

an amendment that, in the discretion of the general partner, is necessary or advisable to reflect, account for and deal with appropriately the formation by CEQP of, or investment in, any corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company or other entity in connection with its conduct of activities permitted by CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended;

a merger or conveyance to effect a change in CEQP's legal form; or

any other amendments substantially similar to the foregoing.

Midstream

an amendment that is necessary in the opinion of counsel to prevent Midstream, or its general partner or its directors, officers, trustees or agents from in any manner being subjected to the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, or "plan asset" regulations adopted under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended;

an amendment that the general partner determines is necessary or appropriate in connection with the creation, authorization or issuance of additional partnership interests or the right to acquire partnership interests;

any amendment expressly permitted in Midstream's partnership agreement to be made by its general partner acting alone;

an amendment effected, necessitated or contemplated by a merger agreement approved in accordance with Midstream's partnership agreement;

an amendment that the general partner determines is necessary or appropriate to reflect, account for the formation by Midstream of, or investment in, any corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company or other entity;

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

any other amendments substantially similar to the foregoing.

Table of Contents

CEQP

Proposed amendments (other than those described above) must be approved by holders of a majority of the outstanding units, except as otherwise provided in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended or under Delaware law. No provision of CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended that establishes a percentage of outstanding units required to take any action may be amended, altered, changed, repealed, or rescinded to reduce such voting requirement without the approval of the holders of those outstanding units whose aggregate outstanding units constitute not less than the voting requirement sought to be reduced.

No amendments to CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended (other than those that may be made by the general partner without the approval of CEQP's limited partners or in certain circumstances in connection with the amendment of CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended in connection with a merger) will become effective without the approval of at least 90% of the outstanding common units unless CEQP obtains an opinion of counsel to the effect that such amendment will not affect the limited liability of any limited partner under applicable law.

CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended contains other restrictions on amendments, including a prohibition on amendments enlarging the obligations of any limited partner (subject to specified exceptions), changing the term of the partnership and amending certain provisions relating to dissolution.

Midstream

Proposed amendments (other than those described above) must be approved by holders of a majority of the outstanding units, except as otherwise provided in Midstream's partnership agreement or under Delaware law. No provision of Midstream's partnership agreement that establishes a percentage of outstanding units required to take any action may be amended, altered, changed, repealed, or rescinded to reduce such voting requirement without the approval of the holders of those outstanding units whose aggregate outstanding units constitute not less than the voting requirement sought to be reduced.

No amendments to Midstream's partnership agreement (other than those that may be made by the general partner without the approval of Midstream's limited partners or in certain circumstances in connection with the amendment of Midstream's partnership agreement in connection with a merger) will become effective without the approval of at least 90% of the limited partner interests, voting as a single class, unless Midstream obtains an opinion of counsel to the effect that such amendment will not affect the limited liability of any limited partner under applicable law.

Midstream's partnership agreement contains other restrictions on amendments, including a prohibition on amendments enlarging the obligations of any limited partner, changing the term of the partnership and amending certain provisions relating to dissolution.

Table of Contents

Dissolution

CEQP

CEQP will be dissolved, and its affairs wound up, upon the occurrence of any of the following:

withdrawal or removal of the general partner pursuant to CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, unless a successor is elected and admitted and an opinion of counsel is received regarding limited liability on tax matters related to the withdrawal;

the general partner's election to dissolve CEQP, if approved by a majority of the holders of a majority of CEQP's outstanding common units;

the entry of a decree of judicial dissolution of CEQP pursuant to the provisions of the Delaware Act; or

the sale of all or substantially all of the assets and properties of CEQP and its subsidiaries.

Liquidation

CEQP

Upon CEQP's dissolution, unless it is reconstituted and continued as a new limited partnership, the person selected by the general partner to wind up CEQP's affairs (the liquidator) will, acting with all the powers of the general partner that the liquidator deems necessary or desirable in its good faith judgment, liquidate CEQP's assets and apply the proceeds of the liquidation as provided in " Distributions of Cash upon Liquidation." If the liquidator determines that a sale would be impractical or would cause undue loss to CEQP's partners, the liquidator may distribute assets in kind to CEQP's partners..

Midstream

Midstream will be dissolved, and its affairs wound up, upon the occurrence of any of the following:

withdrawal or removal of the general partner pursuant to Midstream's partnership agreement, unless a successor is elected and admitted and an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters related to the withdrawal is received;

the general partner's election to dissolve Midstream, if approved by a majority of the holders of a majority of Midstream's outstanding units;

the entry of a decree of judicial dissolution of Midstream pursuant to the provisions of the Delaware Act; or

at any time there are no limited partners, unless Midstream is continued without dissolution in accordance with Delaware law.

Midstream

Upon Midstream's dissolution, unless it is continued pursuant to the terms of Midstream's partnership agreement, the person selected by the general partner to wind up Midstream's affairs (the liquidator) will, acting with all the powers of the general partner necessary or appropriate to carry out its duties and functions under Midstream's partnership agreement, liquidate Midstream's assets and apply the proceeds of the liquidation as provided in " Distributions of Cash upon Liquidation." If the liquidator determines that a sale would be impractical or would cause undue loss to Midstream's partners, the liquidator may distribute assets in kind to Midstream's partners.

Table of Contents

Management

CEQP

The general partner conducts, directs and manages all of CEQP's activities. Except as specifically granted in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, all management powers over the business and affairs of CEQP are exclusively vested in the general partner, and no limited partner or assignee has any management power over the business and affairs of CEQP. Subject to certain restrictions contained in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, the general partner has full power and authority to do all things and on such terms as it, in its sole discretion, may deem necessary or appropriate to conduct the business of CEQP.

Midstream

The general partner conducts, directs and manages all of Midstream's activities. Except as specifically granted in Midstream's partnership agreement, all management powers over the business and affairs of Midstream are exclusively vested in the general partner, and no limited partner or assignee has any management power over the business and affairs of Midstream. Subject to certain restrictions contained in Midstream's partnership agreement, the general partner has full power and authority to do all things necessary or appropriate to conduct the business of Midstream.

Indemnification

CEQP

CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended provides for indemnification, to the fullest extent permitted by law, by CEQP of its general partner, any departing partner and any person who is or was an affiliate of the general partner or any departing partner and individuals serving as a member, director, officer, employee, agent or trustee of the general partner or any departing partner or any affiliate of the general partner or any departing partner, but only if the indemnitee acted in good faith and in a manner that such indemnitee reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of CEQP and, with respect to any criminal proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe its conduct was unlawful.

Midstream

Midstream's partnership agreement provides for indemnification, to the fullest extent permitted by law, by Midstream of its general partner, any departing partner and any person who is or was an affiliate of the general partner or any departing partner and individuals serving as a member, director, officer, employee, agent or trustee of the general partner or any departing partner or any affiliate of the general partner or any departing partner. However, an indemnitee will not be indemnified if a there has been a final and non-appealable judgment entered by a court of competent jurisdiction determining that such indemnitee knowingly acted in bad faith, with willful misconduct, or with respect to any criminal proceeding, acted with knowledge that its conduct was unlawful.

Any indemnification under these provisions will be only out of the assets of CEQP, and the general partner will not be personally liable for, or have any obligation to contribute or loan funds or assets to CEQP to enable it to effectuate any indemnification.

Any indemnification under these provisions will be only out of the assets of Midstream, and the general partner will not be personally liable for, or have any obligation to contribute or loan funds or assets to Midstream to enable it to effectuate indemnification.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

CEQP

CEQP is authorized to purchase (or to reimburse its general partner or its affiliates for the cost of) insurance against liabilities asserted against and expenses incurred by the general partner, its affiliates, and any such other persons as the general partner may determine in connection with CEQP's activities, regardless of whether CEQP would have the power to indemnify such person against such liabilities.

Meetings; Voting

CEQP

CEQP's unitholders are entitled to vote on the following matters:

merger or consolidation involving CEQP upon the approval of the general partner;

the sale, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all of CEQP's assets;

the election of a successor general partner upon the current general partner's withdrawal;

the removal of the general partner;

an election by the general partner to dissolve CEQP;

CEQP's continuation upon specified events of dissolution;

approval of specified actions of the general partner (not including the transfer by the general partner of its general partner interest); and

certain amendments to CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended.

Midstream

Midstream is authorized to purchase (or to reimburse an indemnitee for the cost of) insurance against liabilities asserted against and expenses incurred by such persons in connection with Midstream's activities, regardless of whether Midstream would have the power to indemnify such person against such liabilities.

Midstream

Midstream unitholders are entitled to vote on the following matters:

merger or consolidation involving Midstream, upon approval of the general partner;

the sale or exchange of all or substantially all of Midstream's assets;

the election of a successor general partner upon the current general partner's withdrawal;

the removal of the general partner;

an election by the general partner to dissolve Midstream;

Midstream's continuation upon specified events of dissolution;

approval of specified actions of the general partner (not including transfer by the general partner of its general partner interest); and

certain amendments to Midstream's partnership agreement.

Table of Contents

CEQP

Special meetings of CEQP unitholders may be called by the general partner or by unitholders owning 20% or more of CEQP's outstanding units in accordance with the procedures set forth in CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended. Subject to certain exceptions, such as the acquisition of units in a transaction with affiliates of the general partner or a transaction approved by the general partner's board, if any person or group acquires 20% or more of the outstanding CEQP common units, all of the units owned by such person will not be considered outstanding for purposes of voting at or calling a special meeting. Additionally, upon authorization from the general partner, any action that may be taken at a meeting of common unitholders may be taken without a meeting by obtaining approval in writing of the necessary percentage of common unitholders that would be required to authorize or take the action at a meeting of common unitholders. The general partner will provide notice of any meetings (or of a vote to approve an action without a meeting) to all unitholders of record as of a record date which may not be less than 10 or more than 60 days prior to the date of the meeting (or, where approvals are sought without a meeting, the date by which common unitholders must submit approvals).

Midstream

Special meetings of Midstream unitholders may be called by the general partner or by unitholders owning 20% or more of Midstream's outstanding units in accordance with the procedures set forth in Midstream's partnership agreement. Subject to certain exceptions, such as the acquisition of units in a transaction with affiliates of the general partner or a transaction approved by the general partner's board, if any person or group (other than the general partner or its affiliates) acquires 20% or more of the outstanding units of Midstream, all of the units owned by such person will not be considered outstanding for purposes of voting at or calling a special meeting. Additionally, upon authorization from the general partner, any action that may be taken at a meeting of unitholders may be taken without a meeting by obtaining approval in writing of the necessary percentage of unitholders that would be required to authorize or take the action at a meeting of unitholders. The general partner will provide notice of any meetings (or of a vote to approve an action without a meeting) to all unitholders of record as of a record date which may not be less than 10 or more than 60 days prior to the date of the meeting (or, where approvals are sought without a meeting, the date by which unitholders must submit approvals).

Table of Contents

CEQP

Only record holders of CEQP limited partner interests on the record date are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, a meeting of CEQP unitholders (or of a unitholder vote to be taken without a meeting). Each holder of CEQP common units is entitled to one vote for each common unit on all matters submitted to a vote of the unitholders. CEQP preferred units will have such voting rights as if they were converted into CEQP common units at the then-applicable conversion ratio and shall vote together with the CEQP common units as a single class, except that the CEQP preferred units shall be entitled to vote as a separate class on any matter on which CEQP unitholders are entitled to vote that adversely affects the rights, powers, privileges or preferences of the CEQP preferred units in relation to other classes of partnership interests in CEQP or as required by law. Subject to applicable law, limited partner interests held for a person's account by a broker or other nominee party will be voted by the broker (or other nominee) pursuant to the instruction of the beneficial owner unless the arrangement between the beneficial owner and his nominee provides otherwise. Representation in person or by proxy of a majority of the outstanding limited partner interests of the class for which a meeting has been called will constitute a quorum at a meeting of limited partners of such class or classes (unless a particular action by the limited partners requires approval by a greater percentage of limited partner interests, in which case the quorum shall be such greater percentage). Except for a proposal where approval by a different percentage of the holders of CEQP limited partner interests is required under CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended (in which case the act of the limited partners representing such different percentage shall be required), any action taken by the holders of CEQP limited partner interests representing a majority of CEQP's outstanding units present and entitled to vote at a meeting of CEQP limited partners where a quorum is present will be considered to be the act of all CEQP limited partners.

CEQP common unitholders have no right to elect the general partner or any of its directors on an annual or other continuing basis.

Midstream

Only record holders of Midstream's limited partner units on the record date are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, a meeting of Midstream unitholders (or of a unitholder vote to be taken without a meeting). Each holder of Midstream limited partner units is entitled to one vote for each unit on all matters submitted to a vote of the unitholders. Midstream preferred units will have such voting rights as if they were converted into Midstream common units at the then-applicable conversion ratio and shall vote together with the Midstream common units as a single class, except that the Midstream preferred units shall be entitled to vote as a spate class on any matter on which Midstream unitholders are entitled to vote that adversely affects the rights, powers, privileges or preferences of the Midstream preferred units in relation to other classes of partnership interests in Midstream or as required by law. Subject to applicable law, limited partner interests held for a person's account by a broker or other nominee party will be voted by the broker (or other nominee) pursuant to the instruction of the beneficial owner unless the arrangement between the beneficial owner and his nominee provides otherwise. Representation in person or by proxy of a majority of the outstanding limited partner interests of the class for which a meeting has been called will constitute a quorum at a meeting of limited partners of such class or classes (unless a particular action by the limited partners requires approval by a greater percentage of limited partner interests, in which case the quorum shall be such greater percentage). Except for a proposal where approval by a different percentage of the holders of Midstream's limited partner interests is required under Midstream's partnership agreement (in which case the act of the limited partners representing such different percentage shall be required), any action taken by the holders of Midstream limited partner interests representing a majority of Midstream's outstanding units present and entitled to vote at a meeting of Midstream limited partners where a quorum is present will be considered to be the act of all Midstream limited partners.

Midstream unitholders have no right to elect the general partner or any of its directors on an annual or other continuing basis.

Table of Contents

Transfer of Common Units; Status as a Limited Partner or Assignee

CEQP

Each purchaser of CEQP common units must execute a transfer application whereby the purchaser requests admission as a substituted limited partner and makes representations and agrees to provisions stated in the transfer application. Purchasers may hold common units in nominee accounts.

Each transfer of CEQP limited partner interests will not be recognized by CEQP unless certificate(s) representing those limited partnership interests (or other evidence of the issuance of uncertificated units) are surrendered and such certificates are accompanied by a duly executed transfer application. Once such transferee has executed and delivered a transfer application in accordance with CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended, the transferee of common units is an assignee. Such assignee makes representations and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of CEQP's partnership agreement, as amended and gives the consents and approvals and makes the waivers contained in the partnership agreement. An assignee will become a limited partner in respect of the transferred common units upon the consent of the general partner and the recordation of the name of the assignee on CEQP's books and records. Such consent may be withheld in the sole discretion of the general partner.

Midstream

Each transfer of Midstream limited partner interests will not be recognized by Midstream unless certificate(s) representing those limited partnership interests (or other evidence of the issuance of uncertificated units) are surrendered.

Any transferee of limited partnership interests makes representations and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of Midstream's partnership agreement and gives the consents and approvals and makes the waivers contained in the partnership agreement. A transferee will become a limited partner in respect of the transferred common units upon the reflection in the books and records of the Partnership of such transfer and such transferee becoming the record holder of the limited partnership interest so transferred.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CEQP COMMON UNITS

Generally, the common units represent limited partner interests in CEQP. The holders of common units are entitled to participate in partnership distributions and exercise the rights or privileges available to limited partners under CEQP's partnership agreement. Please also read "Where You Can Find More Information."

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Duties

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC serves as the registrar and transfer agent for the common units. CEQP will pay all fees charged by the transfer agent for transfers of common units except the following, which must be paid by CEQP's common unitholders:

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

special charges for services requested by a holder of a common unit; and

other similar fees or charges.

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

Resignation or Removal

The transfer agent may resign, by notice to CEQP, or be removed by CEQP. The resignation or removal of the transfer agent will become effective upon CEQP's appointment of a successor transfer agent and registrar and its acceptance of the appointment. If no successor is appointed, CEQP's general partner may act as the transfer agent and registrar until a successor is appointed.

Transfer of Common Units

Upon the transfer of a common unit in accordance with CEQP's partnership agreement, the transferee of the common unit will be admitted as a limited partner with respect to the common units transferred when such transfer and admission are reflected in CEQP's books and records. Each transferee:

represents that the transferee has the capacity, power and authority to become bound by CEQP's partnership agreement;

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

gives the consents, waivers and approvals contained in CEQP's partnership agreement.

In addition to other rights acquired upon transfer, the transferor gives the transferee the right to become a substituted limited partner in CEQP's partnership for the transferred common units. A transferee will become a substituted limited partner of CEQP's partnership for the transferred common units automatically upon the recording of the transfer on CEQP's books and records. CEQP's general partner will cause any transfers to be recorded on CEQP's books and records no less frequently than quarterly.

Table of Contents

Until a common unit has been transferred on CEQP's books, CEQP and the transfer agent may treat the record holder of the common unit as the absolute owner for all purposes, except as otherwise required by law or stock exchange regulations.

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

Common units are securities, and any transfers of common units are subject to the laws governing the transfer of securities.

Class A Units

Class A units represent limited partner interests in CEQP. The rights and obligations of Class A units are identical to the rights and obligations of common units except that the Class A units (i) do not have the right to vote on, approve or disapprove, or otherwise consent or not consent with respect to any matter (including mergers, share exchanges and similar statutory authorizations) except as otherwise required by any non-waivable provision of law and (ii) do not share in (a) any income, gains, losses, deductions and credits which are attributable to CEQP's ownership of, or sale or other disposition of, the shares of common stock of IPCH Acquisition Corp. ("IPCH") and the membership interests of Crestwood Partners LLC ("Crestwood Partners") or (b) any cash and cash equivalents on hand derived from or attributable to CEQP's ownership of, or sale or other disposition of, the shares of common stock of IPCH and the membership interests of Crestwood Partners.

Subordinated Units

The subordinated units represent limited partner interests in CEQP. The rights and obligations of the subordinated units are identical to the rights and obligations of common units except that the subordinated units are subordinate to common units with respect to distribution.

Table of Contents

MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER

The following is a discussion of the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger that may be relevant to Midstream unitholders and CEQP unitholders. Unless otherwise noted, the description of the law and the legal conclusions set forth in the discussion relating to the consequences of the merger are the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., as to the material U.S. federal income tax consequences relating to those matters. This discussion is based upon current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, existing and proposed regulations and current administrative rulings and court decisions, all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. Changes in these authorities may cause the tax consequences to vary substantially from the consequences described below. Neither CEQP nor Midstream has sought a ruling from the IRS with respect to any of the tax consequences discussed below, and the IRS would not be precluded from taking positions contrary to those described herein. As a result, no assurance can be given that the IRS will agree with all of the tax characterizations and the tax consequences described below.

This discussion does not purport to be a complete discussion of all U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger. Moreover, the discussion focuses on Midstream unitholders and CEQP unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States (for U.S. federal income tax purposes) and has only limited application to corporations, estates, trusts, nonresident aliens, other unitholders subject to specialized tax treatment, such as tax-exempt institutions, foreign persons, individual retirement accounts, or IRAs, real estate investment trusts, or REITs, or mutual funds, traders in securities that elect to mark-to-market, or persons who hold Midstream units or CEQP units as part of a hedge, straddle or conversion transaction. Also, the discussion assumes that the Midstream units and CEQP units are held as capital assets at the time of the merger. **Accordingly, Midstream and CEQP strongly urge each Midstream unitholder and CEQP unitholder to consult with, and depend upon, such unitholder's tax advisor in analyzing the U.S. federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of the merger particular to such unitholder.**

Tax Opinions Required as a Condition to Closing

No ruling has been or will be requested from the IRS with respect to the tax consequences of the merger. Instead, CEQP and Midstream will rely on the opinions of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. regarding the tax consequences of the merger.

It is a condition of CEQP's obligation to complete the merger that CEQP receive an opinion of its counsel, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., to the effect that for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

90% or more of the combined gross income of CEQP and Midstream for the most recent four complete calendar quarters ending before the closing date for which the necessary financial information is available is from sources treated as "qualifying income" within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code; and

no gain or loss should be recognized by existing CEQP unitholders as a result of the merger (other than gain resulting from any decrease in partnership liabilities pursuant to Section 752 of the Internal Revenue Code).

It is a condition of Midstream's obligation to complete the merger that Midstream receive an opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., to the effect that for U.S. federal income tax purposes no gain or loss should be recognized by Midstream unitholders as the result of receipt of new CEQP units in the merger (other than any income or gain resulting from (i) any actual or constructive distribution of cash, including as a result of any decrease in partnership liabilities pursuant to Section 752 of the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) any cash received in lieu of any fractional CEQP units).

Table of Contents

The opinions of counsel will assume that the merger will be consummated in the manner contemplated by, and in accordance with, the terms set forth in the merger agreement and described in this proxy statement/prospectus.

In addition, the tax opinions delivered to CEQP and Midstream at closing will be based on certain factual representations made by CEQP, Midstream and their respective general partners. If either CEQP or Midstream waives the receipt of the requisite tax opinion as a condition to closing and the changes to the tax consequences would be material, then this proxy statement/prospectus will be amended and recirculated and unitholder approval will be resolicited.

Unlike a ruling, an opinion of counsel represents only that counsel's best legal judgment and does not bind the IRS or the courts. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that the above-described opinions and the opinions and statements made hereafter in this proxy statement/prospectus will be sustained by a court if contested by the IRS.

Tax Consequences of the Merger to Midstream and the Midstream Unitholders

Except as discussed below, no gain or loss should be recognized by the Midstream unitholders solely as a result of the merger, other than gain resulting from (i) any decrease in partnership liabilities pursuant to Section 752 of the Internal Revenue Code and (ii) any cash received in lieu of any fractional new CEQP units.

To the extent the amount of any deemed cash distribution received by a Midstream unitholder as a result of a decrease in partnership liabilities under Section 752 exceeds the unitholder's basis in his Midstream units, such unitholder will recognize gain in an amount equal to such excess. Based on the prices at which the Midstream units have been issued and traded (including units of Midstream, Inergy Midstream, L.P. and Quicksilver Gas Services LP) and the distributions and allocations with respect to such units, CEQP and Midstream do not expect any Midstream unitholders who acquired their units in Midstream (or its predecessors) in exchange for cash to recognize gain in this manner, except to the extent such Midstream unitholders purchased units of Quicksilver Gas Services LP, between October 2008 and March 2009, when its units were trading at depressed levels.

To the extent a Midstream unitholder receives cash in lieu of fractional new CEQP units in the merger, such cash generally will, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, be treated as consideration for the sale of a portion of such holder's Midstream units to CEQP. In which case, such a holder of Midstream units will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the cash received and the unitholders' adjusted tax basis allocated to such fractional new CEQP units.

Classification of CEQP and Midstream for U.S. Federal Income Tax Purposes

If CEQP were treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes at the time of the merger, the merger would be a fully taxable transaction to a Midstream unitholder. The discussion below assumes that CEQP will be classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes at the time of the merger. Read the discussion of the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. that CEQP is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes under "U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of Ownership of CEQP Units Partnership Status" below.

The discussion below also assumes that Midstream will be classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes at the time of the merger. Following the merger, a Midstream unitholder that receives CEQP units will be treated as a partner in CEQP regardless of the U.S. federal income tax classification of Midstream.

Table of Contents

Possible Taxable Gain to Certain Midstream Unitholders from Reallocation of Nonrecourse Liabilities

As a partner in Midstream, a Midstream unitholder is entitled to include the nonrecourse liabilities of Midstream attributable to his Midstream units in the tax basis of his Midstream units. As a partner in CEQP after the merger, a former Midstream unitholder will be entitled to include the nonrecourse liabilities of CEQP attributable to the CEQP units received in the merger in the tax basis of such units received. For this purpose, all liabilities of Midstream and CEQP are considered nonrecourse liabilities. The nonrecourse liabilities of CEQP will include the nonrecourse liabilities of Midstream after the merger. The amount of nonrecourse liabilities attributable to a Midstream unit or a CEQP unit is determined under complex regulations under Section 752 of the Internal Revenue Code.

If the nonrecourse liabilities attributable to the CEQP units received by a Midstream unitholder in the merger exceed the nonrecourse liabilities attributable to the Midstream units surrendered by the unitholder in the merger, the former Midstream unitholder's tax basis in the CEQP units received will be correspondingly higher than the unitholder's tax basis in the Midstream units surrendered. If the nonrecourse liabilities attributable to the CEQP units received by a Midstream unitholder in the merger are less than the nonrecourse liabilities attributable to the Midstream units surrendered by the Midstream unitholder in the merger, the former Midstream unitholder's tax basis in the CEQP units received will be correspondingly lower than the unitholder's tax basis in the Midstream units surrendered. Please read " Tax Basis and Holding Period of the CEQP Units Received" below.

If any resulting reduction in a Midstream unitholder's share of nonrecourse liabilities exceeds such unitholder's tax basis in the Midstream units surrendered, such unitholder will recognize taxable gain in an amount equal to such excess. CEQP and Midstream do not expect any Midstream unitholders to recognize gain in this manner.

Tax Basis and Holding Period of the CEQP Units Received

A Midstream unitholder's initial tax basis in his Midstream units consisted of the amount the unitholder paid for the Midstream units plus the unitholder's share of Midstream's nonrecourse liabilities. That basis has been and will be increased by the unitholder's share of income and by any increases in the unitholder's share of nonrecourse liabilities. That basis has been and will be decreased, but not below zero, by distributions, by the unitholder's share of losses, by any decreases in the unitholder's share of nonrecourse liabilities and by the unitholder's share of expenditures that are not deductible in computing taxable income and are not required to be capitalized.

A Midstream unitholder's initial aggregate tax basis in CEQP units the unitholder will receive in the merger will be equal to the unitholder's adjusted tax basis in the Midstream units exchanged therefor, decreased by (i) the unitholder's share of Midstream's nonrecourse liabilities and (ii) any basis allocable to fractional CEQP units if such holder receives cash in lieu of the distribution of fractional CEQP units in the merger, and increased by the unitholder's share of CEQP's nonrecourse liabilities immediately after the merger. In addition, a Midstream unitholder's tax basis in the CEQP units received will be increased by the amount of any income or gain recognized by the unitholder pursuant to the transactions contemplated by the merger (other than gain recognized with respect to cash received by such unitholder in lieu of fractional CEQP units).

The holding period in the CEQP units received in the merger will include the holding period for the Midstream units exchanged therefor.

Partner Status

Following the merger, a Midstream unitholder who receives CEQP units will be treated as a partner in CEQP. For a discussion of the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning and

Table of Contents

disposing of CEQP units received in the merger, please read "U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of Ownership of CEQP Units."

Effect of the Merger on the Anticipated Ratio of Taxable Income to Cash Distributions for Midstream Unitholders

CEQP and Midstream estimate that if the merger is completed, all Midstream unitholders will experience a short term increase in the amount of taxable income (or decrease in the amount of taxable loss) as a result of the anticipated constructive termination of Midstream's tax partnership. However, based upon projections for unitholders who acquired their units in Midstream (or its predecessors) in exchange for cash, and assuming such holders receive CEQP units in the merger and hold such units through December 31, 2017 (the "Projection Period"), CEQP and Midstream do not anticipate a material increase to any such unitholder's ratio of taxable income to distributions. Specifically, CEQP and Midstream do not anticipate that any such unitholder's ratio of taxable income to distributions for the Projection Period will increase by more than percentage points as a result of the merger.

The amount and effect of the increase or decrease in net income, or increase or decrease in net loss, allocated to a former Midstream unitholder resulting from the merger, and the impact of the merger upon such unitholder's ratio of taxable income to distributions will depend upon the unitholder's particular situation, including when and how the unitholder acquired its Midstream units, and the ability of the unitholder to utilize any suspended passive losses. Depending on these factors, any particular unitholder may, or may not, be able to offset all or a portion of any increased net income allocated to such unitholder.

The estimates above are based upon many assumptions, including (i) that the merger is completed in August 2015, (ii) that approximately 498,114,127 million new CEQP units will be issued to the Midstream unitholders in completion of the merger, and (iii) other assumptions with regard to income, valuations, capital expenditures, cash flow, net working capital and anticipated cash distributions. In addition, these estimates are based on current tax law and tax reporting positions that CEQP and Midstream have adopted or will adopt and with which the IRS could disagree. These estimates are subject to, among other things, numerous business, economic, regulatory, competitive and political uncertainties over which CEQP has no control. Accordingly, neither CEQP nor Midstream can assure Midstream unitholders that these estimates will prove to be correct

Table of Contents

U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF OWNERSHIP OF CEQP UNITS

This section summarizes the material U.S. federal income tax consequences that may be relevant to prospective CEQP unitholders following the merger and is based upon current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, existing and proposed Treasury regulations thereunder (the "Treasury Regulations"), and current administrative rulings and court decisions, all of which are subject to change. Changes in these authorities may cause the federal income tax consequences to a prospective unitholder to vary substantially from those described below. Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this section to "CEQP" are references to CEQP and its subsidiaries.

Legal conclusions contained in this section, unless otherwise noted, are the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. and are based on the accuracy of representations made by CEQP and Midstream to them for this purpose. However, this section does not address all federal income tax matters that affect CEQP or its unitholders and does not describe the application of the alternative minimum tax that may be applicable to certain unitholders. Furthermore, this section focuses on unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States (for federal income tax purposes), who have the U.S. dollar as their functional currency, who use the calendar year as their taxable year, and who hold units as capital assets (generally, property that is held for investment). This section has limited applicability to corporations, partnerships (including entities treated as partnerships for federal income tax purposes), estates, trusts, non-resident aliens or other unitholders subject to specialized tax treatment, such as tax-exempt institutions, non-U.S. persons, individual retirement accounts ("IRAs"), employee benefit plans, real estate investment trusts or mutual funds. Accordingly, CEQP encourages each unitholder to consult the unitholder's own tax advisor in analyzing the federal, state, local and non-U.S. tax consequences particular to that unitholder resulting from ownership or disposition of units and potential changes in applicable tax laws.

CEQP will rely on the opinions and advice of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. with respect to the matters described herein. An opinion of counsel represents only that counsel's best legal judgment and does not bind the IRS or a court. Accordingly, the opinions and statements made herein may not be sustained by a court if contested by the IRS. Any such contest of the matters described herein may materially and adversely impact the market for CEQP units and the prices at which CEQP units trade. In addition, our costs of any contest with the IRS will be borne indirectly by CEQP unitholders because the costs will reduce CEQP's cash available for distribution. Furthermore, the tax consequences of an investment in CEQP may be significantly modified by future legislative or administrative changes or court decisions, which may be retroactively applied.

For the reasons described below, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not rendered an opinion with respect to the following federal income tax issues: (1) the treatment of a unitholder whose units are the subject of a securities loan (e.g., a loan to a short seller to cover a short sale of units) (please read " Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Treatment of Securities Loans"); (2) whether CEQP's monthly convention for allocating taxable income and losses is permitted by existing Treasury Regulations (please read " Disposition of Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees"); and (3) whether CEQP's method for taking into account Section 743 adjustments is sustainable in certain cases (please read " Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Section 754 Election" and " Uniformity of Units").

Partnership Status

CEQP expects to be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes and, therefore, generally will not be liable for entity-level federal income taxes. Instead, as described below, each of CEQP's unitholders will take into account its respective share of CEQP's items of income, gain, loss and deduction in computing its federal income tax liability as if the unitholder had earned such income directly, even if no cash distributions are made to the unitholder. Distributions by us to a unitholder

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

generally will not give rise to income or gain taxable to such unitholder, unless the amount of cash distributed to a unitholder exceeds the unitholder's adjusted tax basis in its units.

Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code generally provides that publicly traded partnerships will be treated as corporations for federal income tax purposes. However, if 90% or more of a partnership's gross income for every taxable year it is publicly traded consists of "qualifying income," the partnership may continue to be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes (the "Qualifying Income Exception"). Qualifying income includes income and gains derived from the exploration, development, mining or production, processing, refining, transportation, storage and marketing of any mineral or natural resource. Other types of qualifying income include interest (other than from a financial business), dividends, gains from the sale of real property and gains from the sale or other disposition of capital assets held for the production of income that otherwise constitutes qualifying income. CEQP estimates that less than % of CEQP's current gross income is not qualifying income; however, this estimate could change from time to time.

Based upon factual representations made by CEQP and its general partner regarding the composition of its income and the other representations set forth below, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is of the opinion that CEQP will be treated as a partnership and each of our non-corporate subsidiaries will be treated as a partnership or will be disregarded as an entity separate from us for federal income tax purposes. In rendering its opinion, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has relied on factual representations made by CEQP and its general partner. The representations made by CEQP and its general partner upon which Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has relied include, without limitation:

(a) Neither CEQP nor any of its partnership or limited liability company subsidiaries other than Crestwood Gas Services GP LLC has elected to be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes; and

(b) For each taxable year, more than 90% of CEQP's gross income has been and will be income of a character that Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has opined is "qualifying income" within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Code.

CEQP believes that these representations are true and will be true in the future.

If CEQP fails to meet the Qualifying Income Exception, other than a failure that is determined by the IRS to be inadvertent and that is cured within a reasonable time after discovery (in which case the IRS may also require CEQP to make adjustments with respect to its unitholders or pay other amounts), CEQP will be treated as transferring all of its assets, subject to liabilities, to a newly formed corporation, on the first day of the year in which it fails to meet the Qualifying Income Exception, in return for stock in that corporation and then distributing that stock to its unitholders in liquidation of its units. This deemed contribution and liquidation generally will not result in the recognition of taxable income by CEQP's unitholders or CEQP so long as its liabilities do not exceed the tax basis of its assets. Thereafter, CEQP would be treated as an association taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes.

The present U.S. federal income tax treatment of publicly traded partnerships, including CEQP, or an investment in its units may be modified by administrative, legislative or judicial changes or differing interpretations at any time. For example, the Obama administration's budget proposal for fiscal year 2016 recommends that certain publicly traded partnerships earning income from activities related to fossil fuels be taxed as corporations beginning in 2021. From time to time, members of Congress propose and consider such substantive changes to the existing federal income tax laws that affect publicly traded partnerships. If successful, the Obama administration's proposal or other similar proposals could eliminate the qualifying income exception to the treatment of all publicly-traded partnerships as corporations upon which CEQP relies for its treatment as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. On May 5, 2015, the U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS released proposed

Table of Contents

regulations (the "Proposed Regulations") regarding qualifying income under Section 7704(d)(1)(E) of the Code. The Proposed Regulations provide an exclusive list of industry-specific activities that generate qualifying income for the purposes of the Qualifying Income Exception, including the activities that constitute the transportation, storage, processing or marketing of a natural resource. Although the Proposed Regulations adopt a narrow interpretation of the activities that generate qualifying income, CEQP does not anticipate any material impact on its ability to satisfy the qualifying income test if the Proposed Regulations were finalized as proposed. However, there can be no assurances that the Proposed Regulations, when adopted as final regulations, will not take a position that is contrary to CEQP's interpretation of Section 7704 of the Code. If the Proposed Regulations were to treat any material portion of CEQP's income as non-Qualifying income, CEQP anticipates being able to treat that income as qualifying income for ten years under special transition rules provided in the Proposed Regulations. Any modification to the U.S. federal income tax laws may be applied retroactively and could make it more difficult or impossible for CEQP to meet the exception for certain publicly traded partnerships to be treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes. CEQP is unable to predict whether any of these changes or other proposals will ultimately be enacted or adopted. Any such changes could negatively impact the value of an investment in CEQP's units.

If for any reason CEQP is taxable as a corporation in any taxable year, its items of income, gain, loss and deduction would be taken into account in determining the amount of its liability for federal income tax, rather than being passed through to its unitholders. CEQP's taxation as a corporation would materially reduce the cash available for distribution to unitholders and thus would likely substantially reduce the value of its units. Any distribution made to a unitholder at a time CEQP is treated as a corporation would be (i) a taxable dividend to the extent of its current or accumulated earnings and profits, then (ii) a nontaxable return of capital to the extent of the unitholder's tax basis in its units, and thereafter (iii) taxable capital gain.

The remainder of this discussion is based on the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. that CEQP will be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

Limited Partner Status

Unitholders who have become limited partners of CEQP as a result of the merger will be treated as partners of CEQP for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Also, unitholders whose CEQP units are held in street name or by a nominee and who have the right to direct the nominee in the exercise of all substantive rights attendant to the ownership of their CEQP units, will be treated as partners of CEQP for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As there is no direct authority addressing assignees of units who are entitled to execute and deliver transfer applications and thereby become entitled to direct the exercise of attendant rights, but who fail to execute and deliver transfer applications, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.'s opinion does not extend to these persons. Furthermore, a purchaser or other transferee of CEQP units who does not execute and deliver a transfer application may not receive some U.S. federal income tax information or reports furnished to record holders of CEQP units unless the CEQP units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application for those CEQP units.

For a discussion related to the risks of losing partner status as a result of short sales, please read " Treatment of Securities Loans." Unitholders who are not treated as partners in us as described above are urged to consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences applicable to them under the circumstances.

Table of Contents

Tax Consequences of CEQP Unit Ownership

Flow-through of Taxable Income. Subject to the discussion below under " Entity-Level Collections of Unitholder Taxes" with respect to payments CEQP may be required to make on behalf of our unitholders, CEQP will not pay any federal income tax. Rather, each unitholder will be required to report on its income tax return its share of CEQP's income, gains, losses and deductions for CEQP's taxable year or years ending with or within its taxable year without regard to whether CEQP makes cash distributions to such unitholder. Consequently, CEQP may allocate income to a unitholder even if that unitholder has not received a cash distribution.

Treatment of Distributions. Distributions made by CEQP to a unitholder generally will not be taxable to the unitholder, unless such distributions are of cash or marketable securities that are treated as cash and exceed the unitholder's tax basis in its units, in which case the unitholder will recognize gain taxable in the manner described below under " Disposition of Units."

Any reduction in a unitholder's share of CEQP's nonrecourse liabilities will be treated as a distribution by CEQP of cash to that unitholder. A decrease in a unitholder's percentage interest in CEQP because of CEQP's issuance of additional units will decrease the unitholder's share of CEQP's nonrecourse liabilities. For purposes of the foregoing, a unitholder's share of CEQP's nonrecourse liabilities generally will be based upon that unitholder's share of the unrealized appreciation (or depreciation) in CEQP's assets, to the extent thereof, with any excess liabilities allocated based on the unitholder's share of CEQP's profits. Please read " Disposition of Units."

A non-pro rata distribution of money or property (including a deemed distribution described above) may cause a unitholder to recognize ordinary income, if the distribution reduces the unitholder's share of CEQP's "unrealized receivables," including depreciation recapture and substantially appreciated "inventory items," both as defined in Section 751 of the Internal Revenue Code ("Section 751 Assets"). To the extent of such reduction, the unitholder would be deemed to receive its proportionate share of the Section 751 Assets and exchange such assets with CEQP in return for an allocable portion of the non-pro rata distribution. This latter deemed exchange generally will result in the unitholder's realization of ordinary income in an amount equal to the excess of (1) the non-pro rata portion of that distribution over (2) the unitholder's tax basis (generally zero) in the Section 751 Assets deemed to be relinquished in the exchange.

Basis of CEQP Units. Please read "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger Tax Consequences of the Merger to Midstream and the Midstream unitholders Tax Basis and Holding Period of the CEQP Units Received" for a discussion of how to determine the initial tax basis of CEQP units received in the merger. That tax basis will be increased by such unitholder's share of CEQP's income and gains and by any subsequent increases in his share of CEQP's nonrecourse liabilities. That basis generally will be (i) increased by the unitholder's share of CEQP's income and any increases in such unitholder's share of CEQP's "nonrecourse liabilities" (liabilities for which no partner, including CEQP's general partner, bears the economic risk of loss), and (ii) decreased, but not below zero, by distributions to it, by its share of CEQP's losses, any decreases in its share of CEQP's nonrecourse liabilities and its share of CEQP's expenditures that are neither deductible nor required to be capitalized.

Limitations on Deductibility of Losses. A CEQP unitholder may not be entitled to deduct the full amount of loss CEQP allocates to it because its share of CEQP's losses will be limited to the lesser of (i) the unitholder's tax basis in its units and (ii) in the case of a unitholder that is an individual, estate, trust or certain types of closely-held corporations, the amount for which the unitholder is considered to be "at risk" with respect to CEQP's activities. In general, a unitholder will be at risk to the extent of its tax basis in its units, reduced by (1) any portion of that basis attributable to the unitholder's share of CEQP's liabilities, (2) any portion of that basis representing amounts otherwise protected against loss

Table of Contents

because of a guarantee, stop loss agreement or similar arrangement and (3) any amount of money the unitholder borrows to acquire or hold its units, if the lender of those borrowed funds owns an interest in us, is related to another unitholder or can look only to the units for repayment. A unitholder subject to the at risk limitation must recapture losses deducted in previous years to the extent that distributions (including distributions deemed to result from a reduction in a unitholder's share of nonrecourse liabilities) cause the unitholder's at risk amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year.

Losses disallowed to a unitholder or recaptured as a result of the basis or at risk limitations will carry forward and will be allowable as a deduction in a later year to the extent that the unitholder's tax basis or at risk amount, whichever is the limiting factor, is subsequently increased. Upon a taxable disposition of units, any gain recognized by a unitholder can be offset by losses that were previously suspended by the at risk limitation but not losses suspended by the basis limitation. Any loss previously suspended by the at risk limitation in excess of that gain can no longer be used and will not be available to offset a unitholder's salary or active business income.

In addition to the basis and at risk limitations, passive activity loss limitations generally limit the deductibility of losses incurred by individuals, estates, trusts, some closely held corporations and personal service corporations from "passive activities" (generally, trade or business activities in which the taxpayer does not materially participate). The passive loss limitations are applied separately with respect to each publicly-traded partnership. Consequently, any passive losses CEQP generates will only be available to offset CEQP's passive income generated in the future and will not be available to offset income from other passive activities or investments, including any dividend or interest income CEQP derives or from CEQP's investments or investments in other publicly-traded partnerships or salary or active business income. Passive losses that are not deductible because they exceed a unitholder's share of income CEQP generates may be deducted in full when the unitholder disposes of all of its units in a fully taxable transaction with an unrelated party. The passive activity loss rules are applied after other applicable limitations on deductions, including the at risk and basis limitations.

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

There is no guidance as to whether suspended passive activity losses of Midstream common units will be available to offset passive activity income that is allocated to a former Midstream common unitholder from CEQP after the merger. The IRS may contend that since CEQP is not the same partnership as Midstream, the passive loss limitation rules would not allow use of such losses until such time as all of such unitholder's CEQP common units are sold. A CEQP unitholder may take the position, however, that CEQP should be deemed a continuation of Midstream for this purpose such that any suspended Midstream losses would be available to offset CEQP taxable income allocated to such unitholder. Because of the lack of guidance with respect to this issue and the application of the passive loss limitation rules to tiered publicly traded partnerships, Vinson & Elkins LLP is unable to opine as to whether suspended passive activity losses arising from Midstream activities will be available to offset CEQP taxable income allocated to a former Midstream common unitholder following the merger. If a unitholder has losses with respect to Midstream common units, it is urged to consult its own tax advisor.

Limitations on Interest Deductions. The deductibility of a non-corporate taxpayer's "investment interest expense" is generally limited to the amount of that taxpayer's "net investment income." Investment interest expense includes:

interest on indebtedness properly allocable to property held for investment;

interest expense attributed to portfolio income; and

Table of Contents

the portion of interest expense incurred to purchase or carry an interest in a passive activity to the extent attributable to portfolio income.

The computation of a unitholder's investment interest expense will take into account interest on any margin account borrowing or other loan incurred to purchase or carry a CEQP unit. Net investment income includes gross income from property held for investment and amounts treated as portfolio income under the passive loss rules, less deductible expenses, other than interest, directly connected with the production of investment income, but generally does not include gains attributable to the disposition of property held for investment. A unitholder's share of a publicly traded partnership's portfolio income and, according to the IRS, net passive income will be treated as investment income for purposes of the investment interest expense limitation.

Entity-Level Collections. If CEQP is required or elects under applicable law to pay any federal, state, local or non-U.S. tax on behalf of any current or former unitholder or its general partner, CEQP is authorized to pay those taxes and treat the payment as a distribution of cash to the relevant unitholder. Where the relevant unitholder's identity cannot be determined, CEQP is authorized to treat the payment as a distribution to all current unitholders. CEQP is authorized to amend its partnership agreement in the manner necessary to maintain uniformity of intrinsic tax characteristics of units and to adjust later distributions, so that after giving effect to these distributions, the priority and characterization of distributions otherwise applicable under its partnership agreement is maintained as nearly as is practicable. Payments by CEQP as described above could give rise to an overpayment of tax on behalf of a unitholder, in which event the unitholder may be entitled to claim a refund of the overpayment amount. Unitholders are urged to consult their tax advisors to determine the consequences to them of any tax payment CEQP makes on their behalf.

Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction. In general, if CEQP has a net profit, its items of income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated among the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in CEQP. If CEQP has a net loss for the entire year, that loss will be allocated first among our unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us to the extent of their positive capital accounts and thereafter to our general partner.

Specified items of CEQP's income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated under Section 704(c) of the Internal Revenue Code to account for any difference between the tax basis and fair market value of CEQP's assets at the time such assets are contributed to CEQP and at the time of any subsequent offering of CEQP units (a "Book-Tax Disparity"). Holders of CEQP units received by the Midstream unitholders will receive the Section 704(c) allocations that otherwise would have been allocated to Midstream pursuant to Section 704(c). For example, under these rules, in the event that CEQP divests itself of certain assets formerly owned by Midstream following the merger, all or a portion of any gain recognized as a result of a divestiture of such assets may be required to be allocated to the pre-merger Midstream unitholders.

In the event CEQP issues additional CEQP units or engages in certain other transactions in the future, "reverse Section 704(c) Allocations," similar to the Section 704(c) Allocations described above, will be made to all of CEQP's unitholders immediately prior to such issuance or other transactions to account for any Book-Tax Disparity at the time of the future transaction. In addition, items of recapture income will be allocated to the extent possible to the unitholder who was allocated the deduction giving rise to the treatment of that gain as recapture income in order to minimize the recognition of ordinary income by other unitholders. Finally, although CEQP does not expect that its operations will result in the creation of negative capital accounts, if negative capital accounts nevertheless result, items of CEQP's income and gain will be allocated in such amount and manner as is needed to eliminate the negative balance as quickly as possible.

An allocation of items of CEQP's income, gain, loss or deduction, generally must have "substantial economic effect" as determined under Treasury Regulations. If an allocation does not have substantial

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

economic effect, it will be reallocated to CEQP's unitholders on the basis of their interests in CEQP, which will be determined by taking into account all the facts and circumstances, including:

the partners' relative contributions to CEQP;

the interests of all the partners in profits and losses;

the interest of all the partners in cash flow; and

the rights of all the partners to distributions of capital upon liquidation.

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is of the opinion that, with the exception of the issues described in " Section 754 Election" and " Disposition of CEQP Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees," allocations under CEQP's partnership agreement will be given effect for federal income tax purposes in determining a partner's share of an item of income, gain, loss or deduction.

Treatment of Securities Loans. A unitholder whose units are loaned (for example, a loan to "short seller" to cover a short sale of units) may be treated as having disposed of those units. If so, such unitholder would no longer be treated for tax purposes as a partner with respect to those units during the period of the loan and may recognize gain or loss from the disposition. As a result, during this period, (i) any of CEQP's income, gain, loss or deduction allocated to those units would not be reportable by the lending unitholder and (ii) any cash distributions received by the unitholder as to those units may be treated as ordinary taxable income.

Due to a lack of controlling authority, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not rendered an opinion regarding the tax treatment of a unitholder that enters into a securities loan with respect to its units. Unitholders desiring to assure their status as partners and avoid the risk of income recognition from a loan of their units are urged to modify any applicable brokerage account agreements to prohibit their brokers from borrowing and lending their units. The IRS has announced that it is studying issues relating to the tax treatment of short sales of partnership interests. Please read " Disposition of CEQP Units Recognition of Gain or Loss."

Tax Rates. Under current law, the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income of individuals is 39.6% and the maximum U.S. federal income tax rate for net capital gains of an individual is 20% if the asset disposed of was a capital asset held for more than 12 months at the time of disposition. These rates are subject to change by new legislation at any time.

In addition, a 3.8% Medicare tax, or NIIT, applies to certain net investment income earned by individuals, estates and trusts. For these purposes, net investment income generally includes a unitholder's allocable share of CEQP's income and gain realized by a unitholder from a sale of CEQP units. In the case of an individual, the tax will be imposed on the lesser of (i) the unitholder's net investment income or (ii) the amount by which the unitholder's modified adjusted gross income exceeds \$250,000 (if the unitholder is married and filing jointly or a surviving spouse), \$125,000 (if the unitholder is married and filing separately) or \$200,000 (in any other case). In the case of an estate or trust, the tax will be imposed on the lesser of (i) the undistributed net investment income, or (ii) the excess adjusted gross income over the dollar amount at which the highest income tax bracket applicable to an estate or trust begins. Unitholders are urged to consult with their own tax advisors as to the impact of the NIIT on an investment in CEQP units.

Section 754 Election. CEQP has made the election permitted by Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code that permits CEQP to adjust the tax bases in its assets as to specific purchased units under Section 743(b) of the Code to reflect the unit purchase price. That election is irrevocable without the consent of the IRS. The Section 743(b) adjustment does not apply to a person who purchases units directly from CEQP. For purposes of this discussion, a unitholder's basis in CEQP's assets will be considered to have two components: (1) its share of the tax basis in CEQP's assets as to all unitholders ("common basis") and (2) its Section 743(b) adjustment to that tax basis (which may be positive or negative).

Table of Contents

Under Treasury Regulations, a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to property depreciable under Section 168 of the Code may be amortizable over the remaining cost recovery period for such property, while a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to properties subject to depreciation under Section 167 of the Code, must be amortized straight-line or using the 150% declining balance method. As a result, if CEQP owned any assets subject to depreciation under Section 167 of the Code, the amortization rates could give rise to differences in the taxation of unitholders purchasing units from CEQP and unitholders purchasing from other unitholders.

Under CEQP's partnership agreement, CEQP is authorized to take a position to preserve the uniformity of units even if that position is not consistent with these or any other Treasury Regulations. Please read " Uniformity of Units." Consistent with this authority, CEQP intends to treat properties depreciable under Section 167, if any, in the same manner as properties depreciable under Section 168 for this purpose. These positions are consistent with the methods employed by other publicly traded partnerships but are inconsistent with the existing Treasury Regulations, and Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not opined on the validity of this approach.

The IRS may challenge CEQP's position with respect to depreciating or amortizing the Section 743(b) adjustment CEQP takes to preserve the uniformity of units due to lack of controlling authority. Because a unitholder's tax basis for its units is reduced by its share of CEQP's items of deduction or loss, any position we take that understates deductions will overstate a unitholder's basis in CEQP's units, and may cause the unitholder to understate gain or overstate loss on any sale of such units. Please read " Disposition of CEQP Units Recognition of Gain or Loss." If a challenge to such treatment were sustained, the gain from the sale of units may be increased without the benefit of additional deductions.

The calculations involved in the Section 754 election are complex and will be made on the basis of assumptions as to the value of our assets and other matters. The IRS could seek to reallocate some or all of any Section 743(b) adjustment we allocated to CEQP's assets subject to depreciation to goodwill or nondepreciable assets. Goodwill, as an intangible asset, is generally nonamortizable or amortizable over a longer period of time or under a less accelerated method than o CEQP's tangible assets. CEQP cannot assure any unitholder that the determinations it makes will not be successfully challenged by the IRS or that the resulting deductions will not be reduced or disallowed altogether. Should the IRS require a different tax basis adjustment to be made, and should, in CEQP's opinion, the expense of compliance exceed the benefit of the election, CEQP may seek permission from the IRS to revoke its Section 754 election. If permission is granted, a subsequent purchaser of units may be allocated more income than it would have been allocated had the election not been revoked.

Tax Treatment of Operations

Accounting Method and Taxable Year. CEQP uses the year ending December 31 as its taxable year and the accrual method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Each unitholder will be required to include in income his share of CEQP's income, gain, loss and deduction for CEQP's taxable year or years ending within or with his taxable year. In addition, a unitholder who has a taxable year different than CEQP's taxable year and who disposes of all of his CEQP units following the close of CEQP's taxable year but before the close of his taxable year must include his share of CEQP's income, gain, loss and deduction in income for his taxable year, with the result that he will be required to include in income for his taxable year his share of more than one year of CEQP's income, gain, loss and deduction. Please read " Disposition of CEQP Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees."

Tax Basis, Depreciation and Amortization. CEQP uses the tax basis of its assets for purposes of computing depreciation and cost recovery deductions and, ultimately, gain or loss on the disposition of these assets. The U.S. federal income tax burden associated with the difference between the fair market

Table of Contents

value of CEQP's assets and their tax basis immediately prior to the time of an offering will be borne by CEQP unitholders immediately prior to the offering. In addition, the U.S. federal income tax burden associated with all or a portion of the difference between the fair market value of Midstream's assets as of the time of the merger and their tax basis as of the time of the merger will be borne by the per-merger Midstream unitholders. Please read " Tax Consequences of CEQP Unit Ownership Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction." To the extent allowable, CEQP may elect to use the depreciation and cost recovery methods, including bonus depreciation to the extent available, that will result in the largest deductions being taken in the early years after assets subject to these allowances are placed in service. Property CEQP subsequently acquires or constructs may be depreciated using accelerated methods permitted by the Internal Revenue Code.

If CEQP disposes of depreciable property by sale, foreclosure, or otherwise, all or a portion of any gain, determined by reference to the amount of depreciation previously deducted and the nature of the property, may be subject to the recapture rules and taxed as ordinary income rather than capital gain. Similarly, a CEQP unitholder who has taken cost recovery or depreciation deductions with respect to property CEQP owns will likely be required to recapture some, or all, of those deductions as ordinary income upon a sale of his interest in CEQP s. Please read " Tax Consequences of CEQP Unit Ownership Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction," and " Disposition of CEQP Units Recognition of Gain or Loss."

The costs incurred in selling CEQP units (called "syndication expenses") must be capitalized and cannot be deducted currently, ratably or upon CEQP's termination. There are uncertainties regarding the classification of costs as organization expenses, which CEQP may amortize, and as syndication expenses, which CEQP may not be able to amortize. The underwriting discounts and commissions CEQP incurs will be treated as syndication expenses.

Valuation and Tax Basis of CEQP's Properties. The U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of CEQP units will depend in part on CEQP's estimates of the relative fair market values, and the tax bases, of its assets. Although CEQP may from time to time consult with professional appraisers regarding valuation matters, CEQP will make many of the relative fair market value estimates itself. These estimates and determinations of basis are subject to challenge and will not be binding on the IRS or the courts. If the estimates of fair market value or basis are later found to be incorrect, the character and amount of items of income, gain, loss or deductions previously reported by unitholders might change, and unitholders might be required to adjust their tax liability for prior years and incur interest and penalties with respect to those adjustments.

Disposition of CEQP Units

Recognition of Gain or Loss. A unitholder will be required to recognize gain or loss on a sale of CEQP units equal to the difference between the unitholder's amount realized and the unitholder's tax basis for the CEQP units sold. A unitholder's amount realized will be measured by the sum of the cash or the fair market value of other property received by him plus his share of CEQP's nonrecourse liabilities attributable to the CEQP units sold. Because the amount realized includes a unitholder's share of CEQP's nonrecourse liabilities, the gain recognized on the sale of CEQP units could result in a tax liability in excess of any cash received from the sale.

Except as noted below, gain or loss recognized by a unitholder on the sale or exchange of a unit held for more than one year generally will be taxable as long-term capital gain or loss. However, gain or loss recognized on the disposition of units will be separately computed and taxed as ordinary income or loss under Section 751 of the Code to the extent attributable to Section 751 Assets, primarily depreciation recapture. Ordinary income attributable to Section 751 Assets may exceed net taxable gain realized on the sale of a unit and may be recognized even if there is a net taxable loss realized on the sale of a unit. Thus, a unitholder may recognize both ordinary income and a capital loss upon a sale of

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

units. Net capital loss may offset capital gains and, in the case of individuals, up to \$3,000 of ordinary income per year.

The IRS has ruled that a partner who acquires interests in a partnership in separate transactions must combine those interests and maintain a single adjusted tax basis for all those interests. Upon a sale or other disposition of less than all of those interests, a portion of that tax basis must be allocated to the interests sold using an "equitable apportionment" method, which generally means that the tax basis allocated to the interest sold equals an amount that bears the same relation to the partner's tax basis in his entire interest in the partnership as the value of the interest sold bears to the value of the partner's entire interest in the partnership.

Treasury Regulations under Section 1223 of the Internal Revenue Code allow a selling unitholder who can identify CEQP units transferred with an ascertainable holding period to elect to use the actual holding period of the CEQP units transferred. Thus, according to the ruling discussed above, a CEQP unitholder will be unable to select high or low basis CEQP units to sell as would be the case with corporate stock, but, according to the Treasury Regulations, may designate specific CEQP units sold for purposes of determining the holding period of CEQP units transferred. A unitholder electing to use the actual holding period of CEQP units transferred must consistently use that identification method for all subsequent sales or exchanges of CEQP units. A unitholder considering the purchase of additional CEQP units or a sale of CEQP units purchased in separate transactions is urged to consult his tax advisor as to the possible consequences of this ruling and application of the Treasury Regulations.

Specific provisions of the Internal Revenue Code affect the taxation of some financial products and securities, including partnership interests, by treating a taxpayer as having sold an "appreciated" partnership interest, one in which gain would be recognized if it were sold, assigned or terminated at its fair market value, if the taxpayer or related persons enter(s) into:

a short sale;

an offsetting notional principal contract; or

a futures or forward contract;

in each case, with respect to the partnership interest or substantially identical property.

Moreover, if a taxpayer has previously entered into a short sale, an offsetting notional principal contract or a futures or forward contract with respect to the partnership interest, the taxpayer will be treated as having sold that position if the taxpayer or a related person then acquires the partnership interest or substantially identical property. The Secretary of the Treasury is also authorized to issue regulations that treat a taxpayer that enters into transactions or positions that have substantially the same effect as the preceding transactions as having constructively sold the financial position.

Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees. In general, CEQP's taxable income or loss will be determined annually, will be prorated on a monthly basis and will be subsequently apportioned among the unitholders in proportion to the number of CEQP units owned by each of them as of the opening of the applicable exchange on the first business day of the month, which is referred to in this discussion as the "Allocation Date." However, gain or loss realized on a sale or other disposition of CEQP's assets other than in the ordinary course of business will be allocated among the unitholders on the Allocation Date in the month in which that gain or loss is recognized. As a result, a unitholder transferring CEQP units may be allocated income, gain, loss and deduction realized after the date of transfer.

Although simplifying conventions are contemplated by the Internal Revenue Code and most publicly traded partnerships use similar simplifying conventions, the use of this method may not be permitted under existing Treasury Regulations. The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the IRS have issued proposed Treasury Regulations that provide a safe harbor pursuant to which a publicly traded partnership may use a similar monthly simplifying convention to allocate tax items among transferor

Table of Contents

and transferee unitholders, although such tax items must be prorated on a daily basis. Existing publicly traded partnerships are entitled to rely on these proposed Treasury Regulations; however, they are not binding on the IRS and are subject to change until final Treasury Regulations are issued. Accordingly, Vinson & Elkins LLP is unable to opine on the validity of this method of allocating income and deductions between transferor and transferee unitholders. If this method is not allowed under the Treasury Regulations, or only applies to transfers of less than all of the unitholder's interest, CEQP's taxable income or losses might be reallocated among the unitholders. CEQP is authorized to revise its method of allocation between transferor and transferee unitholders, as well as unitholders whose interests vary during a taxable year, to conform to a method permitted under future Treasury Regulations.

A unitholder who owns CEQP units at any time during a quarter and who disposes of them prior to the record date set for a cash distribution for that quarter will be allocated items of CEQP's income, gain, loss and deductions attributable to that quarter but will not be entitled to receive that cash distribution.

Notification Requirements. A unitholder who sells or purchases any CEQP units is generally required to notify CEQP in writing of that transaction within 30 days after the transaction (or, if earlier, January 15 of the year following the transaction). Upon receiving such notifications, CEQP is required to notify the IRS of that transaction and to furnish specified information to the transferor and transferee. Failure to notify CEQP of a transfer of units may, in some cases, lead to the imposition of penalties. However, these reporting requirements do not apply to a sale by an individual who is a citizen of the United States and who effects the sale through a broker who will satisfy such requirements.

Constructive Termination. CEQP will be considered to have terminated its partnership for federal income tax purposes upon the sale or exchange of 50% or more of the total interests in CEQP's capital and profits within a twelve-month period. For such purposes, multiple sales of the same unit are counted only once. A constructive termination results in the closing of CEQP's 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 CEQP's taxable year may result in more than twelve months of CEQP's taxable income or loss being includable in such unitholder's taxable income for the year of termination.

A constructive termination occurring on a date other than December 31 will result in CEQP filing two tax returns for one fiscal year and the cost of the preparation of these returns will be borne by all unitholders. However, pursuant to an IRS relief procedure the IRS may allow, among other things, a constructively terminated partnership to provide a single Schedule K-1 for the calendar year in which a termination occurs. CEQP would be required to make new tax elections after a termination, including a new election under Section 754 of the Code, and a termination would result in a deferral of CEQP's deductions for depreciation. A termination could also result in penalties if CEQP was unable to determine that the termination had occurred. Moreover, a termination might either accelerate the application of, or subject CEQP to, any tax legislation enacted before the termination.

Uniformity of CEQP Units

Because CEQP cannot match transferors and transferees of CEQP units and for other reasons, it must maintain uniformity of the economic and tax characteristics of the CEQP units to a purchaser of these units. In the absence of uniformity, CEQP may be unable to completely comply with a number of U.S. federal income tax requirements, both statutory and regulatory. A lack of uniformity can result from a literal application of Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6). Any non-uniformity could have a negative impact on the value of the CEQP units. Please read " Tax Consequences of CEQP Unit Ownership Section 754 Election."

Table of Contents

If necessary to preserve the uniformity of CEQP units, CEQP's partnership agreement permits its general partner to take positions in filing its tax returns even when contrary to a literal application of regulations like the one described above. These positions may include reducing for some unitholders the depreciation, amortization or loss deductions to which they would otherwise be entitled or reporting a slower amortization of Section 743(b) adjustments for some unitholders than that to which they would otherwise be entitled. The general partner does not anticipate needing to take such positions, but if they were necessary, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. would be unable to opine as to validity of such filing positions in the absence of direct and controlling authority.

A unitholder's basis in units is reduced by its share of CEQP's deductions (whether or not such deductions were claimed on an individual income tax return) so that any position that we take that understates deductions will overstate the unitholder's basis in its units, and may cause the unitholder to understate gain or overstate loss on any sale of such units. Please read "Disposition of CEQP Units Recognition of Gain or Loss" above and "Tax Consequences of CEQP Unit Ownership Section 754 Election" above. The IRS may challenge one or more of any positions CEQP takes to preserve the uniformity of units. If such a challenge were sustained, the uniformity of units might be affected, and, under some circumstances, the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions.

Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors

Ownership of units by employee benefit plans and other tax-exempt organizations as well as by non-resident alien individuals, non-U.S. corporations and other non-U.S. persons (collectively, "Non-U.S. Unitholders") raises issues unique to those investors and, as described below, may have substantially adverse tax consequences to them. Prospective unitholders that are tax-exempt entities or Non-U.S. Unitholders should consult their tax advisors before investing in CEQP units. Employee benefit plans and most other tax-exempt organizations, including IRAs and other retirement plans, are subject to federal income tax on unrelated business taxable income. Virtually all of CEQP's income will be unrelated business taxable income and will be taxable to a tax-exempt unitholder.

Non-U.S. Unitholders are taxed by the United States on income effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business ("effectively connected income") and on certain types of U.S.-source non-effectively connected income (such as dividends), unless exempted or further limited by an income tax treaty. Non-U.S. Unitholders will be considered to be engaged in business in the United States because of their ownership of CEQP units. Furthermore, it is probable that they will be deemed to conduct such activities through permanent establishments in the U.S. within the meaning of applicable tax treaties. Consequently, they will be required to file federal tax returns to report their share of CEQP's income, gain, loss or deduction and pay federal income tax on their share of CEQP's net income or gain. Moreover, under rules applicable to publicly traded partnerships, distributions to Non-U.S. Unitholders are subject to withholding at the highest applicable effective tax rate. Each Non-U.S. Unitholder must obtain a taxpayer identification number from the IRS and submit that number to CEQP's transfer agent on a Form W-8BEN or applicable substitute form in order to obtain credit for these withholding taxes.

In addition, because a Non-U.S. Unitholder classified as a corporation will be treated as engaged in a United States trade or business, that corporation may be subject to the U.S. branch profits tax at a rate of 30%, in addition to regular federal income tax, on its share of CEQP's income and gain as adjusted for changes in the foreign corporation's "U.S. net equity" to the extent reflected in the corporation's effectively connected earnings and profits. That tax may be reduced or eliminated by an income tax treaty between the United States and the country in which the foreign corporate unitholder is a "qualified resident." In addition, this type of unitholder is subject to special information reporting requirements under Section 6038C of the Code.

Table of Contents

A Non-U.S. Unitholder who sells or otherwise disposes of a unit will be subject to federal income tax on gain realized from the sale or disposition of that unit to the extent the gain is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the Non-U.S. Unitholder. Under a ruling published by the IRS interpreting the scope of "effectively connected income," gain recognized by a Non-U.S. Unitholder from the sale of its interest in a partnership that is engaged in a trade or business in the United States will be considered to be "effectively connected" with a U.S. trade or business. Thus, part or all of a Non-U.S. Unitholder's gain from the sale or other disposition of its units may be treated as effectively connected with a unitholder's indirect U.S. trade or business constituted by its investment in CEQP. Moreover, under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act, a Non-U.S. Unitholder generally will be subject to federal income tax upon the sale or disposition of a unit if (i) it owned (directly or indirectly constructively applying certain attribution rules) more than 5% of our units at any time during the five-year period ending on the date of such disposition and (ii) 50% or more of the fair market value of CEQP's worldwide real property interests and its other assets used or held for use in a trade or business consisted of U.S. real property interests (which include U.S. real estate, including land, improvements, and associated personal property, and interests in certain entities holding U.S. real estate) at any time during the shorter of the period during which such unitholder held the units or the 5-year period ending on the date of disposition. More than 50% of CEQP's assets may consist of U.S. real property interests. Therefore, Non-U.S. Unitholders may be subject to federal income tax on gain from the sale or disposition of their units.

Administrative Matters

Information Returns and Audit Procedures. CEQP intends to furnish to each unitholder, within 90 days after the close of each taxable year, specific tax information, including a Schedule K-1, which describes each unitholder's share of its income, gain, loss and deduction for CEQP's preceding taxable year. In preparing this information, which will not be reviewed by counsel, CEQP will take various accounting and reporting positions, some of which have been mentioned earlier, to determine each unitholder's share of income, gain, loss and deduction. CEQP cannot assure you that those positions will in all cases yield a result that conforms to the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, Treasury Regulations or administrative interpretations of the IRS. Neither CEQP nor Vinson & Elkins LLP can assure the unitholders that the IRS will not successfully contend in court that those positions are impermissible. Any challenge by the IRS could negatively affect the value of the CEQP units.

The IRS may audit CEQP's U.S. federal income tax information returns. Adjustments resulting from an IRS audit may require each unitholder to adjust a prior year's tax liability, and possibly may result in an audit of his own return. Any audit of a unitholder's return could result in adjustments not related to CEQP's returns as well as those related to CEQP's returns.

Partnerships generally are treated as separate entities for purposes of U.S. federal income tax audits, judicial review of administrative adjustments by the IRS and tax settlement proceedings. The tax treatment of partnership items of income, gain, loss and deduction are determined in a partnership proceeding rather than in separate proceedings with the partners. The Internal Revenue Code requires that one partner be designated as the "Tax Matters Partner" for these purposes. CEQP's partnership agreement names its general partner as CEQP's Tax Matters Partner.

The Tax Matters Partner has made and will make some elections on CEQP's behalf and on behalf of unitholders. In addition, the Tax Matters Partner can extend the statute of limitations for assessment of tax deficiencies against unitholders for items in CEQP's returns. The Tax Matters Partner may bind a unitholder with less than a 1% profits interest in CEQP to a settlement with the IRS unless that unitholder elects, by filing a statement with the IRS, not to give that authority to the Tax Matters Partner. The Tax Matters Partner may seek judicial review, by which all the unitholders are bound, of a final partnership administrative adjustment and, if the Tax Matters Partner fails to seek judicial review,

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

judicial review may be sought by any unitholder having at least a 1% interest in profits or by any group of unitholders having in the aggregate at least a 5% interest in profits. However, only one action for judicial review will go forward, and each unitholder with an interest in the outcome may participate in that action. A unitholder must file a statement with the IRS identifying the treatment of any item on his U.S. federal income tax return that is not consistent with the treatment of the item on CEQP's return. Intentional or negligent disregard of this consistency requirement may subject a unitholder to substantial penalties.

Nominee Reporting. Persons who hold an interest in CEQP as a nominee for another person are required to furnish the following information to it:

- (a) the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the beneficial owner and the nominee;
- (b) a statement regarding whether the beneficial owner is
 - (1) a person that is not a United States person,
 - (2) a foreign government, an international organization or any wholly-owned agency or instrumentality of either of the foregoing, or
 - (3) a tax-exempt entity;
- (c) the amount and description of CEQP units held, acquired or transferred for the beneficial owner; and
- (d) specific information including the dates of acquisitions and transfers, means of acquisitions and transfers, and acquisition cost for purchases, as well as the amount of net proceeds from sales.

Brokers and financial institutions are required to furnish additional information, including whether they are United States persons and specific information on CEQP units they acquire, hold or transfer for their own account. A penalty of \$100 per failure, up to a maximum of \$1,500,000 per calendar year, is imposed by the Internal Revenue Code for failure to report that information to CEQP. The nominee is required to supply the beneficial owner of the CEQP units with the information furnished to CEQP.

Accuracy-Related Penalties. Certain penalties may be imposed as a result of an underpayment of tax that is attributable to one or more specified causes, including negligence or disregard of rules or regulations, substantial understatements of income tax and substantial valuation misstatements. No penalty will be imposed, however, for any portion of an underpayment if it is shown that there was a reasonable cause for the underpayment of that portion and that the taxpayer acted in good faith regarding the underpayment of that portion. CEQP does not anticipate that any accuracy-related penalties will be assessed against CEQP.

State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Considerations

In addition to U.S. federal income taxes, a unitholder likely will be subject to other taxes, including state, local and foreign income taxes, unincorporated business taxes, and estate, inheritance or intangible taxes that may be imposed by the various jurisdictions in which CEQP does business or owns property or in which a unitholder is a resident. Although an analysis of those various taxes is not presented here, each unitholder should consider their potential impact on his investment in CEQP. CEQP currently owns property or does business in a number of states, virtually all of which impose a personal income tax and many impose an income tax on corporations and other entities. CEQP may also own property or do business in other states in the future.

A unitholder may be required to file income tax returns and pay income taxes in some or all of the jurisdictions in which CEQP does business or own property, though such unitholder may not be

Table of Contents

required to file a return and pay taxes in certain jurisdictions because its income from such jurisdictions falls below the jurisdiction's filing and payment requirement. Further, a unitholder may be subject to penalties for a failure to comply with any filing or payment requirement applicable to such unitholder. Some of the jurisdictions may require CEQP, or CEQP may elect, to withhold a percentage of income from amounts to be distributed to a unitholder who is not a resident of the jurisdiction. Withholding, the amount of which may be greater or less than a particular unitholder's income tax liability to the jurisdiction, generally does not relieve a nonresident unitholder from the obligation to file an income tax return.

It is the responsibility of each unitholder to investigate the legal and tax consequences, under the laws of pertinent states and localities, of its investment in CEQP. Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not rendered an opinion on the state, local, or non-U.S. tax consequences of an investment in CEQP. We strongly recommend that each prospective unitholder consult, and depend on, its own tax counsel or other advisor with regard to those matters. It is the responsibility of each unitholder to file all tax returns that may be required of the unitholder.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL 2: ADJOURNMENT OF THE SPECIAL UNITHOLDER MEETING

Holders of Midstream common units are being asked to approve a proposal that will give Midstream GP authority to adjourn the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to approve the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting (the "Adjournment Proposal"). If this proposal is approved, the special meeting could be adjourned to any date. If the special meeting is adjourned, holders of Midstream common units who have already submitted their proxies will be able to revoke them at any time prior to their use. If you return a proxy and do not indicate how you wish to vote on any proposal, or if you indicate that you wish to vote in favor of the approval of the merger agreement but do not indicate a choice on the Adjournment Proposal, your units will be voted in favor of the Adjournment Proposal. If, however, you indicate that you wish to vote against the approval of the merger agreement, your units will not be voted in favor of the Adjournment Proposal unless you indicate you wish to vote in favor of the Adjournment Proposal. To approve the adjournment of the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to approve the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting, holders of a majority of the outstanding Midstream common units entitled to vote and represented in person or by proxy at the special meeting must vote in favor of the proposal. Accordingly, abstentions will have the same effect as votes "AGAINST" approval and if you fail to cast your vote in person or by proxy or fail to give voting instructions to your broker, bank or other nominee and are otherwise represented in person or by proxy, it will have the same effect as a vote "AGAINST" the proposal.

The Midstream Board unanimously recommends that you vote "FOR" the adjournment of the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to approve the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting.

UNITHOLDER PROPOSALS

Under applicable Delaware law and Midstream's partnership agreement, Midstream is not required to hold an annual meeting of its unitholders (limited partners). Ownership of Midstream common units does not entitle Midstream unitholders to make proposals at the special meeting. Midstream's partnership agreement establishes a procedure for calling meetings whereby limited partners owning 20% or more of the outstanding units of the class for which a meeting is proposed may call a meeting. In any case, limited partners are not allowed to vote on matters that would cause the limited partners to be deemed to be taking part in the management and control of the business and affairs of Midstream. Doing so would jeopardize the limited partners' limited liability under the Delaware Act or the law of any other state in which Midstream is qualified to do business.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of CEQP common units to be issued in the merger will be passed upon for CEQP by Andrews Kurth LLP, Houston, Texas. Certain tax matters relating to the CEQP common units to be issued in the merger and certain tax matters relating to the merger will be passed upon for CEQP by Vinson & Elkins LLP, Houston, Texas. Certain tax matters relating to the merger will be passed upon for Midstream by Vinson & Elkins LLP, Houston, Texas.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Crestwood Equity Partners LP as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 appearing in Crestwood Equity Partners LP's Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2014 (including schedules appearing therein), and the effectiveness of Crestwood Equity Partners LP's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

reference. Such consolidated financial statements and Crestwood Equity Partners LP management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Crestwood Midstream Partners LP as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 appearing in Crestwood Midstream Partners LP's Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the effectiveness of Crestwood Midstream Partners LP's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and Crestwood Midstream Partners LP management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, partners' capital, cash flows, and related financial statement schedule of Crestwood Equity Partners LP for the year ended December 31, 2012 incorporated in this proxy statement/prospectus by reference from Crestwood Equity Partners LP's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report (which report expresses an unqualified opinion and includes an explanatory paragraph on the unaudited pro forma information for the acquisitions of Inergy Midstream, L.P. and Arrow Midstream Holdings LLC presented in Note 3), which is incorporated by reference herein. Such financial statements and financial statement schedule have been so included in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated statements of operations, partners' capital, and cash flows of Crestwood Midstream Partners LP for the year ended December 31, 2012 incorporated in this proxy statement/prospectus by reference from Crestwood Midstream Partners LP's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report (which report expresses an unqualified opinion and includes an explanatory paragraph relating to the acquisition of Crestwood Marcellus Midstream LLC which was accounted for at historical cost as a reorganization of entities under common control as described in Note 10 and an explanatory paragraph on the unaudited pro forma information for the acquisitions of Inergy Midstream, L.P. and Arrow Midstream Holdings LLC presented in Note 3), which is incorporated by reference herein. Such financial statements have been so included in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

CEQP and Midstream file annual, quarterly and current reports, and other information with the Commission under the Exchange Act. You may read and copy any document filed with the Commission at its public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the Commission at 1-800-732-0330 for further information regarding the public reference room. The filings are also available to the public at the Commission's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. In addition, documents filed by CEQP and Midstream can be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The Commission allows CEQP and Midstream to incorporate by reference information into this proxy statement/prospectus, which means that CEQP and Midstream can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this proxy statement/prospectus, except for any information that is superseded

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

by information that is included directly in this proxy statement/prospectus. Any later information filed (and not furnished) with the Commission by CEQP and Midstream pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act up until the date of the merger closing, including all such information filed (and not furnished) after the date of the initial registration statement and prior to effectiveness of the registration statement, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus and will automatically update and supersede this information. Therefore, before you vote to approve the merger agreement and the merger, you should always check for reports CEQP and Midstream may have filed with the Commission after the date of this proxy statement/prospectus.

This proxy statement/prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below that CEQP and Midstream have previously filed with the Commission, excluding any information in a Form 8-K furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or 7.01 (unless otherwise indicated), which is not deemed filed under the Exchange Act.

CEQP's Filings

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 filed on March 2, 2015;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2015 filed on May 7, 2015 and the quarter ended June 30, 2015 filed on August 7, 2015;

Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on May 6, 2015; and

The description of CEQP's common units in the registration statement on Form S-3 filed on March 25, 2014, and including any other amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description. You may request a copy of these filings at no cost by making written or telephone requests for copies to: Crestwood Equity Partners LP, 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002; Telephone: (832) 519-2200.

CEQP also makes available free of charge on its internet website at <http://www.crestwoodlp.com> its annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to those reports, as soon as reasonably practicable after it electronically files such material with, or furnishes it to, the Commission. Information contained on CEQP's website is not part of this proxy statement/prospectus.

Midstream's Filings

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 filed on March 2, 2015;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2015 filed on May 7, 2014 and the quarter ended June 30, 2015 filed on August 7, 2015; and

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on March 9, 2015, March 11, 2015, March 27, 2015 and May 6, 2015.

You may request a copy of these filings at no cost by making written or telephone requests for copies to: Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 2550, Houston, Texas 77002; Telephone: (832) 519-2200.

Midstream also makes available free of charge on its Internet website at <http://www.crestwoodlp.com> its annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to those reports, as soon as reasonably practicable after it electronically files such material with, or furnishes it to, the Commission. Information contained on Midstream's website is not part of this proxy statement/prospectus.

Table of Contents

INFORMATION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This proxy statement/prospectus and some of the documents CEQP and Midstream have incorporated herein by reference contain various forward-looking statements and information that are based on the beliefs of CEQP and Midstream and their respective general partners, as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to each of them. These forward-looking statements are identified as any statement that does not relate strictly to historical or current facts. When used in this proxy statement/prospectus or the documents incorporated herein by reference, words such as "anticipate," "project," "expect," "plan," "seek," "goal," "estimate," "forecast," "intend," "could," "should," "will," "believe," "may," "potential," and similar expressions and statements regarding CEQP's or Midstream's plans and objectives for future operations, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Although CEQP and Midstream and their respective general partners believe that such expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, neither CEQP, Midstream, nor either of their general partners can give assurances that such expectations will prove to be correct. Such statements are subject to a variety of risks, uncertainties and assumptions. If one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or if underlying assumptions prove incorrect, CEQP's and Midstream's actual results may vary materially from those anticipated, estimated, projected or expected. Among the key risk factors that may have a direct bearing on CEQP's or Midstream's results of operations and financial condition are:

cash flow growth and accretion;

future distribution increases and growth;

internal growth projects;

future issuances of debt and equity securities; and

other objectives, expectations and intentions and other statements that are not historical facts.

These statements are based on the current expectations and estimates of the management of Equity GP and Midstream GP; actual results may differ materially due to certain risks and uncertainties. Although CEQP, Midstream and their respective general partners believe that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, they cannot give assurances that such expectations will prove to be correct. For instance, although CEQP and Midstream have signed a merger agreement, there is no assurance that they will complete the proposed merger. The merger agreement will terminate if Midstream does not receive the necessary approval of its unitholders, and also may be terminated if any conditions to closing are not satisfied or if the merger is not completed by December 31, 2015. Other risks and uncertainties that may affect actual results include:

the failure to realize a lower long-term cost of capital, anticipated cost savings and other benefits of the proposed merger;

declines in volumes transported on CEQP's pipelines or barges;

reduction in demand for natural gas, various grades of crude oil, refined products, NGLs and petrochemicals and resulting changes in pricing conditions or pipeline throughput requirements;

fluctuations in refinery capacity;

the success of risk management activities;

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

environmental liabilities or events that are not covered by an indemnity, insurance or existing reserves;

the availability of, and CEQP's ability to consummate, acquisition or combination opportunities;

Table of Contents

the level of capital expenditures CEQP will make and availability of, and the timing of completion of, organic growth projects;

CEQP's access to capital to fund additional acquisitions and CEQP's ability to obtain debt or equity financing on satisfactory terms;

maintenance of CEQP's credit rating and ability to receive open credit from its suppliers and trade counterparties;

unanticipated changes in crude oil market structure and volatility (or lack thereof);

the impact of current and future laws, rulings and governmental regulations;

the effects of competition;

continued creditworthiness of, and performance by, the combined company's counterparties;

interruptions in service and fluctuations in rates of third party pipelines that affect the combined company's assets;

increased costs or lack of availability of insurance;

fluctuations in crude oil, natural gas, NGL and related hydrocarbon prices and production due to weather and other natural and economic forces;

shortages or cost increases of power supplies, materials or labor;

weather interference with business operations or project construction;

terrorist attacks aimed at CEQP's facilities;

general economic, market or business conditions; and

other factors and uncertainties discussed in this proxy statement/prospectus and CEQP's and Midstream's respective filings with the SEC, including their Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2015 and June 30, 2015.

You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. When considering forward-looking statements, please review carefully the risk factors described under "Risk Factors" in this proxy statement/prospectus and incorporated by reference into this document.

Table of Contents

UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Pursuant to the merger agreement, CEQP will acquire all of the outstanding common units and preferred units of Midstream that CEQP and its subsidiaries do not already own (referred to in these pro forma financial statements as "the publicly held units"). At the effective time of the merger, each publicly held Midstream common and preferred unit will be converted into a right to receive 2.75 CEQP common units and 2.75 CEQP preferred units, respectively.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information has been developed by applying pro forma adjustments to the historical audited and unaudited consolidated financial statements of CEQP. The historical consolidated financial statements of CEQP consolidate Midstream because CEQP currently controls the entity. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet as of June 30, 2015 of CEQP has been prepared to give effect to the merger as if it had occurred on June 30, 2015. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of operations of CEQP for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and year ended December 31, 2014, have been prepared to give effect to the merger as if it had occurred on January 1, 2014.

The merger will be accounted for in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification 810, *Consolidation-Overall-Changes in a Parent's Ownership Interest in a Subsidiary*. Because CEQP controls Midstream both before and after the merger and related transactions, the changes in CEQP's ownership interest in Midstream will be accounted for as an equity transaction and no gain or loss will be recognized in CEQP's consolidated statements of operations resulting from the merger. Since the CEQP historical financial information includes the accounts of Midstream, the historical financial information of Midstream has not been shown separately.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements included pro forma adjustments that are (i) directly attributable to the merger; (ii) factually supportable; and (iii) with respect to the statement of operations, expected to have a continuing impact on the combined results.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements should be read in conjunction with (i) the historical audited consolidated financial statements and related notes included in the respective Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 for CEQP and Midstream; and (ii) the unaudited consolidated financial statements and related notes included in the respective Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2015 for CEQP and Midstream.

The unaudited pro forma adjustments are based on available preliminary information and certain assumptions that CEQP believes are reasonable under the circumstances. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements are presented for illustrative purposes only and are not necessarily indicative of the financial position that would have been obtained or the financial results that would have occurred if the merger had been completed as of the dates indicated. In addition, the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information does not purport to project the future financial position or operating results of CEQP. Future results may vary significantly from the results reflected because of various factors. The pro forma adjustments and their underlying assumptions are described more fully in the notes to the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements.

Table of Contents**Crestwood Equity Partners LP****Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Balance Sheet**

As of June 30, 2015

(In millions)

	Crestwood Equity Partners LP Historical	Pro Forma Adjustments		Crestwood Equity Partners LP Pro Forma
ASSETS				
Current assets	\$ 401.2	\$ (22.0)	(a)	\$ 379.2
Property, plant and equipment, net	3,853.0			3,853.0
Intangible assets, net	1,180.7			1,180.7
Goodwill	2,210.8			2,210.8
Investment in unconsolidated affiliates	324.2			324.2
Other assets	9.8			9.8
Total assets	\$ 7,979.7	\$ (22.0)		\$ 7,957.7
LIABILITIES & PARTNER CAPITAL				
Current liabilities	\$ 305.1			\$ 305.1
Long term debt, less current portion	2,507.1			2,507.1
Other long-term liabilities	57.3			57.3
Partners' capital				
Crestwood Equity Partners LP partners' capital	692.6	(22.0)	(a)	4,444.6
		3,774.0	(b)	
Preferred units		464.4	(b)	464.4
Interest of non-controlling partners in subsidiaries	4,417.6	(4,238.4)	(b)	179.2
Total partners' capital	5,110.2	(22.0)		5,088.2
Total liabilities and partners' capital	\$ 7,979.7	\$ (22.0)		\$ 7,957.7

See Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Statements

Table of Contents**Crestwood Equity Partners LP****Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Statement of Operations****For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2015****(In millions, except unit and per unit information)**

	Crestwood Equity Partners LP Historical	Pro Forma Adjustments	Crestwood Equity Partners LP Pro Forma
Revenues	\$ 1,373.0	\$	\$ 1,373.0
Expenses			
Costs of product/services sold (excluding depreciation, amortization and accretion as shown below)	989.2		989.2
Operations and maintenance expenses	94.5		94.5
General and administrative expenses	58.1		58.1
Depreciation, amortization and accretion	149.0		149.0
Other operating expenses			
Loss on long-lived assets, net	(1.6)		(1.6)
Goodwill impairment	(281.0)		(281.0)
	1,573.4		1,573.4
Operating loss	(200.4)		(200.4)
Earnings from unconsolidated affiliates, net	8.4		8.4
Interest and debt expense	(69.0)		(69.0)
Loss on modification/extinguishment of debt	(17.1)		(17.1)
Other income, net	0.3		0.3
Loss before income taxes	(277.8)		(277.8)
Provision for income taxes	0.1		0.1
Net loss	(277.9)		(277.9)
Net (income) loss attributable to non-controlling partners	246.2	(257.5) (c)	(11.3)
Net loss attributable to Crestwood Equity Partners LP	(31.7)	(257.5)	(289.2)
Net income attributable to preferred units		(16.7)	(16.7)
Net loss attributable to partners	\$ (31.7)	\$ (274.2)	\$ (305.9)
Subordinated unitholders' interest in net loss	\$ (0.7)		\$ (2.0)
Common unitholders' interest in net loss	\$ (31.0)		\$ (303.9)
Net loss per limited partner unit			
Basic	\$ (0.17)		\$ (0.45)

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Diluted	\$	(0.17)	\$	(0.45)
---------	----	--------	----	--------

Weighted average limited partners' units outstanding (in thousands)

Basic	182,820	498,160	(d)	680,980
Dilutive units	4,388			4,388

Diluted	187,208			685,368
---------	---------	--	--	---------

See Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Statements

F-3

Table of Contents**Crestwood Equity Partners LP****Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Statement of Operations****For the Year Ended December 31, 2014****(In millions, except unit and per unit information)**

	Crestwood Equity Partners LP Historical	Pro Forma Adjustments	Crestwood Equity Partners LP Pro Forma
Revenues	\$ 3,931.3	\$	\$ 3,931.3
Expenses			
Costs of product/services sold (excluding depreciation, amortization and accretion as shown below)	3,165.3		3,165.3
Operations and maintenance expenses	203.3		203.3
General and administrative expenses	100.2		100.2
Depreciation, amortization and accretion	285.3		285.3
Other operating expenses	59.3		59.3
	3,813.4		3,813.4
Operating income	117.9		117.9
Loss from unconsolidated affiliates, net	(0.7)		(0.7)
Interest and debt expense	(127.1)		(127.1)
Other income	0.6		0.6
Income (loss) before income taxes	(9.3)		(9.3)
Provision for income taxes	1.1		1.1
Net income (loss)	(10.4)		(10.4)
Net (income) loss attributable to non-controlling partners	66.8	(83.6) (c)	(16.8)
Net income (loss) attributable to Crestwood Equity Partners LP	56.4	(83.6)	(27.2)
Net income attributable to preferred units		(17.2)	(17.2)
Net income (loss) attributable to partners	\$ 56.4	\$ (100.8)	\$ (44.4)
Subordinated unitholders' interest in net income (loss)	\$ 1.3		\$ (0.3)
Common unitholders' interest in net income (loss)	\$ 55.1		\$ (44.1)
Net income (loss) per limited partner unit			
Basic	\$ 0.30		\$ (0.06)

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Diluted	\$	0.30	\$	(0.06)
---------	----	------	----	--------

Weighted average limited partners' units outstanding (in thousands)				
Basic		182,009	498,160 (d)	680,169
Dilutive units		4,388		4,388
Diluted		186,397		684,557

See Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Statements

F-4

Table of Contents**Crestwood Equity Partners LP****Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Statements****Note 1 Basis of Pro Forma Presentation**

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements (the "Unaudited Pro Forma Statements") give effect to the merger and related transactions as an equity transaction. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet gives effect to the merger as if it occurred on June 30, 2015. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of income for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and for the year ended December 31, 2014 give effect to the merger as if it occurred on January 1, 2014. The unaudited pro forma statements do not give effect to the termination of the existing CEQP credit facility, which had an outstanding balance of \$341.2 million as of June 30, 2015. Management expects to replace the existing CEQP and Midstream credit facilities with a new Midstream credit facility with terms substantially consistent with the existing Midstream credit facility. Prior to the effective time of the merger, CEQP will take all actions necessary or appropriate to defease or call for redemption the CEQP 7% senior notes due 2018, which had an outstanding balance of \$10.6 million as of June 30, 2015. These transactions are not reflected in the unaudited pro forma statements.

These unaudited pro forma statements are presented for illustrative purposes only. The pro forma adjustments are based upon available information and the assumptions described below. The unaudited pro forma statements are not necessarily indicative of what the actual results of operations or financial position of CEQP would have been if the merger had in fact occurred on the dates or for the periods indicated, nor do they purport to project the results of operations or financial position of CEQP for any future periods or as of any date. The unaudited pro forma statements do not give effect to any cost savings, operating synergies, or revenue enhancements expected to result from the merger or the costs to achieve these cost savings, operating synergies and revenue enhancements.

Note 2 Pro Forma Adjustments and Assumptions*Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Balance Sheet Adjustments*

- (a) Reflects estimated transaction costs of \$22.0 million directly attributable to the merger. The transaction costs include fees related to financial advisory, legal services and other professional fees to be paid in 2015. As the merger involves the acquisition of non-controlling interests accounted for as an equity transaction, these costs will be recognized as an adjustment to partners' capital during the periods in which services are rendered.
- (b) Reallocates non-controlling interests in Midstream previously reported by CEQP to partners' capital and preferred units.

Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Statements of Operations Adjustments

- (c) Reallocates net income previously allocated to non-controlling interests related to publicly-held Midstream preferred and common units, other than units held by CEQP, to net income attributable to CEQP preferred units and net income attributable to partners.
- (d) Reflects the CEQP limited partner units to be issued in the merger and were outstanding as of January 1, 2014 calculated as follows:

Total Midstream units outstanding(1)	188,308,510
Midstream units owned by CEQP and its subsidiaries	(7,159,438)
Total Midstream units exchanged	181,149,072
Exchange ratio per unit	2.75
Total CEQP units assumed to be issued	498,159,948

- (1) Reflects Midstream units outstanding as of August 7, 2015.

AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER
by and among
CRESTWOOD EQUITY PARTNERS LP
CRESTWOOD EQUITY GP LLC
CEQP ST SUB LLC
and
MGP GP, LLC
and
CRESTWOOD MIDSTREAM HOLDINGS LP
and
CRESTWOOD MIDSTREAM PARTNERS LP
and
CRESTWOOD MIDSTREAM GP LLC
and
CRESTWOOD GAS SERVICES GP, LLC
Dated as of May 5, 2015

Table of Contents**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<u>ARTICLE I. CERTAIN DEFINITIONS</u>	<u>A-2</u>
<u>Section 1.1</u> <u>Certain Definitions</u>	<u>A-2</u>
<u>ARTICLE II. THE MERGER; EFFECTS OF THE MERGER</u>	<u>A-9</u>
<u>Section 2.1</u> <u>The Merger</u>	<u>A-9</u>
<u>Section 2.2</u> <u>Closing</u>	<u>A-10</u>
<u>ARTICLE III. MERGER CONSIDERATION; EXCHANGE PROCEDURES</u>	<u>A-10</u>
<u>Section 3.1</u> <u>Merger Consideration</u>	<u>A-10</u>
<u>Section 3.2</u> <u>Rights As Unitholders; Unit Transfers</u>	<u>A-11</u>
<u>Section 3.3</u> <u>Exchange of Certificates</u>	<u>A-11</u>
<u>Section 3.4</u> <u>Anti-Dilution Provisions</u>	<u>A-14</u>
<u>Section 3.5</u> <u>Midstream LTIP Restricted Common Units and Phantom Units</u>	<u>A-14</u>
<u>Section 3.6</u> <u>Tax Characterization of Merger</u>	<u>A-15</u>
<u>ARTICLE IV. ACTIONS PENDING MERGER</u>	<u>A-15</u>
<u>Section 4.1</u> <u>Conduct of Business by Midstream</u>	<u>A-15</u>
<u>Section 4.2</u> <u>Conduct of Business by CEOP</u>	<u>A-17</u>
<u>ARTICLE V. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES</u>	<u>A-19</u>
<u>Section 5.1</u> <u>Representations and Warranties</u>	<u>A-19</u>
<u>ARTICLE VI. COVENANTS</u>	<u>A-24</u>
<u>Section 6.1</u> <u>Commercially Reasonable Efforts</u>	<u>A-24</u>
<u>Section 6.2</u> <u>Equityholder Approval</u>	<u>A-25</u>
<u>Section 6.3</u> <u>Agreement to Support</u>	<u>A-25</u>
<u>Section 6.4</u> <u>Registration Statement</u>	<u>A-25</u>
<u>Section 6.5</u> <u>Press Releases</u>	<u>A-26</u>
<u>Section 6.6</u> <u>Access; Information</u>	<u>A-26</u>
<u>Section 6.7</u> <u>Acquisition Proposals; Change in Recommendation</u>	<u>A-27</u>
<u>Section 6.8</u> <u>Affiliate Arrangements</u>	<u>A-28</u>
<u>Section 6.9</u> <u>Takeover Laws</u>	<u>A-29</u>
<u>Section 6.10</u> <u>No Rights Triggered</u>	<u>A-29</u>
<u>Section 6.11</u> <u>New CEOP Common Units Listed</u>	<u>A-29</u>
<u>Section 6.12</u> <u>Third Party Approvals</u>	<u>A-29</u>
<u>Section 6.13</u> <u>Indemnification; Directors' and Officers' Insurance</u>	<u>A-29</u>
<u>Section 6.14</u> <u>Notification of Certain Matters</u>	<u>A-32</u>
<u>Section 6.15</u> <u>Rule 16b-3</u>	<u>A-32</u>
<u>Section 6.16</u> <u>Distribution of Limited Liability Company Interest of Midstream GP</u>	<u>A-32</u>
<u>Section 6.17</u> <u>Contribution of Midstream Common Units to CGS GP</u>	<u>A-32</u>
<u>Section 6.18</u> <u>CEOP Preferred Unit Designation</u>	<u>A-32</u>
<u>Section 6.19</u> <u>Issuance of Additional Midstream Preferred Units; PIK Unit Election</u>	<u>A-32</u>
<u>Section 6.20</u> <u>CEOP Operating Surplus</u>	<u>A-32</u>
<u>Section 6.21</u> <u>CEOP Defeasance or Call For Redemption of Senior Notes Due 2018</u>	<u>A-33</u>
<u>Section 6.22</u> <u>Contribution to CMLP of Crestwood Operations</u>	<u>A-33</u>
<u>ARTICLE VII. CONDITIONS TO CONSUMMATION OF THE MERGER</u>	<u>A-33</u>
<u>Section 7.1</u> <u>Unitholder Vote</u>	<u>A-33</u>

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

<u>Section 7.2</u>	<u>Governmental Approvals</u>	<u>A-33</u>
<u>Section 7.3</u>	<u>No Actions</u>	<u>A-33</u>
<u>Section 7.4</u>	<u>Representations, Warranties and Covenants of CEQP and Equity GP</u>	<u>A-33</u>
<u>Section 7.5</u>	<u>Representations, Warranties and Covenants of Midstream and Midstream GP</u>	<u>A-34</u>
<u>Section 7.6</u>	<u>Effective Registration Statement</u>	<u>A-34</u>
<u>Section 7.7</u>	<u>Tax Opinion of CEQP's Counsel</u>	<u>A-34</u>
<u>Section 7.8</u>	<u>Tax Opinion of Midstream's Counsel</u>	<u>A-34</u>
<u>Section 7.9</u>	<u>NYSE Listing</u>	<u>A-35</u>
<u>Section 7.10</u>	<u>CEQP Preferred Unit Designation</u>	<u>A-35</u>
<u>Section 7.11</u>	<u>No Material Adverse Effect</u>	<u>A-35</u>
 <u>ARTICLE VIII. TERMINATION</u>		 <u>A-35</u>
<u>Section 8.1</u>	<u>Termination</u>	 <u>A-35</u>
<u>Section 8.2</u>	<u>Effect of Termination</u>	<u>A-36</u>
 <u>ARTICLE IX. MISCELLANEOUS</u>		 <u>A-36</u>
<u>Section 9.1</u>	<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	 <u>A-36</u>
<u>Section 9.2</u>	<u>Waiver; Amendment</u>	<u>A-37</u>
<u>Section 9.3</u>	<u>Counterparts</u>	<u>A-38</u>
<u>Section 9.4</u>	<u>Governing Law</u>	<u>A-38</u>
<u>Section 9.5</u>	<u>Confidentiality</u>	<u>A-38</u>
<u>Section 9.6</u>	<u>Notices</u>	<u>A-38</u>
<u>Section 9.7</u>	<u>Entire Understanding; No Third Party Beneficiaries</u>	<u>A-39</u>
<u>Section 9.8</u>	<u>Severability</u>	<u>A-39</u>
<u>Section 9.9</u>	<u>Headings</u>	<u>A-39</u>
<u>Section 9.10</u>	<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>A-39</u>
<u>Section 9.11</u>	<u>Waiver of Jury Trial</u>	<u>A-39</u>
<u>Section 9.12</u>	<u>Specific Performance</u>	<u>A-39</u>
<u>Section 9.13</u>	<u>Survival</u>	<u>A-39</u>

Table of Contents

ANNEXES

Annex A	Form of CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment
Annex B	Form of Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Crestwood Midstream Partners LP

A-iii

Table of Contents

AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER

This AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER, dated as of May 5, 2015 (this "Agreement"), is entered into by and among Crestwood Equity Partners LP, a Delaware limited partnership ("CEQP"), Crestwood Equity GP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and the general partner of CEQP ("Equity GP"), CEQP ST SUB LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and a wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP ("MergerCo"), MGP GP, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP ("MGP GP"), Crestwood Midstream Holdings LP, a Delaware limited partnership ("Midstream Holdings"), Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, a Delaware limited partnership ("Midstream"), Crestwood Midstream GP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and the general partner of Midstream ("Midstream GP"), and Crestwood Gas Services GP, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and wholly-owned subsidiary of Midstream GP ("CGS GP"). CEQP, Equity GP, MergerCo, MGP GP, Midstream Holdings, Midstream, Midstream GP and CGS GP are referred to herein individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties."

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to combine their businesses on the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement;

WHEREAS, prior to the execution and delivery of this Agreement, the Midstream Conflicts Committee (as defined herein) and the CEQP Conflicts Committee (as defined herein) determined that the Merger as defined below is fair and reasonable to, and in the best interests of Midstream and the Midstream Unaffiliated Unitholders (as defined herein) and CEQP and the CEQP Unaffiliated Unitholders (as defined herein), respectively, and have each recommended approval of the Merger by the Midstream GP Board and the Equity GP Board, respectively;

WHEREAS, following such approvals and recommendations by the Midstream Conflicts Committee and CEQP Conflicts Committee and prior to the execution and delivery of this Agreement, the Midstream GP Board (as defined herein) and the Equity GP Board (as defined herein) determined that the Merger and related transactions provided for herein are fair and reasonable to, and in the best interests of, Midstream and its limited partners, and CEQP and its limited partners, respectively, and authorized the execution and delivery of this Agreement;

WHEREAS, CEQP and CGS GP desires, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, to vote all of its Midstream Common Units in favor of the Merger and the approval and adoption of this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby; and

WHEREAS, contemporaneously with the execution and delivery of this Agreement and as a condition to the willingness of the Parties to enter into this Agreement, certain holders of Midstream Common Units (as defined herein) have entered into support agreements (each such agreement a "Support Agreement") in connection with the Merger with respect to, among other things, their agreement to the exchange of CEQP Preferred Units for Midstream Preferred Units and the voting their Midstream Common Units in favor of the Merger and the approval and adoption of this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby;

WHEREAS, contemporaneously with the execution and delivery of this Agreement and as a condition to the willingness of the Parties to enter into this Agreement, the holders of Midstream Preferred Units have advised the Parties in writing that, subject to the conditions set forth therein, they currently intend to support the Merger and the transactions contemplated hereby and, if the merger is approved, to exchange their Midstream Preferred Units for CEQP Preferred Units as contemplated herein;

WHEREAS, immediately following the Effective Time of the Merger, CEQP will contribute 100% of the equity interests of Crestwood Operations LLC, a Delaware limited liability company

Table of Contents

("Crestwood Operations"), to Midstream in exchange for additional limited partner interests in Midstream, such that following the Merger and the related transactions provided for herein, Midstream GP will be a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of CEQP and continue to be the sole general partner of Midstream, and CEQP and CGS GP will own a 99.9% limited partner interest and a 0.1% limited partner interest, respectively, in Midstream, as the Surviving Entity; and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to make certain representations, warranties and agreements in connection with the Merger and also to prescribe various conditions to the Merger;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the respective representations, warranties, covenants, agreements and conditions contained herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I.
CERTAIN DEFINITIONS**

Section 1.1 *Certain Definitions.* As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

"Acquisition Proposal" shall mean any proposal or offer from or by any Person other than CEQP, Equity GP, and MergerCo relating to (i) any direct or indirect acquisition of (A) more than 20% of the assets of Midstream and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, (B) more than 20% of the outstanding equity securities of Midstream or (C) a business or businesses that constitute more than 20% of the cash flow, net revenues, net income or assets of Midstream and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole; (ii) any tender offer or exchange offer, as defined pursuant to the Exchange Act, that, if consummated, would result in any Person beneficially owning more than 20% of the outstanding equity securities of Midstream; or (iii) any merger, consolidation, share exchange, business combination, recapitalization, liquidation, dissolution or similar transaction involving Midstream, other than the Merger.

"Action" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.13(a)*.

"Affiliate" shall have the meaning set forth in Rule 405 of the Securities Act, unless otherwise expressly stated herein.

"Agreement" shall have the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph to this Agreement and Plan of Merger.

"Amendment No. 3" shall mean Amendment No. 3 to the Midstream Partnership Agreement, dated as of June 17, 2014.

"Book-Entry Units" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 3.1(d)*.

"Business Day" shall mean any day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which banks are authorized or required to be closed in the City of New York.

"CEQP" shall have the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph to this Agreement.

"CEQP Acquisition Proposal" shall mean any proposal or offer from or by any Person other than Midstream and its Subsidiaries relating to (i) any direct or indirect acquisition of (A) more than 35% of the assets of CEQP and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, (B) more than 35% of the outstanding equity securities of CEQP or (C) a business or businesses that constitute more than 50% of the cash flow, net revenues, net income or assets of CEQP and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole; (ii) any tender offer or exchange offer, as defined pursuant to the Exchange Act, that, if consummated, would result in any Person beneficially owning more than 50% of the outstanding equity securities of CEQP; or (iii) any merger, consolidation, share exchange, business combination, recapitalization, liquidation, dissolution or similar transaction involving CEQP other than the Merger.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

"CEQP Certificate of Limited Partnership" shall mean the Certificate of Limited Partnership of Inergy, L/P. dated March 7, 2001, as modified by the Certificate of Correction of Certificate of Limited Partnership of Inergy, L.P. dated March 4, 2003, as amended by the Amendment to Certificate of Limited Partnership of Crestwood Equity Partners LP (f/k/a Inergy, L.P.) dated as of October 7, 2013, as amended from time to time.

"CEQP Class A Units" shall mean the units representing limited partner interests in CEQP having the rights and obligations specified with respect to Class A Units in the CEQP Partnership Agreement.

"CEQP Common Units" shall mean the common units representing limited partner interests in CEQP having the rights and obligations specified with respect to Common Units in the CEQP Partnership Agreement.

"CEQP Conflicts Committee" shall mean the Conflicts Committee of the Board of Directors of Equity GP, consisting (as of the date hereof) of Randy Moeder and John Somerhalder.

"CEQP Disclosure Letter" means the disclosure letter delivered by CEQP to Midstream prior to the execution of this Agreement setting forth, among other things, items the disclosure of which is necessary or appropriate in relation to any or all provisions of this Agreement; provided that (i) disclosure in any section of such CEQP Disclosure Letter shall be deemed to be disclosed with respect to any other section of this Agreement to the extent that it is reasonably apparent on the face of such disclosure that it is applicable to such other section notwithstanding the omission of a reference or cross reference thereto and (ii) the mere inclusion of an item in such CEQP Disclosure Letter as an exception to a representation or warranty shall not be deemed an admission that such item represents a material exception or material fact, event or circumstance or that such item has had, would have or would reasonably be expected to have, an Material Adverse Effect.

"CEQP LTIP" shall mean the Crestwood Equity Partners LP Long Term Incentive Plan (formerly the Inergy Long Term Incentive Plan) as Amended and Restated effective February 11, 2010.

"CEQP Partnership Agreement" shall mean the Fifth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of CEQP, dated as of January 1, 2013, as amended from time to time.

"CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment" shall mean the First Amendment to Fifth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of CEQP in the form attached hereto as Annex A as adopted by the Equity GP Board as set forth in *Section 6.18*.

"CEQP Phantom Units" shall mean CEQP Phantom Units as defined in and awarded under Section 5 of the CEQP LTIP.

"CEQP Preferred Units" shall mean the preferred units representing limited partner interests in CEQP having the rights and obligations specified with respect to Preferred Units in the CEQP Partnership Agreement, including the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment.

"CEQP Restricted Common Unit" shall mean a Restricted Common Unit as defined in, and awarded under *Section 6.1* of the CEQP LTIP.

"CEQP Subordinated Unit" shall mean a Subordinated Unit as defined in the CEQP Partnership Agreement.

"CEQP Unaffiliated Unitholders" shall mean the holders of CEQP Common Units other than Equity GP and its Affiliates, officers and directors.

"Certificate" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 3.1(d)*.

"Certificate of Merger" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 2.1(b)*.

"CGS GP" shall have the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph to this Agreement.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

"Claim" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.13(a)*.

"Class A Purchase Agreement" shall mean the Class A Preferred Unit Purchase Agreement, dated as of June 17, 2014, among Midstream and the Purchasers party thereto.

"Closing" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 2.2*.

"Closing Date" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 2.2*.

"Code" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

"Common Merger Consideration" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 3.1(b)*.

"Compensation and Benefit Plans" shall mean all material bonus, vacation, deferred compensation, pension, retirement, profit-sharing, thrift, savings, employee unit ownership, unit bonus, unit purchase, restricted unit and unit option plans, all employment or severance contracts, all medical, dental, disability, health and life insurance plans, all other employee benefit and fringe benefit plans, contracts or arrangements and any applicable "change of control" or similar provisions in any plan, contract or arrangement maintained or contributed to for the benefit of officers, former officers, employees, former employees, directors, former directors, or the beneficiaries of any of the foregoing, including all "employee benefit plans" as defined in ERISA Section 3(3).

"Confidentiality Agreement" shall mean a confidentiality agreement of the nature generally used in similar circumstances, as determined by Midstream in its reasonable business judgment; *provided, however*, that such Confidentiality Agreement shall (i) have a term of not less than one year and (ii) provide that CEQP is a third party beneficiary with respect to any breach thereof; *provided further*, that Midstream may amend or waive the terms of such Confidentiality Agreement in its discretion, except that CEQP shall have the right to approve or consent to any amendment or waiver of (a) the one-year term of the Confidentiality Agreement or (b) of CEQP's ability to enforce its rights as a third party beneficiary to such Confidentiality Agreement.

"Crestwood Operations" shall have the meaning assigned to such term in the recitals.

"DLLCA" shall mean the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act, 6 Del.C. §18-101 et seq.

"DRULPA" shall mean the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act, 6 Del.C. §17-101 et seq.

"Effective Time" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 2.1(b)*.

"Equity GP" shall have the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph to this Agreement.

"Equity GP Board" shall mean the board of directors of Equity GP.

"Equity GP Interest" shall mean the non-economic (0.0%) general partner interest of Equity GP in CEQP.

"ERISA" shall mean the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

"Exchange Act" shall mean the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder.

"Exchange Agent" shall mean such entity as may be selected by CEQP subject to the reasonable approval of Midstream.

"Exchange Fund" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 3.3(a)*.

"Existing Confidentiality Agreement" shall mean that certain Confidentiality Agreement, dated April 22, 2015 between CEQP and Midstream.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

"Existing Units" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 5.1(b)*. In the event of a unit split, unit distribution, or any change in the Midstream Common Units by reason of any split-up, reverse unit split, recapitalization, combination, reclassification, exchange of units or the like, the term "Existing Units" shall be deemed to refer to and include such units as well as all such unit distributions and any securities into which or for which any or all of such units may be changed or exchanged or which are received in such transaction.

"Expenses" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 9.1(f)*.

"Full Funding Date" shall have the meaning assigned to such term in Amendment No. 3.

"Governmental Authority" shall mean any national, state, local, county, parish or municipal government, domestic or foreign, any agency, board, bureau, commission, court, tribunal, subdivision, department or other governmental or regulatory authority or instrumentality, or any arbitrator in any case that has jurisdiction over Midstream or CEQP, as the case may be, or any of their respective properties or assets.

"Incentive Distribution Rights" shall have the meaning set forth in the Midstream Partnership Agreement.

"Indemnification Expenses" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.13(a)*.

"Indemnified Parties" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.13(a)*.

"Indemnitees" shall have the meaning set forth in the Midstream Partnership Agreement and, as the context requires, persons entitled to indemnification under the Midstream GP LLC Agreement.

"Law" shall mean any law (including common law), rule, regulation, directive, ordinance, code, governmental determination, guideline, judgment, order, treaty, convention, governmental certification requirement or other legally enforceable requirement, U.S. or non-U.S., of any Governmental Authority.

"Lien" shall mean any charge, mortgage, pledge, security interest, restriction, claim, lien, or encumbrance.

"Material Adverse Effect" shall mean, with respect to either Midstream or CEQP, any effect that (x) is or would reasonably be expected to be material and adverse to the financial position, results of operations, business or assets of Midstream and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole, or CEQP and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole, respectively, or (y) materially impairs or would reasonably be expected to materially impair the ability of Midstream or CEQP, respectively, to perform its obligations under this Agreement or otherwise materially threaten or materially impede the consummation of the Merger and the other transactions contemplated by this Agreement; *provided, however*, that Material Adverse Effect shall not be deemed to include any of the following or the impact thereof: (a) circumstances affecting the natural gas production, processing, gathering, transportation, pipeline compression and natural gas marketing industries generally (including the price of natural gas or natural gas liquids and the costs associated with its production, processing, gathering, compression or marketing), or in any region in which Midstream or CEQP, respectively, operates, (b) any general market, economic, financial or political conditions, or outbreak or hostilities or war, in the United States or elsewhere, (c) changes in Law, (d) earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, or other natural disasters, (e) any failure of Midstream or CEQP to meet any internal or external projections, forecasts or estimates of revenue or earnings for any period, (f) changes in the market price or trading volume of Midstream Common Units or CEQP Common Units, (g) the announcement or pendency of this Agreement or the matters contemplated thereby or the compliance by any party with the provisions of this Agreement, or (h) with respect to CEQP only, any effect to the extent resulting from a fact, event or circumstance that has a Material Adverse Effect with respect to Midstream under clause (x) of this definition; provided, that, in the case

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

of clauses (a), (b), or (c), the impact on Midstream or CEQP is not disproportionately adverse as compared to others in the industry.

"Meeting" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.2(a)*.

"Merger" shall mean the merger of MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings with and into Midstream, with Midstream being the Surviving Entity.

"Merger Consideration" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 3.1(c)*.

"MergerCo" shall have the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph in this Agreement.

"MergerCo Certificate of Formation" shall mean the certificate of formation of MergerCo as filed with the Delaware Secretary of State on May 1, 2015, as amended from time to time.

"MergerCo LLC Agreement" shall mean the Limited Liability Company Agreement of MergerCo dated May 5, 2015, as amended from time to time.

"Merger Transactions" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 5.1(l)*.

"MGP GP" shall have the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph of this Agreement.

"MGP GP Certificate of Formation" shall mean the Certificate of Formation of MGP GP dated November 14, 2011, as amended from time to time.

"MGP GP LLC Agreement" shall mean the Limited Liability Company Agreement of MGP GP dated November 14, 2011, as amended from time to time.

"Midstream" shall have the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph of this Agreement.

"Midstream Certificate of Limited Partnership" shall mean the Certificate of Limited Partnership of Inergy Midstream, L.P. dated November 14, 2011, as amended by the Amendment to Certificate of Limited Partnership of Crestwood Midstream Partners LP (f/k/a Inergy Midstream, L.P.) dated October 7, 2013, as amended from time to time.

"Midstream Change in Recommendation" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.7(c)*.

"Midstream Common Units" shall mean the units representing common limited partner interests in Midstream having the rights and obligations specified with respect to Common Units in the Midstream Partnership Agreement.

"Midstream Compensation Committee" shall mean the Compensation Committee of the Midstream GP Board, consisting (as of the date hereof) of David Wood and Warren Gfeller.

"Midstream Conflicts Committee" shall mean the Conflicts Committee of the Midstream GP Board, consisting (as of the date hereof) of Philip Gettig and David Lumpkins.

"Midstream Disclosure Letter" means the disclosure letter delivered by Midstream to CEQP prior to the execution of this Agreement setting forth, among other things, items the disclosure of which is necessary or appropriate in relation to any or all provisions of this Agreement; provided that (i) disclosure in any section of such Midstream Disclosure Letter shall be deemed to be disclosed with respect to any other section of this Agreement to the extent that it is reasonably apparent on the face of such disclosure that it is applicable to such other section notwithstanding the omission of a reference or cross reference thereto and (ii) the mere inclusion of an item in such Midstream Disclosure Letter as an exception to a representation or warranty shall not be deemed an admission that such item represents a material exception or material fact, event or circumstance or that such item has had, would have or would reasonably be expected to have, an Material Adverse Effect.

"Midstream Escrow Agent" shall mean an escrow agent as appointed by Midstream and CEQP, in their reasonable discretion, for the benefit of Midstream for certain payments under Article IX.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

"Midstream GP" shall have the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph to this Agreement.

"Midstream GP Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of Midstream GP and/or a committee thereof, as applicable.

"Midstream GP Certificate of Formation" shall mean the Certificate of Formation of NRGM GP, LLC dated November 14, 2011, as amended by the Certificate of Amendment of Crestwood Midstream GP LLC dated October 7, 2013, as amended from time to time.

"Midstream GP LLC Agreement" shall mean the Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of NRGM GP, LLC, dated December 21, 2011, as amended by Amendment No. 1 to the Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of Crestwood Midstream GP LLC dated October 7, 2013, as amended from time to time.

"Midstream Holdings" shall have the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph of this Agreement.

"Midstream Holdings Certificate of Limited Partnership" shall mean the Certificate of Limited Partnership of Crestwood Midstream Holdings LP dated November 14, 2011, as amended from time to time.

"Midstream Holdings Partnership Agreement" shall mean the Agreement of Limited Partnership of Inergy Midstream Holdings, L.P. dated November 14, 2011, as amended from time to time.

"Midstream LTIP" shall mean the Crestwood Midstream Partners LP Long Term Incentive Plan (formerly the Inergy Midstream, L.P. Long Term Incentive Plan), effective December 21, 2011.

"Midstream Partnership Agreement" shall mean the First Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Midstream, dated as of December 21, 2011, as amended by Amendment No. 1 thereto, dated September 27, 2013, as further amended by Amendment No. 2 thereto, dated as of October 7, 2013, as further amended by Amendment No. 3 thereto, dated as of June 17, 2014, and as it may be further amended from time to time.

"Midstream Phantom Units" means Midstream Phantom Units as defined in and awarded under Section 5 of the Midstream LTIP.

"Midstream PIK Units" means Midstream Preferred Units issued as PIK Units (as such term is defined in Amendment No. 3) pursuant to the terms of the Midstream Partnership Agreement.

"Midstream Preferred Units" shall mean the units representing preferred limited partner interests in Midstream having the rights and obligations specified with respect to Class A Preferred Units in the Midstream Partnership Agreement.

"Midstream Recommendation" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.2(b)*.

"Midstream Restricted Common Unit" shall mean a Restricted Common Unit as defined in, and awarded under Section 6.1 of the Midstream LTIP.

"Midstream Unaffiliated Unitholders" means the holders of Midstream Common Units and Midstream Preferred Units other than (i) CEQP and Affiliates of CEQP and (ii) the officers and directors of Midstream GP that are also officers or directors of Equity GP or Affiliates of such officers and directors.

"Midstream Unitholder Approval" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 7.1*.

"Midstream Units" shall mean the Midstream Common Units and the Midstream Preferred Units.

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

"New CEQP Common Unit Issuance" shall mean the issuance of the New CEQP Common Units as part of the Merger Consideration pursuant to this Agreement.

"New CEQP Common Units" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 3.1(b)*.

"New CEQP Preferred Unit Issuance" shall mean the issuance of the New CEQP Preferred Units as part of the Merger Consideration pursuant to this Agreement.

"New CEQP Preferred Units" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 3.1(c)*.

"New CEQP Units" shall mean the New CEQP Common Units and the New CEQP Preferred Units.

"Notice of Proposed Recommendation Change" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.7(c)*.

"Party" and "Parties" shall have the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph to this Agreement.

"Person" or "person" shall mean any individual, bank, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint-stock company, business trust, unincorporated organization or "group" (as defined in Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act).

"Preferred Merger Consideration" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 3.1(c)*.

"Proxy Statement" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.4(a)*.

"Purchasers" shall have the meaning assigned to such term in the Class A Purchase Agreement.

"Receiving Party" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.7(a)*.

"Registration Statement" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.4(a)*.

"Regulatory Authorities" shall mean any federal or state Governmental Authority.

"Representatives" shall mean with respect to a Person, its directors, officers, employees, agents and representatives, including any investment banker, financial advisor, attorney, accountant or other advisor, agent or representative.

"Rights" shall mean, with respect to any person, securities or obligations convertible into or exchangeable for, or giving any person any right to subscribe for or acquire, or any options, calls or commitments relating to, equity securities of such person.

"Rule 145 Affiliate" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 6.8(a)*.

"SEC" shall mean the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"SEC Documents" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 5.1(g)*.

"Securities Act" shall mean the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder.

"Subsidiary" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Rule 1-02 of Regulation S-X under the Securities Act, except that, (i) in the case of CEQP, none of Midstream GP, Midstream and their respective Subsidiaries shall be deemed to be Subsidiaries of CEQP (unless otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement) and (ii) with respect to Article IV and Article V, in the case of Midstream shall exclude the Unrestricted Subsidiaries.

"Superior Proposal" shall mean any bona fide Acquisition Proposal (except that references to 20% within the definition of "Acquisition Proposal" shall be replaced by "35%") made by a third party on terms that the Midstream Conflicts Committee determines, in its good faith judgment and after consulting with its financial advisor(s) and outside legal counsel, and taking into account the financial,

Table of Contents

legal, regulatory and other aspects of the Acquisition Proposal (including, without limitation, any conditions to and the expected timing of consummation and any risks of non-consummation), to be more favorable to the holders of both the Midstream Common Units and the Midstream Preferred Units, provided, that, to the extent any Acquisition Proposal includes a CEQP Acquisition Proposal, it shall not be a Superior Proposal without the consent of the CEQP Conflicts Committee.

"Surviving Entity" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 2.1(a)*.

"Takeover Law" shall mean any "fair price," "moratorium," "control share acquisition," "business combination" or any other anti-takeover statute or similar statute enacted under state or federal law.

"Taxes" shall mean all taxes, charges, fees, levies or other assessments, including, without limitation, all net income, gross income, gross receipts, sales, use, ad valorem, goods and services, capital, transfer, franchise, profits, license, withholding, payroll, employment, employer health, excise, estimated, severance, stamp, occupation, property or other taxes, custom duties, fees, assessments or charges of any kind whatsoever, together with any interest and any penalties, additions to tax or additional amounts imposed by any taxing authority, whether disputed or not.

"Tax Law" shall mean any Law relating to Taxes.

"Tax Returns" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 5.1(i)*.

"Termination Date" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 8.1(b)*.

"TPH" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 5.1(n)*.

"Transfer" means, directly or indirectly, to sell, transfer, assign, pledge, encumber, hypothecate or similarly dispose of (by merger (including by conversion into securities or other consideration), by tendering into any tender or exchange offer, by operation of law or otherwise), either voluntarily or involuntarily, or to enter into any contract, option or other arrangement or understanding with respect to the voting of or sale, transfer, assignment, pledge, encumbrance, hypothecation or similar disposition of (by merger, by tendering into any tender or exchange offer, by operation of law or otherwise).

"Unaffiliated Midstream Common Unitholders" shall have the meaning set forth in *Section 5.1(n)*.

"Unrestricted Subsidiaries" shall mean Tres Palacios Holdings LLC, Powder River Basin Industrial Complex, LLC, Crestwood Niobrara LLC and their respective Subsidiaries.

**ARTICLE II.
THE MERGER; EFFECTS OF THE MERGER**

Section 2.1 *The Merger.*

(a) *The Surviving Entity.* Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, at the Effective Time, MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings shall merge with and into Midstream, the separate existence of MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings shall cease and Midstream shall survive and continue to exist as a Delaware limited partnership (Midstream, as the surviving entity in the Merger, sometimes being referred to herein as the "Surviving Entity").

(b) *Effectiveness and Effects of the Merger.* Subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions set forth in Article VII in accordance with this Agreement, the Merger shall become effective upon the later to occur of the filing in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware of a properly executed certificate of merger (the "Certificate of Merger") or such later date and time as may be set forth in the Certificate of Merger (the "Effective Time"), in accordance with the DRULPA and the DLLCA. The Merger shall have the effects prescribed in the DRULPA and the DLLCA.

Table of Contents

(c) *Midstream, MGP GP, Midstream Holdings and MergerCo Governing Documents.* At the Effective Time, the MergerCo Certificate of Formation, MGP GP Certificate of Formation and Midstream Holdings Certificate of Limited Partnership shall each be cancelled and the Midstream Certificate of Limited Partnership shall be the certificate of limited partnership of the Surviving Entity, until duly amended in accordance with applicable Law. At the Effective Time, the Midstream Partnership Agreement shall be amended and restated in the form attached hereto as Annex B, and shall be the limited partnership agreement of the Surviving Entity until duly amended in accordance with the terms thereof and applicable Law.

Section 2.2 *Closing.* Subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions as set forth in Article VII in accordance with this Agreement, the Merger and the other transactions contemplated hereby (the "Closing") shall occur on (a) the third Business Day after the day on which the last of the conditions set forth in Article VII shall have been satisfied or waived in accordance with the terms of this Agreement or (b) such other date to which the parties may agree in writing. The date on which the Closing occurs is referred to as the "Closing Date." The Closing of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement shall take place at the offices of Andrews Kurth LLP, 600 Travis Street, Suite 4200, Houston, Texas at 9:00 a.m. Central Time on the Closing Date.

**ARTICLE III.
MERGER CONSIDERATION; EXCHANGE PROCEDURES**

Section 3.1 *Merger Consideration.* Subject to the provisions of this Agreement, at the Effective Time, by virtue of the Merger and without any action on the part of CEQP, MGP GP, MergerCo, Midstream Holdings, Midstream, Midstream GP, any holder of Midstream Preferred Units or any holder of Midstream Common Units:

(a) The general partner interest in Midstream Holdings, the limited partner interest in Midstream Holdings, the limited liability company interests in MGP GP and the Incentive Distribution Rights issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time shall be cancelled and cease to exist.

(b) Each Midstream Common Unit issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time (other than Midstream Common Units held by CEQP, CGS GP or their respective Subsidiaries, if any) shall be converted into the right to receive 2.7500 CEQP Common Units (the "Common Merger Consideration"), which CEQP Common Units shall be duly authorized and validly issued in accordance with applicable Laws and the CEQP Partnership Agreement, fully paid (to the extent required under the CEQP Partnership Agreement) and non-assessable (except to the extent such non-assessability may be affected by Sections 17-303, 17-607 and 17-804 of the DRULPA) (such CEQP Common Units described in this clause (b) shall be referred to herein as the "New CEQP Common Units"). All of the Midstream Common Units issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time held by CEQP and its Subsidiaries (including CGS GP) shall remain outstanding in the Surviving Entity as set forth in the Midstream Partnership Agreement, and CEQP and CGS GP shall continue as a limited partners of the Surviving Entity, and no consideration shall be delivered to CEQP and CGS GP in respect thereof.

(c) Each Midstream Preferred Unit issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time (other than Midstream Preferred Units held by CEQP or its Subsidiaries, if any) shall be converted into the right to receive 2.7500 CEQP Preferred Units (the "Preferred Merger Consideration," and together with the Common Merger Consideration, the "Merger Consideration"), which CEQP Preferred Units shall be duly authorized and validly issued in accordance with applicable Laws and the CEQP Partnership Agreement, fully paid (to the extent required under the CEQP Partnership Agreement) and non-assessable (except to the extent such non-assessability may be affected by Sections 17-303, 17-607 and 17-804 of the DRULPA) (such

Table of Contents

CEQP Preferred Units described in this clause (c) shall be referred to herein as the "New CEQP Preferred Units"). In addition, if the Effective Time occurs after the end of a calendar quarter but before Midstream has paid distributions with respect to such calendar quarter with respect to the Midstream Preferred Units, then (i) such distributions with respect to the Midstream Preferred Units for such calendar quarter shall be treated as having been paid in Midstream PIK Units immediately prior to the Effective Time, (ii) such Midstream PIK Units shall be treated as if they were a Midstream Preferred Unit issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time (other than Midstream Preferred Units held by CEQP or its Subsidiaries, if any), (iii) each such Midstream PIK Unit shall at the Effective Time be converted into the right to receive the Preferred Merger Consideration, and (iv) such distributions with respect to the Midstream Preferred Units for such calendar quarter shall be deemed satisfied in all respects as a result of the treatment specified in this sentence.

(d) All Midstream Common Units and Midstream Preferred Units, when converted in the Merger, shall cease to be outstanding and shall automatically be cancelled and cease to exist. At the Effective Time, each holder of a certificate representing Midstream Units (each a "Certificate") and each holder of non-certificated Midstream Units represented by book-entry ("Book-Entry Units") shall cease to have any rights with respect thereto, except (A) the right to receive distributions in accordance with *Section 3.2*, and (B) the right to receive (i) the applicable Merger Consideration (or, in the case of Midstream Common Units held by CEQP, CGS GP or their respective Subsidiaries, if any, Surviving Entity Common Units as provided herein), (ii) any cash to be paid in lieu of any fractional New CEQP Common Unit or New CEQP Preferred Unit in accordance with *Section 3.3(e)* and (iii) any distributions in accordance with *Section 3.3(c)*, and in each case to be issued or paid in consideration therefor in accordance with *Section 3.3*.

Section 3.2 Rights As Unitholders; Unit Transfers. At the Effective Time, holders of Midstream Common Units (other than Midstream Common Units held by CEQP, CGS GP or their respective Subsidiaries, if any) and Midstream Preferred Units shall cease to be, and shall have no rights as, limited partners of Midstream, other than to receive (a) any distribution with respect to such Midstream Units, as applicable, with a record date occurring prior to the Effective Time that may have been declared by Midstream on such Midstream Units in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and the Midstream Partnership Agreement and which remains unpaid at the Effective Time and (b) the consideration provided under this Article III. After the Effective Time, there shall be no transfers on the unit transfer books of Midstream with respect to the Midstream Units.

Section 3.3 Exchange of Certificates.

(a) *Exchange Agent.* Promptly after the Effective Time (and in any event within two Business Days thereafter) CEQP shall deposit or shall cause to be deposited with the Exchange Agent for the benefit of the holders of Midstream Common Units and Midstream Preferred Units, for exchange in accordance with this Article III, through the Exchange Agent, the New CEQP Common Units, New CEQP Preferred Units and cash as required by this Article III. CEQP agrees to make available to the Exchange Agent, from time to time after the Effective Time as needed, cash sufficient to pay any distributions pursuant to *Section 3.3(c)* and to make payments in lieu of any fractional New CEQP Common Units and New CEQP Preferred Units pursuant to *Section 3.3(e)*. Any cash, New CEQP Common Units and New CEQP Preferred Units deposited with the Exchange Agent (including as payment for any fractional New CEQP Units in accordance with *Section 3.3(e)* and any distributions in accordance with *Section 3.3(c)*) shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Exchange Fund." The Exchange Agent shall, pursuant to irrevocable instructions, deliver the Merger Consideration contemplated to be paid for Midstream Common Units (other than those held by CEQP, CGS GP or their respective Subsidiaries, if any) and Midstream Preferred Units pursuant to this Agreement out of the Exchange Fund. Except as

Table of Contents

contemplated by *Section 3.3(c)* and *3.3(e)*, the Exchange Fund shall not be used for any other purpose.

(b) *Exchange Procedures.* Promptly after the Effective Time, CEQP shall instruct the Exchange Agent to mail to each record holder of Midstream Common Units (other than CEQP, CGS GP or their respective Subsidiaries, if any) and Midstream Preferred Units (i) a letter of transmittal (which shall specify that in respect of certificated units, delivery shall be effected, and risk of loss and title to the Certificates shall pass, only upon proper delivery of the Certificates to the Exchange Agent, and shall be in customary form and agreed to by CEQP and Midstream prior to the Effective Time) and (ii) instructions for use in effecting the surrender of the Certificates or Book-Entry Units in exchange for the Merger Consideration payable in respect of the Midstream Common Units (other than those held by CEQP, CGS GP or their respective Subsidiaries, if any) or Midstream Preferred Units represented by such Certificates or Book-Entry Units. Promptly after the Effective Time, upon surrender of Certificates, if any, for cancellation to the Exchange Agent together with such letters of transmittal, properly completed and duly executed, and such other documents (including in respect of Book-Entry Units) as may be required pursuant to such instructions, the holders of Midstream Common Units (other than CEQP, CGS GP or their respective Subsidiaries, if any) and Midstream Preferred Units shall be entitled to receive in exchange therefor (A) New CEQP Units, as applicable, representing, in the aggregate, the whole number of New CEQP Units that such holder has the right to receive pursuant to this Article III (after taking into account all Midstream Units then held by such holder) and (B) a check in the amount equal to the aggregate amount of cash that such holder has the right to receive pursuant to this Article III, including distributions pursuant to *Section 3.3(c)* and cash payable in lieu of any fractional New CEQP Units pursuant to *Section 3.3(e)*. No interest shall be paid or accrued on any Merger Consideration or on any unpaid distributions payable to holders of Certificates or Book-Entry Units. In the event of a transfer of ownership of Midstream Units that is not registered in the transfer records of Midstream, the Merger Consideration payable in respect of such Midstream Units may be paid to a transferee, if the Certificate representing such Midstream Units or evidence of ownership of the Book-Entry Units are presented to the Exchange Agent, and in the case of both certificated and book-entry Midstream Units, accompanied by all documents required to evidence and effect such transfer and the Person requesting such exchange shall pay to the Exchange Agent in advance any transfer or other Taxes required by reason of the delivery of the Merger Consideration in any name other than that of the record holder of such Midstream Units, or shall establish to the satisfaction of the Exchange Agent that such Taxes have been paid or are not payable. Until the required documentation has been delivered and Certificates, if any, have been surrendered, as contemplated by this *Section 3.3*, each Certificate or Book-Entry Unit shall be deemed at any time after the Effective Time to represent only the right to receive upon such surrender the Merger Consideration payable in respect of the Midstream Units (including any cash in lieu of fractional units pursuant to *Section 3.3(e)*) and any distributions to which such holder is entitled pursuant to *Section 3.3(c)*.

(c) *Distributions with Respect to Unexchanged Midstream Common Units and Midstream Preferred Units.* No distributions declared or made with respect to CEQP Common Units or CEQP Preferred Units with a record date after the Effective Time shall be paid to (i) the holder of any Midstream Units with respect to the New CEQP Units that such holder would be entitled to receive in accordance herewith and no cash payment in lieu of fractional New CEQP Units shall be paid to any such holder until such holder shall deliver the required documentation and surrender any Certificate as contemplated by this *Section 3.3* or (ii) CEQP, CGS GP or their respective Subsidiaries, if any, in respect of Midstream Common Units held immediately prior to the Effective Time. Subject to applicable Law, following compliance with the requirements of *Section 3.3(b)*, there shall be paid to such holder of the New CEQP Units issuable in exchange therefor, without interest, (i) promptly after the time of such compliance, the amount of any cash

Table of Contents

payable in lieu of fractional New CEQP Units to which such holder is entitled pursuant to *Section 3.3(e)* and the amount of distributions with a record date after the Effective Time theretofore paid with respect to the New CEQP Units and payable with respect to such New CEQP Units, and (ii) at the appropriate payment date, the amount of distributions with a record date after the Effective Time but prior to such surrender and a payment date subsequent to such compliance payable with respect to such New CEQP Units; *provided, however*, in no event will any such distribution be paid in respect of Surviving Entity Common Units.

(d) *Further Rights in Midstream Common Units and Midstream Preferred Units.* Except for Surviving Entity Common Units issued at the Effective Time upon conversion of Midstream Common Units held by CEQP, CGS GP or their respective Subsidiaries, the Merger Consideration issued upon conversion of a Midstream Common Unit or Midstream Preferred Unit in accordance with the terms hereof and any cash paid pursuant to *Section 3.2*, *Section 3.3(c)* or *Section 3.3(e)* shall be deemed to have been issued and paid in full satisfaction of all rights pertaining to such Midstream Common Unit or Midstream Preferred Unit.

(e) *Fractional CEQP Common Units and CEQP Preferred Units.* No certificates or scrip of the New CEQP Units representing fractional New CEQP Units or book entry credit of the same shall be issued upon the exchange of Midstream Units in accordance with *Section 3.3(b)*, and such fractional interests will not entitle the owner thereof to vote or to have any rights as a holder of any New CEQP Units. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, each holder of Midstream Common Units and Midstream Preferred Units exchanged in the Merger who would otherwise have been entitled to receive a fraction of a New CEQP Common Unit or New CEQP Preferred Unit (after taking into account all Midstream Units exchanged by such holder) shall receive, in lieu thereof, cash (without interest rounded up to the nearest whole cent) in an amount equal to, (A) with respect to a New CEQP Common Unit, the product of (i) the closing sale price of the CEQP Common Units on the NYSE as reported by The Wall Street Journal on the trading day immediately preceding the date on which the Effective Time shall occur and (ii) the fraction of a New CEQP Common Unit that such holder would otherwise be entitled to receive pursuant to this Article III, and (B) with respect to a New CEQP Preferred Unit, the product of (i) the closing sale price of the CEQP Common Units on the NYSE as reported by The Wall Street Journal on the trading day immediately preceding the date on which the Effective Time shall occur, (ii) the number of CEQP Common Units into which one New CEQP Preferred Unit would be convertible if the New CEQP Preferred Units were convertible as of the Effective Time at the Conversion Rate (as such term is defined in the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment), and (iii) the fraction of a New CEQP Preferred Unit that such holder would otherwise be entitled to receive pursuant to this Article III. As promptly as practicable after the determination of the amount of cash, if any, to be paid to holders of fractional interests, the Exchange Agent shall so notify CEQP, and CEQP shall, or shall cause the Surviving Entity to, deposit such amount with the Exchange Agent and shall cause the Exchange Agent to forward payments to such holders of fractional interests subject to and in accordance with the terms hereof.

(f) *Termination of Exchange Fund.* Any portion of the Exchange Fund constituting New CEQP Units or cash that remains undistributed to the holders of Midstream Units after 180 days following the Effective Time shall be delivered to CEQP upon demand and, from and after such delivery, any former holders of Midstream Units who have not theretofore complied with this Article III shall thereafter look only to CEQP for the Merger Consideration payable in respect of such Midstream Units, any cash in lieu of fractional New CEQP Units to which they are entitled pursuant to *Section 3.3(e)* and any distributions with respect to the New CEQP Units to which they are entitled pursuant to *Section 3.3(c)*, in each case, without any interest thereon. Any amounts remaining unclaimed by holders of Midstream Units immediately prior to such time as such amounts would otherwise escheat to or become the property of any Governmental Authority shall, to the extent permitted by applicable Law, become the property of CEQP, free and clear of any Liens, claims or interest of any Person previously entitled thereto.

Table of Contents

(g) *No Liability.* None of CEQP, Equity GP, Midstream, Midstream GP, or the Surviving Entity shall be liable to any holder of Midstream Units for any CEQP Common Units or CEQP Preferred Units (or distributions with respect thereto) or cash from the Exchange Fund delivered to a public official pursuant to any abandoned property, escheat or similar Law.

(h) *Lost Certificates.* If any Certificate shall have been lost, stolen or destroyed, upon the making of an affidavit of that fact by the Person claiming such Certificate to be lost, stolen or destroyed and, if required by CEQP, the posting by such Person of a bond, in such reasonable amount as CEQP may direct, as indemnity against any claim that may be made against it with respect to such Certificate, the Exchange Agent shall pay in exchange for such lost, stolen or destroyed Certificate the Merger Consideration payable in respect of the Midstream Units represented by such Certificate and any distributions to which the holders thereof are entitled pursuant to *Section 3.2*.

(i) *Withholding.* Each of CEQP, the Surviving Entity and the Exchange Agent shall be entitled to deduct and withhold from the consideration otherwise payable pursuant to this Agreement to any holder of Midstream Units such amounts as CEQP, the Surviving Entity or the Exchange Agent are required to deduct and withhold under the Code or any provision of state, local, or foreign Tax Law, with respect to the making of such payment; *provided, however,* that CEQP, the Surviving Entity or the Exchange Agent, as the case may be, shall provide reasonable notice to the applicable holders of Midstream Units prior to withholding any amounts pursuant to this *Section 3.3(i)*. To the extent that amounts are so deducted and withheld by CEQP, the Surviving Entity or the Exchange Agent, such amounts shall be treated for all purposes of this Agreement as having been paid to the holder of Midstream Units in respect of whom such deduction and withholding was made by CEQP, the Surviving Entity or the Exchange Agent, as the case may be.

(j) *Book Entry and Admission of Holders of New CEQP Common Units and New CEQP Preferred Units as Additional Limited Partners of CEQP.* Upon the issuance of New CEQP Common Units to the holders of Midstream Common Units or New CEQP Preferred Units to the holders of Midstream Preferred Units in accordance with this *Section 3.3* and the compliance by such holders with the requirements of Section 10.3 of the CEQP Partnership Agreement, Equity GP shall consent to the admission of such holders as limited partners of CEQP and reflect such admission on the books and records of CEQP.

Section 3.4 Anti-Dilution Provisions. In the event of any subdivisions, reclassifications, recapitalizations, splits, combinations or distributions in the form of equity interests with respect to the Midstream Common Units, the CEQP Common Units, the Midstream Preferred Units or the CEQP Preferred Units (in each case, as permitted pursuant to *Section 4.1(c)* or *Section 4.2(c)*), the number of New CEQP Common Units and New CEQP Preferred Units to be issued in the Merger, and the average closing sales prices of the CEQP Common Units determined in accordance with *Section 3.3(e)*, will be correspondingly adjusted.

Section 3.5 Midstream LTIP Restricted Common Units and Phantom Units.

(a) At the Effective Time, each Midstream Restricted Common Unit and each Midstream Phantom Unit credited to a participant under the Midstream LTIP immediately prior to the Effective Time shall be converted into 2.7500 CEQP Restricted Common Units or 2.7500 CEQP Phantom Units, respectively, credited under the CEQP LTIP, which the Midstream Compensation Committee has determined is the equivalent in economic value of each Midstream Restricted Common Unit and each Midstream Phantom Unit, respectively, except that if the aggregate number of CEQP Restricted Common Units or CEQP Phantom Units that would be credited to a participant after such conversion would result in such participant being credited with a fractional CEQP Restricted Common Unit, then, in lieu thereof, such participant shall be entitled to receive

Table of Contents

cash (without interest rounded up to the nearest whole cent), in an amount calculated as provided in *Section 3.3(e)*.

(b) Prior to, or as of, the Effective Time, the Midstream GP Board shall take all necessary actions, if any, pursuant to, in accordance with, and to the extent authorized under the terms of the Midstream LTIP and the grant agreements evidencing the Midstream Restricted Common Units or Midstream Phantom Units, as the case may be, to provide for the automatic conversion on the Effective Time of the Midstream Restricted Common Units and Midstream Phantom Units into CEQP Restricted Common Units or CEQP Phantom Units, respectively, under the CEQP LTIP in accordance with this *Section 3.5*, without the consent of the holders of the Midstream Restricted Common Units or Midstream Phantom Units.

(c) (i) On, or as soon as reasonably practicable after, the Effective Time, CEQP shall deliver to each affected participant in the Midstream LTIP a new grant agreement setting forth the terms of such participant's CEQP Restricted Common Units or CEQP Phantom Units, as the case may be, credited under the CEQP LTIP as a result of the automatic conversion of the participant's Midstream Restricted Common Units or Midstream Phantom Units as provided herein, which grant agreement shall continue the same terms applicable to the Midstream Restricted Common Units or Midstream Phantom Units credited under the Midstream LTIP, subject to adjustment made pursuant to *Section 3.5(b)* above.

(ii) CEQP shall take all necessary actions on, or prior to, the Effective Time, to authorize and reserve for issuance a sufficient number of CEQP Common Units for delivery with respect to the CEQP Restricted Common Units and CEQP Phantom Units credited under the CEQP LTIP on the conversion of the Midstream Restricted Common Units or Midstream Phantom Units in accordance with this *Section 3.5*.

(iii) The Midstream LTIP shall be terminated on, or immediately following, the Effective Time.

Section 3.6 Tax Characterization of Merger. CEQP and Midstream each acknowledges and agrees that for federal income Tax purposes the exchange of Midstream Units for New CEQP Units pursuant to the Merger shall qualify as an exchange to which Section 721(a) of the Code applies. Each of CEQP and Midstream agrees to prepare and file all U.S. federal income Tax Returns in accordance with the foregoing qualification and treatment and shall not take any position inconsistent therewith on any such Tax Return, or in the course of any audit, litigation or other proceeding with respect to U.S. federal income Taxes, except as otherwise required by applicable Laws following a final determination by a court of competent jurisdiction or other final administrative decision by an applicable Governmental Authority.

**ARTICLE IV.
ACTIONS PENDING MERGER**

Section 4.1 Conduct of Business by Midstream. From the date hereof until the Effective Time (or the earlier termination of this Agreement), except as expressly contemplated by this Agreement or, as set forth in the Midstream Disclosure Letter, (a) without the prior written consent of the CEQP Conflicts Committee (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned), Midstream and Midstream GP will not, and will cause each of Midstream's Subsidiaries not to:

(a) conduct its business and the business of Midstream's Subsidiaries other than in the ordinary and usual course or, to the extent consistent therewith, fail to use commercially reasonable efforts to preserve intact its business organizations, goodwill and assets and maintain its rights, franchises and existing relations with customers, suppliers, employees and business

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

associates, or take any action that would have a Material Adverse Effect with respect to Midstream;

(b) other than with respect to grants of equity or other Rights made in the ordinary and usual course pursuant to the Midstream LTIP, the conversion of any Midstream Preferred Units into Midstream Common Units in accordance with the terms of the Midstream Partnership Agreement or the issuance by Midstream of additional Midstream Preferred Units in accordance with Article 2.02 of the Class A Purchase Agreement or Midstream PIK Units in accordance with Amendment No. 3, (a) issue, sell or otherwise permit to become outstanding, or authorize the creation of, any additional equity, any appreciation rights or any Rights, (b) enter into any agreement with respect to the foregoing or (c) permit any additional equity interests to become subject to new grants of employee unit options, unit appreciation rights or similar equity-based employee rights;

(c) (i) make, declare or pay any distribution on or in respect of, or declare or make any distribution on, any of its equity securities (except regular quarterly cash distributions of Available Cash (as defined in the Midstream Partnership Agreement)), in the ordinary course consistent with past practice in amounts no greater than distributions per Midstream Common Unit declared with respect to the first quarter of 2015;

(ii) split, combine or reclassify any of its equity interests or issue or authorize or propose the issuance of any other securities in respect of, in lieu of or in substitution for its equity interests; or

(iii) repurchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, or permit any of its Subsidiaries to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire any partnership interests, except as required by the terms of its securities outstanding on the date hereof or as contemplated by any existing Compensation and Benefit Plan;

(d) sell, lease, dispose of or discontinue any portion of its assets, business or properties, which is material to it and such Subsidiaries taken as a whole, or acquire, by merger or otherwise, or lease (other than by way of foreclosures or acquisitions of control in a bona fide fiduciary capacity or in satisfaction of debts previously contracted in good faith, in each case in the ordinary and usual course of business consistent with past practice) any assets or all or any portion of, the business or property of any other entity which, in either case, is material to it and such Subsidiaries taken as a whole, or would be likely to have a Material Adverse Effect with respect to Midstream;

(e) amend the Midstream Partnership Agreement, except as contemplated by *Section 2.1(c)* or the Midstream GP LLC Agreement;

(f) implement or adopt any material change in its accounting principles, practices or methods, other than as may be required by Law or generally accepted accounting principles;

(g) fail to use commercially reasonable efforts to maintain with financially responsible insurance companies, insurance in such amounts and against such risks and losses as has been customarily maintained by it in the past;

(h) (i) change in any material respect its express or deemed elections relating to Taxes, including elections for any and all joint ventures, partnerships, limited liability companies or other investments where it has the capacity to make such binding election;

(ii) settle or compromise any material claim, action, suit, litigation, proceeding, arbitration, investigation, audit or controversy relating to Taxes; or

Table of Contents

(iii) change in any material respect any of its methods of reporting income or deductions for federal income tax purposes from those employed in the preparation of its federal income tax return for the most recent taxable year for which a return has been filed, except as may be required by applicable Law;

(i) (a) incur, assume or guarantee any indebtedness for borrowed money issue, assume or guarantee any debt securities, grant any option, warrant or right to purchase any debt securities, or issue any securities convertible into or exchangeable for any debt securities of others, (b) enter into any material lease (whether operating or capital), (c) create any Lien on its property or the property of its Subsidiaries in connection with any pre-existing indebtedness, new indebtedness or lease, or (d) make or commit to make any capital expenditures, in each case in excess of \$100,000,000 in the aggregate;

(j) authorize, recommend, propose or announce an intention to adopt a plan of complete or partial dissolution or liquidation;

(k) except as permitted by *Sections 6.2 and 6.7*, knowingly take any action that is intended or is reasonably likely to result in (a) any of its representations and warranties set forth in this Agreement being or becoming untrue in any material respect at the Closing Date, (b) any of the conditions set forth in *Article VII* not being satisfied, (c) any material delay or prevention of the consummation of the Merger or (d) a material violation of any provision of this Agreement except, in each case, as may be required by applicable Law; or

(l) agree or commit to do anything prohibited by *Sections 4.1(a) through 4.1(k)*.

Section 4.2 Conduct of Business by CEQP. From the date hereof until the Effective Time (or the earlier termination of this Agreement) except as expressly contemplated by this Agreement or as set forth in the CEQP Disclosure Letter, without the prior written consent of the Midstream Conflicts Committee (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned), CEQP and Equity GP will not, and will cause each of CEQP's Subsidiaries not to:

(a) conduct its and the business of the CEQP Subsidiaries other than in the ordinary and usual course or, to the extent consistent therewith, fail to use commercially reasonable efforts to preserve intact its business organizations, goodwill and assets and maintain its rights, franchises and existing relations with customers, suppliers, employees and business associates, or take any action that would have a Material Adverse Effect with respect to CEQP;

(b) other than with respect to grants of equity or other Rights made in the ordinary and usual course pursuant to the CEQP LTIP, (a) issue, sell or otherwise permit to become outstanding, or authorize the creation of, any additional equity, any appreciation rights or any Rights, (b) enter into any agreement with respect to the foregoing or (c) permit any additional equity interests to become subject to new grants of employee unit options, unit appreciation rights or similar equity-based employee rights;

(c) except as contemplated by *Section 6.19*,

(i) make, declare or pay any distribution on or in respect of, or declare or make any distribution on, any of its equity securities (except regular quarterly cash distributions of Available Cash (as defined in the CEQP Partnership Agreement), in the ordinary course consistent with past practice in amounts no greater than distributions per CEQP Common Unit and CEQP Class A Unit by CEQP declared by CEQP with respect to the first quarter of 2015);

(ii) split, combine or reclassify any of its equity interests or issue or authorize or propose the issuance of any other securities in respect of, in lieu of or in substitution for its equity interests; or

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

(iii) repurchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, or permit any of its Subsidiaries to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire any partnership interests, except as required by the terms of its securities outstanding on the date hereof or as contemplated by any existing Compensation and Benefit Plan;

(d) subject to *Section 6.7(f)* sell, lease, dispose of or discontinue any portion of its assets, business or properties, which is material to it and such Subsidiaries taken as a whole, or acquire, by merger or otherwise, or lease (other than by way of foreclosures or acquisitions of control in a bona fide fiduciary capacity or in satisfaction of debts previously contracted in good faith, in each case in the ordinary and usual course of business consistent with past practice) any assets or all or any portion of, the business or property of any other entity which, in either case, is material to it and such Subsidiaries taken as a whole, or would be likely to have a Material Adverse Effect with respect to CEQP, (ii) merge, consolidate or enter into any other business combination transaction with any Person or make any acquisition or disposition that would be likely to have a Material Adverse Effect with respect to CEQP, or (iii) enter into a definitive agreement with respect to a CEQP Acquisition Proposal;

(e) amend the CEQP Partnership Agreement, except as contemplated by this Agreement;

(f) implement or adopt any material change in its accounting principles, practices or methods, other than as may be required by Law or generally accepted accounting principles;

(g) fail to use commercially reasonable efforts to maintain with financially responsible insurance companies, insurance in such amounts and against such risks and losses as has been customarily maintained by it in the past;

(h) (i) change in any material respect its express or deemed elections relating to Taxes, including elections for any and all joint ventures, partnerships, limited liability companies or other investments where it has the capacity to make such binding election;

(ii) settle or compromise any material claim, action, suit, litigation, proceeding, arbitration, investigation, audit or controversy relating to Taxes; or

(iii) change in any material respect any of its methods of reporting income or deductions for federal income tax purposes from those employed in the preparation of its federal income tax return for the most recent taxable year for which a return has been filed, except as may be required by applicable Law;

(i) (a) incur, assume or guarantee any indebtedness for borrowed money, issue, assume or guarantee any debt securities, grant any option, warrant or right to purchase any debt securities, or issue any securities convertible into or exchangeable for any debt securities, (b) enter into any material lease (whether operating or capital), (c) create any Lien on its property or the property of its Subsidiaries in connection with any pre-existing indebtedness, new indebtedness or lease, or (d) make or commit to make any capital expenditures, in each case in excess of \$100,000,000 in the aggregate;

(j) (i) enter into any material contract or agreement or terminate or amend in any material respect any material contract or agreement to which it is a party or waive any material rights under any material contract or agreement to which it is a party or (ii) enter into any contract, agreement or commitment with any affiliate of CEQP or its Subsidiaries;

(k) purchase any securities of or make any investment in any Person (other than (i) ordinary-course overnight investments of such Party, (ii) investments in wholly owned Subsidiaries, (iii) purchases and investments in addition to those contemplated by (i) and (ii) of this clause (k) up to an aggregate amount of \$20,000,000;

Table of Contents

(l) (i) settle any claims, demands, lawsuits or state or federal regulatory proceedings for damages to the extent such settlements in the aggregate assesses damages in excess of \$20,000,000 (other than any claims, demands, lawsuits or proceedings to the extent insured (net of deductibles), to the extent reserved against in the CEQP financial statements, or to the extent covered by an indemnity obligation not subject to dispute or adjustment from a solvent indemnitor) or (ii) settle any claims, demands, lawsuits or state or federal regulatory proceedings seeking an injunction or other equitable relief where such settlements would have a Material Adverse Effect with respect to CEQP;

(m) fail to file on a timely basis all applications and other documents necessary to maintain, renew or extend any permit, license, variance or any other approval required by any Governmental Authority for the continuing operation of its business, which failure would, individually or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect with respect to CEQP;

(n) grant any increases in the equity compensation of any of its officers, employees or independent contractors, except in the ordinary course of business not materially inconsistent with past practices;

(o) authorize, recommend, propose or announce an intention to adopt a plan of complete or partial dissolution or liquidation;

(p) except as permitted by *Section 6.2* and *6.7*, knowingly take any action that is intended or is reasonably likely to result in (a) any of its representations and warranties set forth in this Agreement being or becoming untrue in any material respect at the Closing Date, (b) any of the conditions set forth in *Article VII* not being satisfied, (c) any material delay or prevention of the consummation of the Merger or (d) a material violation of any provision of this Agreement except, in each case, as may be required by applicable Law; or

(q) agree or commit to do anything prohibited by *Sections 4.2(a)* through *Section 4.2(p)*.

**ARTICLE V.
REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES**

Section 5.1 Representations and Warranties. Except as set forth in its SEC Documents (other than with respect to *Sections 5.1(a)* and *5.1(b)*) filed and publicly available prior to the date hereof (excluding any disclosures included therein to the extent they are cautionary, predictive or forward-looking in nature, including those in any risk factor section of such documents) or *Article V* of the Midstream Disclosure Letter, Midstream hereby represents and warrants (and to the extent necessary with respect to any representations by Midstream herein, Midstream GP also represents and warrants) to CEQP, and except as disclosed in its SEC Documents (other than with respect to *Sections 5.1(a)* and *5.1(b)*) filed and publicly available prior to the date hereof (excluding any disclosures included therein to the extent they are cautionary, predictive or forward-looking in nature, including those in any risk factor section of such documents) or *Article V* of the CEQP Disclosure Letter, CEQP, MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings hereby represent and warrant (and to the extent necessary with respect to any representations by CEQP, MergerCo, MGP GP and Midstream Holdings herein, Equity GP also represents and warrants) to Midstream, to the extent applicable, in each case with respect to itself and its Subsidiaries, as follows:

(a) *Organization, Standing and Authority.* Such party is a limited partnership or limited liability company, duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the Laws of the jurisdiction of its organization. Such party (i) is duly qualified to do business and is in good standing in the states and sovereign tribal territories of the United States where its ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of its business requires it to be so qualified and (ii) has in effect

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

all federal, state, local, tribal and foreign governmental authorizations and permits necessary for it to own or lease its properties and assets and to carry on its business as it is now conducted.

(b) *Capitalization.*

(i) In the case of Midstream, as of the date hereof, there are 187,423,322 Midstream Common Units issued and outstanding, 868,526 Midstream Restricted Units issued and outstanding, 161,043.1109 Midstream Phantom Units issued and outstanding, 18,332,195 Midstream Preferred Units issued and outstanding and the Incentive Distribution Rights issued and outstanding, and all such Midstream Common Units, Midstream Preferred Units and Incentive Distribution Rights and the limited partner interests represented thereby were duly authorized and are validly issued in accordance with the Midstream Partnership Agreement and are fully paid (to the extent required under the Midstream Partnership Agreement) and nonassessable (except as such nonassessability may be affected by Sections 17-303, 17-607 and 17-804 of the DRULPA), and are not subject to any preemptive or similar rights (and were not issued in violation of any preemptive or similar rights).

(ii) As of the date hereof, Midstream GP owns a non-economic (0.0%) general partner interest in Midstream, and such general partner interest was duly authorized and validly issued in accordance with the Midstream Partnership Agreement.

(iii) In the case of CEQP, as of the date hereof, there are 181,204,695 CEQP Common Units, 4,867,252 CEQP Class A Units, 4,387,889 Subordinated Units, 1,633,654 CEQP Restricted Units issued and outstanding, 362,876.3789 CEQP Phantom Units issued and outstanding and no CEQP Preferred Units issued and outstanding, and all of such CEQP Common Units and CEQP Class A Units and the limited partner interests represented thereby were duly authorized and validly issued in accordance with the CEQP Partnership Agreement and are fully paid (to the extent required under the CEQP Partnership Agreement) and nonassessable (except as such nonassessability may be affected by Sections 17-303, 17-607 and 17-804 of the DRULPA). As of the date hereof, Equity GP owns the Equity GP Interest and such Equity GP Interest was duly authorized and validly issued in accordance with the CEQP Partnership Agreement. The New CEQP Common Units and New CEQP Preferred Units will be duly authorized and validly issued in accordance with the CEQP Partnership Agreement, and will be fully paid (to the extent required under the CEQP Partnership Agreement) and nonassessable (except as such nonassessability may be affected by Sections 17-303, 17-607 and 17-804 of the DRULPA).

(iv) As of the date hereof, CEQP owns 100% of the limited liability company interests in MGP GP and 100% of the limited partner interests in Midstream Holdings, and MGP GP owns a non-economic (0.0%) general partner interest in Midstream Holdings.

(v) As of the date hereof, CEQP owns 7,137,841 Midstream Common Units (the "CEQP Existing Units") and CGS GP owns 21,597 Midstream Common Units (the "CGS Existing Units," and collectively with the CEQP Existing Units, the "Existing Units"). CEQP has and, except with respect to the CEQP Existing Units to be contributed to CGS GP in accordance with *Section 6.17*, will have at all times through the Closing Date sole voting power (including the right to control such vote as contemplated herein), sole power of disposition, sole power to issue instructions with respect to the matters set forth in *Section 6.3*, and sole power to agree to all of the matters set forth in *Section 6.3*, in each case with respect to all of the CEQP Existing Units. CGS GP has and will have at all times through the Closing Date sole voting power (including the right to control such vote as contemplated herein), sole power of disposition, sole power to issue instructions with respect to the matters set forth in *Section 6.3*, and sole power to agree to all of the matters set forth in *Section 6.3*, in each case with respect to all of the CGS GP Existing Units and, at all times after CEQP has contributed a portion of

Table of Contents

the CEQP Existing Units to CGS GP in accordance with *Section 6.17*, with respect to such portion of the CEQP Existing Units.

(vi) As of the date hereof, other than, (A) in the case of Midstream, (i) Midstream Restricted Common Units granted under the Midstream LTIP and (ii) Midstream Common Units reserved for issuance upon the conversion of Midstream Preferred Units, and (B) in the case of CEQP, Restricted Common Units granted under the CEQP LTIP, there are no interests of a party's equity securities authorized and reserved for issuance, such party does not have any Rights issued or outstanding with respect to its equity securities, and such party does not have any commitment to authorize, issue or sell any such equity securities or Rights, except pursuant to this Agreement.

(c) *Subsidiaries.*

(i) (A) Such party owns, directly or indirectly, all of the equity interests of each of its Subsidiaries (B) no equity interests of any of its Subsidiaries are or may become required to be issued by reason of any Rights, (C) there are no contracts, commitments, understandings or arrangements by which any of such Subsidiaries is or may be bound to sell or otherwise transfer any equity interests of any such Subsidiaries, (D) there are no contracts, commitments, understandings, or arrangements relating to its rights to vote or to dispose of such equity interests, and (E) all of the equity interests of each such Subsidiary held by it or its Subsidiaries are fully paid and nonassessable and are owned by it or its Subsidiaries free and clear of any Liens.

(ii) Each of such party's Subsidiaries has been duly organized and is validly existing in good standing under the Laws of the jurisdiction of its organization and (A) is duly qualified to do business and in good standing in the jurisdictions where its ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of its business requires it to be so qualified and (B) has in effect all federal, state, local, tribal and foreign governmental authorizations and permits necessary for it to own or lease its properties and assets and to carry on its business as it is now conducted.

(d) *Partnership or Limited Liability Company Power.* Such party and each of its Subsidiaries has the partnership or limited liability company power and authority to carry on its business as it is now being conducted and to own or lease, as applicable, all its properties and assets; and it has the partnership or limited liability company power and authority to execute, deliver and perform its obligations under this Agreement and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby.

(e) *Authority.* Subject to Midstream Unitholder Approval in the case of Midstream, this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby have been authorized by all necessary partnership or limited liability company, as applicable, action, and this Agreement has been duly executed and delivered and is a legal, valid and binding agreement of it, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms (except as such enforceability may be limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent transfer and similar Laws of general applicability relating to or affecting creditors' rights or by general equity principles).

(f) *No Defaults.* Subject to the declaration of effectiveness of the Registration Statement, required filings under federal and state securities laws and the NYSE, and the approvals contemplated by *Article VII*, the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby do not and will not (i) constitute a breach or violation of, or result in a default (or an event that, with notice or lapse of time or both, would become a default) under, or result in the termination or in a right of termination or cancellation of, or accelerate the performance required by, any note, bond, mortgage, indenture, deed of trust, license, franchise, lease, contract, agreement, joint venture or other instrument or obligation to which it or any of its Subsidiaries is a party or by which it or any of its Subsidiaries or properties is

Table of Contents

subject or bound, (ii) constitute a breach or violation of, or a default under, in the case of Midstream, the Midstream Partnership Agreement or Midstream Certificate of Limited Partnership, and in the case of CEQP, the CEQP Partnership Agreement or CEQP Certificate of Limited Partnership, (iii) contravene or conflict with or constitute a violation of any provision of any Law binding upon or applicable to it or any of its Subsidiaries, (iv) result in the creation of any Lien on any of its assets or its Subsidiaries' assets other than in connection with any indebtedness obtained in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, or (v) cause the transactions contemplated by this Agreement to be subject to Takeover Laws, except in the case of (i), (iii), (iv) and (v), any such breach, violation, default, termination, right, cancellation, acceleration, contravention, conflict, Lien or subjection that would not have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect.

(g) *Financial Reports and SEC Documents.* Its annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, and all other reports, registration statements, definitive proxy statements or information statements filed or to be filed by it or any of its Subsidiaries subsequent to December 31, 2014 under the Securities Act, or under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, in the form filed, or to be filed (collectively, its "SEC Documents"), with the SEC (i) complied or will comply in all material respects as to form with the applicable requirements under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, as the case may be, and (ii) did not and will not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements made therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and each of the balance sheets contained in or incorporated by reference into any such SEC Document (including the related notes and schedules thereto) fairly presents the financial position of the entity or entities to which it relates as of its date, and each of the statements of income and changes in partners' equity and cash flows in such SEC Documents (including any related notes and schedules thereto) fairly presents the results of operations, changes in partners' equity and changes in cash flows, as the case may be, of the entity or entities to which it relates for the periods to which it relates, in each case in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles consistently applied during the periods involved, except in each case as may be noted therein, subject to normal year-end audit adjustments in the case of unaudited statements. Except as and to the extent set forth on its balance sheet as of December 31, 2014, as of such date, neither it nor any of its Subsidiaries had any liabilities or obligations of any nature (whether accrued, absolute, contingent or otherwise) that would be required to be reflected on, or reserved against in, a balance sheet or in the notes thereto prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles consistently applied.

(h) *No Brokers.* No action has been taken by it that would give rise to any valid claim against any party hereto for a brokerage commission, finder's fee or other like payment with respect to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, excluding, in the case of Midstream, fees to be paid to TPH, and, in the case of CEQP, fees to be paid to Evercore Group, L.L.C. and Citi, in every case pursuant to letter agreements, the fee provisions of which have been heretofore disclosed to the other party.

(i) *Tax Matters.*

(i) All material returns, declarations, reports, estimates, information returns and statements required to be filed under federal, state, local or any foreign Tax Laws ("Tax Returns") with respect to such party or any of its Subsidiaries, have been timely filed, or requests for extensions have been timely filed and have not expired;

(ii) all Tax Returns filed by such party are complete and accurate in all material respects;

(iii) all Taxes shown to be due on such Tax Returns and all other Taxes, if any, required to be paid by such party or its Subsidiaries for all periods ending through the date hereof have

Edgar Filing: Crestwood Equity Partners LP - Form 424B3

Table of Contents

been paid or adequate reserves have in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles been established for the payment of such Taxes;

(iv) no material (A) audit or examination or (B) refund litigation with respect to any Tax Return of such party is pending. As of the date hereof, neither such party nor any of its Subsidiaries (x) has granted any requests, agreements, consents or waivers to extend the statutory period of limitations applicable to the assessment of any Taxes with respect to any Tax Returns nor (y) is a party to any Tax sharing or Tax indemnity agreement;

(v) such party and each of its Subsidiaries that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes has in effect a valid election under Section 754 of the Code;

(vi) such party is properly classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and not as an association or a publicly traded partnership taxable as a corporation under Section 7704 of the Code and has been properly treated as such since its formation; and

(vii) no written claim has been made by any Tax authority in a jurisdiction where such party or any of its Subsidiaries does not currently file a Tax Return that such party or any of its Subsidiaries is or may be subject to any Tax in such jurisdiction, nor has any such assertion been threatened or proposed in writing and received by such party or any of its Subsidiaries.

(j) *Regulatory Approvals.* No approval of any Governmental Authority is necessary to consummate the transactions contemplated by this Agreement (other than filings under the Securities Act).

(k) *The Midstream GP Board Recommendation.* The Midstream GP Board delegated to the Midstream Conflicts Committee the authority of the Midstream GP Board to negotiate the terms and conditions of the Merger, subject to final approval by the Midstream GP Board, and to determine whether to approve the Merger by Special Approval (as defined in the Midstream Partnership Agreement). The Midstream Conflicts Committee has determined that the Merger, this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby are fair and reasonable to, and in the best interests of, Midstream and the Midstream Unaffiliated Unitholders, and approved and declared the advisability of the Merger and this Agreement and recommended approval of same by the Midstream GP Board. The Midstream GP Board has determined that the Merger, this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby are fair and reasonable to, and in the best interests of, Midstream and the Midstream limited partners, and approved and declared the advisability of the Merger and this Agreement, and resolved to recommend that the holders of Midstream Common Units and Midstream Preferred Units (voting on an "as-converted" basis), voting together as a single class, approve the Merger, this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby.

(l) *The Equity GP Board Recommendation.* The Equity GP Board delegated to the CEQP Conflicts Committee the authority of the Equity GP Board to negotiate the terms and conditions of the Merger, subject to final approval by the Equity GP Board, and to determine whether to approve the Merger by Special Approval (as defined in the CEQP Partnership Agreement). The CEQP Conflicts Committee has determined that this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby, including the Merger, the New CEQP Common Unit Issuance, the execution and effectiveness of the CEQP Partnership Agreement Amendment, and the New CEQP Preferred Unit Issuance (collectively, the "Merger Transactions") are fair and reasonable to, and in the best interests of, CEQP and the CEQP Unaffiliated Unitholders, and approved and declared the advisability of this Agreement and the Merger Transactions. The Equity GP Board has determined that this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby, including the Merger Transactions are fair and reasonable to, and in the best interests of, CEQP and its limited partners, and has approved and declared the advisability of this Agreement and the Merger Transactions.

Table of Contents

(m) *Operations of MergerCo.* In the case of CEQP, MergerCo was formed solely for the purpose of engaging in the transactions contemplated by this Agreement and has engaged in no business other than in connection with entering into this Agreement and engaging in the transactions contemplated hereby.

(n) *Opinion to the Midstream Conflicts Committee.* Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co. Advisors, LLC ("TPH") has delivered to the Midstream Conflicts Committee its opinion (which will subsequently be confirmed in writing) to the effect that, as of the date the Midstream Conflicts Committee recommended that the Midstream GP Board approve this Agreement and subject to the assumptions, qualifications, limitations and other matters considered by TPH in connection with the preparation of its opinion, the Common Merger Consideration to be received by the holders of Midstream Common Units other than (i) CEQP and its affiliates and (ii) the officers and directors of Midstream GP that are also officers or directors of Equity GP or affiliates of such officers and directors (collectively the "Unaffiliated Midstream Common Unitholders") was fair, from a financial point of view, to the Unaffiliated Midstream Common Unitholders.

(o) *Opinion to the CEQP Conflicts Committee.* Evercore Group L.L.C. has delivered to the CEQP Conflicts Committee its opinion (which will be subsequently confirmed in writing) to the effect that, as of the date the CEQP Conflicts Committee recommended that the Equity GP Board approve this Agreement and subject to certain assumptions, qualifications, limitations and other matters set forth in its opinion, the Merger Consideration to be paid by CEQP is fair, from a financial point of view, to the CEQP Unaffiliated Unitholders.

(p) *No Material Adverse Effect.* In the case of CEQP, there has not occurred a Material Adverse Effect with respect to CEQP between January 1, 2015 and the date of this Agreement. In the case of Midstream, there has not occurred a Material Adverse Effect with respect to Midstream between January 1, 2015 and the date of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE VI.
COVENANTS**

Midstream hereby covenants to and agrees with CEQP, and CEQP hereby covenants to and agrees with Midstream, that:

Section 6.1 *Commercially Reasonable Efforts.* Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, it shall use its commercially reasonable efforts in good faith to take, or cause to be taken, all actions, and to do, or cause to be done, all things necessary, proper, desirable or advisable under applicable Laws, so as to permit consummation of the Merger promptly and otherwise to enable consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby, including, without limitation, obtaining (and cooperating with the other parties hereto to obtain) any third party approval that is required to be obtained by Midstream or CEQP or any of their respective Subsidiaries in connection with the Merger and the other transactions contemplated by this Agreement, and using commercially reasonable efforts to lift or rescind any injunction or restraining order or other order adversely affecting the ability of the parties to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby, and using commercially reasonable efforts to defend any litigation seeking to enjoin, prevent or delay the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby or seeking material damages, and each shall cooperate fully with the other parties hereto to that end, and shall furnish to the other party copies of all correspondence, filings and communications between it and its Affiliates and any Regulatory Authority with respect to the transactions contemplated hereby. In complying with the foregoing, neither it nor its Subsidiaries shall be required to take measures that would have a Material Adverse Effect on it and such Subsidiaries taken as a whole.

Table of Contents

Section 6.2 *Equityholder Approval*