Regency Energy Partners LP Form 424B3 October 06, 2011

The information in this prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) Registration No. 333-163424

Subject to Completion, dated October 6, 2011

# PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT (To Prospectus dated December 1, 2009)

10.000.000 Common Units

### Representing Limited Partner Interests

We are offering 10,000,000 common units representing limited partner interests in Regency Energy Partners LP.

Our common units trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol RGP. The last reported trading price of our common units on October 5, 2011 was \$21.44.

Investing in our common units involves risks. See Risk Factors on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement, beginning on page 3 of the accompanying base prospectus and in the documents incorporated by reference.

	Per Common Unit	Total
Price to the public	\$	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$	\$
Proceeds to Regency Energy Partners LP (before expenses)	\$	\$

We have granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 1,500,000 common units on the same terms and conditions set forth above if the underwriters sell more than 10,000,000 common units in this offering.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed on the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus supplement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Barclays Capital, on behalf of the underwriters, expects to deliver the common units on or about October , 2011.

<b>Barclays Capital</b>	<b>BofA Merrill Lynch</b>	Credit Suisse	J.P. Morgan
	Morgan Stanley	<b>UBS Investment Bank</b>	Wells Fargo Securities

### **Deutsche Bank Securities**

Oppenheimer & Co.

Prospectus Supplement dated October , 2011

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

# PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

	Page
ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT	S-ii
SUMMARY	S-1
THE OFFERING	S-3
RISK FACTORS	S-5
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	S-6
CAPITALIZATION	S-7
PRICE RANGE OF COMMON UNITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS	S-8
MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS	S-9
<u>UNDERWRITING</u>	S-27
SALES TO FOREIGN INVESTORS	S-30
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	S-33
<u>EXPERTS</u>	S-33
INFORMATION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	S-33
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	S-34
INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE	S-35
PROSPECTUS	Page
ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS	1
REGENCY ENERGY PARTNERS LP	1
CAUTIONARY STATEMENT CONCERNING FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS	2
RISK FACTORS	3
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	4
DESCRIPTION OF OUR COMMON UNITS	5
THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT	6
HOW WE MAKE CASH DISTRIBUTIONS	18
MATERIAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES	25
<u>INVESTMENT IN REGENCY ENERGY PARTNERS LP BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS</u>	39
LEGAL MATTERS	41
<u>EXPERTS</u>	41
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	42
S-i	

### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is the prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering of common units. The second part is the accompanying base prospectus, some of which may not apply to this offering of common units. Generally, when we refer only to the prospectus, we are referring to both parts combined. If the information about the offering varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement.

Any statement made in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus supplement or in any other subsequently filed document that is also incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus modifies or supersedes that statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus. Please read Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference in this prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus and any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us relating to this offering of common units. Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide you with additional or different information. If anyone provides you with additional, different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are offering to sell the common units, and seeking offers to buy the common units, only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus or any free writing prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the dates shown in these documents or that any information we have incorporated by reference herein is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since such dates.

S-ii

#### **SUMMARY**

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus. It does not contain all of the information you should consider before making an investment decision. You should read the entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference and the other documents to which we refer for a more complete understanding of this offering. Please read Risk Factors on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement, beginning on page 3 of the accompanying base prospectus and in the documents incorporated by reference for more information about important factors that you should consider before buying common units in this offering.

As used in this prospectus supplement, Regency Energy Partners, the Partnership, we, our, us or like terms mean Regency Energy Partners LP and its subsidiaries. References to our general partner refer to Regency GP LP, the general partner of the Partnership, and its general partner, Regency GP LLC, which effectively manages the business and affairs of the Partnership. Unless we indicate otherwise, information presented in this prospectus supplement assumes that the underwriters do not exercise their option to purchase additional common units.

### **Regency Energy Partners LP**

We are a growth-oriented publicly traded Delaware limited partnership that is engaged in the gathering and processing, contract compression, treating, transportation, fractionation and storage of natural gas and natural gas liquids (NGLs). We focus on providing midstream services in several of the most prolific shale plays and rich gas producing formations in the United States, including the Eagle Ford, Haynesville, Barnett, Fayetteville and Marcellus shales, as well as the Permian Delaware basin and mid-continent region.

We divide our operations into five business segments:

Gathering and Processing. We provide wellhead-to-market services to producers of natural gas, which include gathering raw natural gas from the wellhead through gathering systems, processing raw natural gas to separate NGLs and selling or delivering pipeline-quality natural gas and NGLs to various markets and pipeline systems.

Joint Ventures. We own a 49.99% interest in RIGS Haynesville Partnership Co. (HPC), which owns Regency Instrastate Gas System (RIGS), a 450-mile intrastate pipeline that delivers natural gas from northwest Louisiana to downstream pipelines and markets. We own a 50% interest in Midcontinent Express Pipeline LLC (MEP), which owns a 500-mile interstate natural gas pipeline stretching from southeast Oklahoma through northeast Texas, northern Louisiana and central Mississippi to an interconnect with the Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line system in Butler, Alabama. We also own a 30% interest in Lone Star NGL LLC (Lone Star), an entity owning a diverse set of midstream energy assets including pipelines, storage and processing facilities located in the states of Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana.

*Contract Compression.* We own and operate a fleet of compressors used to provide turn-key natural gas compression services for customer specific systems.

*Contract Treating.* We own and operate a fleet of equipment used to provide treating services, such as carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide removal, natural gas cooling, dehydration and BTU management to natural gas producers and midstream pipeline companies.

Corporate and Others. Our Corporate and Others segment comprises a small interstate pipeline and our corporate offices.

S-1

### **Table of Contents**

### **Organizational Structure**

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

### **Other Information**

Our principal executive offices are located at 2001 Bryan Street, Suite 3700, Dallas, Texas 75201, and our telephone number is (214) 750-1771. Our internet address is www.regencyenergy.com. Our periodic reports and other information filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) are available, free of charge, through our website, at www.regencyenergy.com, as soon as reasonably practicable after those reports and other information are electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC. Information on our website or any other website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and does not constitute a part of this prospectus supplement.

S-2

### The Offering

Issuer Regency Energy Partners LP.

Common Units Offered 10,000,000 common units.

Underwriters Option to Purchase Additional Units

We have granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to 1,500,000 additional common units from us at the public offering price less underwriting discounts and commissions if the underwriters sell more than 10,000,000 common units in this offering.

Units Outstanding After this Offering

155,843,942 common units, or 157,343,942 common units if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional common units, and 4,371,586 Series A Cumulative Convertible Preferred Units.

Use of Proceeds

We expect to receive net proceeds from this offering of approximately \$\ \text{million}, or approximately \$\ \text{million} if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional common units, in each case after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses. We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering, including any proceeds from the exercise of the underwriters option to purchase additional common units, to repay borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility. We may reborrow under our revolving credit facility to pay for capital expenditures and acquisitions, to repurchase certain of our senior notes and for other general partnership purposes. Please read Use of Proceeds.

Cash Distributions

Under our partnership agreement, we must distribute all of our cash on hand at the end of each quarter, less reserves established by our general partner in its sole discretion. These reserve funds are meant to provide for the proper conduct of our business, including funds needed to provide for our operations as well as to comply with applicable debt instruments. As we cannot estimate the size of these reserves for any given quarter at this time, we cannot assure you that, after the establishment of reserves, we will have cash on hand for distribution to our unitholders. We refer to this cash available for distribution as available cash, and we define its meaning in our partnership agreement. Please see How We Make Cash Distributions in the accompanying base prospectus for a description of available cash. The amount of available cash may be greater than or less than our minimum quarterly distribution.

If cash distributions exceed \$0.4025 per unit in a quarter, our general partner will receive increasing percentages, up to 49.9%, of the cash we distribute in excess of that amount. We refer to these distributions as incentive distributions. Please see How We Make Cash Distributions Incentive Distribution Rights in the accompanying base prospectus.

On July 26, 2011, we declared a quarterly cash distribution for the quarter ended June 30, 2011 of \$0.45 per unit to the holders of our common units and \$0.445 per unit to the holders of our Series A Cumulative Convertible Preferred Units, or \$1.80 per unit and \$1.78 per unit, respectively, on an annualized basis. We paid this distribution on August 12, 2011 to unitholders of record at the close of business on August 5, 2011.

Estimated Ratio of Taxable Income to Distributions

We estimate that if you own the common units you purchase in this offering through the record date for distributions for the period ending December 31, 2014, you will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for that period that will be 20% or less of the cash distributed to you with respect to that period. Please read Material Tax Considerations.

**Material Tax Considerations** 

For a discussion of other material federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States, please read Material Tax Considerations.

**Exchange Listing** 

Our common units are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the

symbol RGP.

Risk Factors

You should read Risk Factors on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement, beginning on page 3 of the accompanying base prospectus and in the documents incorporated by reference, as well as the other cautionary statements throughout this prospectus supplement, to ensure you understand the risks associated with an investment in our common units.

S-4

#### RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common units involves risks. You should carefully consider the following risk factor and those set forth beginning on page 3 of the accompanying base prospectus and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010, together with all of the other information included in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, when evaluating an investment in our common units. If any of the described risks were to occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects could be affected materially and adversely. In that case, we may be unable to make distributions to our unitholders, the trading price of our common units could decline and you could lose all or part of your investment.

### We own an equity interest in HPC, MEP and Lone Star, but we do not exercise control over any of them.

We own a 49.99% general partner interest in HPC, and we have the right to appoint two members of the four-member management committee. We also have the right to vote the 0.01% general partner interest retained by EFS Haynesville, LLC, an affiliate of General Electric Company. Alinda Gas Pipeline I, L.P. and Alinda Gas Pipeline II, L.P. own the remaining 50% general partner interest in HPC and have the right to appoint the other two members of the management committee. Each member of the management committee has a vote equal to the sharing ratio of the partner that appointed such member. Accordingly, we do not exercise control over HPC. HPC s partnership agreement requires that the following actions, among other things, be approved by at least 75% of the members of the management committee: a merger or consolidation of HPC; the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of HPC; a determination to raise additional capital; determining the amount of available cash; causing HPC to terminate the master services agreement with us; approval of any budget; and entry into material contracts.

We own a 50% membership interest in MEP, and we have the right to appoint one member to the two-member board of directors. An affiliate of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P. owns a 50% membership interest in MEP and has the right to appoint the other member of the board of directors, appoint the officers of MEP and to manage the business operations of MEP. Accordingly, we do not exercise control over MEP. MEP s limited liability company agreement provides that 65% of the membership interests constitute a quorum. Most matters require a majority vote, but the following actions, among other things, require the approval of at least 80% of the membership interests: the sale of any assets outside the ordinary course of business or with a fair market value in excess of \$5,000,000; a merger, consolidation or liquidation; modifying or terminating any agreement with a member; issuing, selling or repurchasing membership interests; incurring or refinancing indebtedness in excess of \$25,000,000; and filing or settling any litigation or arbitration that involves claims or settlements in excess of \$5,000,000.

We own a 30% membership interest in Lone Star, and we have the right to appoint one member to the two-member board of directors. Energy Transfer Partners, L.P. (ETP) owns a 70% membership interest in Lone Star and has the right to appoint the other member to the board of directors. Under the limited liability company agreement of Lone Star, all decisions regarding the management of the business and affairs of Lone Star are made by ETP, but the following actions, among other things, require the unanimous consent of the board of directors: entering into contracts with a term longer than three years with revenues or expenses greater than \$10,000,000; filing or settling any litigation or arbitration that involves claims or settlements in excess of \$1,000,000; entering into, modifying or terminating any agreement with a member; the purchase or sale of any assets with a fair market value in excess of \$5,000,000 in one or more related transactions in any calendar year; a merger, consolidation or liquidation; issuing, selling or repurchasing membership interests; or incurring or refinancing any indebtedness of Lone Star.

S-5

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We expect to receive net proceeds from this offering of approximately \$\\$\\$ million, or approximately \$\\$\\$\\$ million if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional common units, in each case after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses. We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering, including any proceeds from the exercise of the underwriters option to purchase additional common units, to repay borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility. We may reborrow under our revolving credit facility to pay for capital expenditures and acquisitions, to repurchase certain of our senior notes and for other general partnership purposes.

As of October 5, 2011, an aggregate of approximately \$445 million of borrowings were outstanding under our revolving credit facility. The weighted average interest rate on the total amount outstanding at October 5, 2011 was 2.896%. Our revolving credit facility matures in June 2014. The borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility were incurred to fund capital expenditures and working capital requirements.

The underwriters may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for us and our affiliates in the ordinary course of their business. Affiliates of Barclays Capital Inc., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, UBS Securities LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC are lenders under our revolving credit facility and, as such, will receive a portion of the proceeds from this offering from the repayment of borrowings under such facility. Please read Underwriting.

S-6

### **CAPITALIZATION**

The following table shows our capitalization as of June 30, 2011 on:

a consolidated historical basis;

an as adjusted basis to give effect to this offering of common units and the application of the net proceeds therefrom as described in Use of Proceeds.

You should read our financial statements and notes thereto that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement for additional information regarding our capitalization.

	As of June 30, 2011 Actual As Adjusted (In thousands) (Unaudited)		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	3,105	\$
Long-term debt:			
Revolving credit facility <sup>(1)</sup>		330,000	
Senior notes		1,355,613	
Total long-term debt	\$	1,685,613	\$
Series A convertible redeemable preferred units		71,040	
Partners capital and noncontrolling interest:			
Common units		3,042,153	
General partner interest		331,166	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(17,571)	
Noncontrolling interest		32,216	
Total partners capital and noncontrolling interest	\$	3,387,964	\$
Total capitalization	\$	5,144,617	\$

<sup>(1)</sup> As of October 5, 2011, we had approximately \$445 million of borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility.

### PRICE RANGE OF COMMON UNITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

Our common units were approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol RGP on August 5, 2011. Prior to that time, our common units were listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol RGNC. As of October 5, 2011, the number of holders of record of common units was 45, including Cede & Co., as nominee for the Depository Trust Company, which held of record 112,626,183 common units.

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low quarterly sales prices per common unit, as reported on the New York Stock Exchange or The NASDAQ Global Select Market, as applicable, and the cash distributions declared per common unit.

	Price Ranges		Cash Distributions per Common
	Low	High	Unit <sup>(1)</sup>
Year ending December 31, 2011			
December 31, 2011 (through October 5, 2011)	\$ 20.41	\$ 22.45	(2)
September 30, 2011	20.24	26.87	(2)
June 30, 2011	24.05	28.35	0.4500
March 31, 2011	24.05	27.99	0.4450
Year ended December 31, 2010			
December 31, 2010	23.96	27.50	0.4450
September 30, 2010	23.02	26.58	0.4450
June 30, 2010	19.60	24.65	0.4450
March 31, 2010	19.71	23.50	0.4450
Year ended December 31, 2009			
December 31, 2009	18.56	21.00	0.4450
September 30, 2009	14.07	19.65	0.4450
June 30, 2009	11.00	14.68	0.4450
March 31, 2009 <sup>(3)</sup>	8.08	12.89	0.4450

<sup>(1)</sup> Distributions are shown for the quarter with respect to which they were declared.

S-8

<sup>(2)</sup> We have not declared the distribution attributable to this quarter. We generally declare and pay a cash distribution within 45 days following the end of each quarter.

<sup>(3)</sup> Represents the minimum quarterly distribution per common unit plus \$0.095 per unit excluding the Class D Units, which were not entitled to any distributions until conversion into common units. The Class D Units converted into common units on a one-for-one basis on February 9, 2009.

### MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

This section is a summary of the material tax considerations that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States and, unless otherwise noted in the following discussion, is the opinion of Latham & Watkins LLP, counsel to our general partner and us, insofar as it relates to legal conclusions with respect to matters of U.S. federal income tax law. This section is based upon current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Internal Revenue Code ), existing and proposed Treasury regulations promulgated under the Internal Revenue Code (the Treasury Regulations ) and current administrative rulings and court decisions, all of which are subject to change. Later changes in these authorities may cause the tax consequences to vary substantially from the consequences described below. Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this section to us or we are references to Regency Energy Partners LP and our operating company.

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

No ruling has been or will be requested from the IRS regarding any matter affecting us or prospective unitholders. Instead, we will rely on opinions of Latham & Watkins LLP. Unlike a ruling, an opinion of counsel represents only that counsel s best legal judgment and does not bind the IRS or the courts. Accordingly, the opinions and statements made herein may not be sustained by a court if contested by the IRS. Any contest of this sort with the IRS may materially and adversely impact the market for the common units and the prices at which common units trade. In addition, the costs of any contest with the IRS, principally legal, accounting and related fees, will result in a reduction in cash available for distribution to our unitholders and our general partner and thus will be borne indirectly by our unitholders and our general partner. Furthermore, the tax treatment of us, or of an investment in us, may be significantly modified by future legislative or administrative changes or court decisions. Any modifications may or may not be retroactively applied.

All statements as to matters of federal income tax law and legal conclusions with respect thereto, but not as to factual matters, contained in this section, unless otherwise noted, are the opinion of Latham & Watkins LLP and are based on the accuracy of the representations made by us.

For the reasons described below, Latham & Watkins LLP has not rendered an opinion with respect to the following specific federal income tax issues: (i) our method of allocating taxable income and losses to take into account the conversion feature of our Series A Cumulative Preferred Units (please read — Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction ); (ii) the treatment of a unitholder whose common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units (please read — Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership — Treatment of Short Sales ); (iii) whether our monthly convention for allocating taxable income and losses is permitted by existing Treasury Regulations (please read — Disposition of Common Units — Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees ); and (iv) whether our method for depreciating Section 743 adjustments is sustainable in certain cases (please read — Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership — Section 754 Election — and — Uniformity of Units —).

### **Partnership Status**

A partnership is not a taxable entity and incurs no federal income tax liability. Instead, each partner of a partnership is required to take into account his share of items of income, gain, loss and

S-9

#### **Table of Contents**

deduction of the partnership in computing his federal income tax liability, regardless of whether cash distributions are made to him by the partnership. Distributions by a partnership to a partner are generally not taxable to the partnership or the partner unless the amount of cash distributed to him is in excess of the partner s adjusted basis in his partnership interest. Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code provides that publicly traded partnerships will, as a general rule, be taxed as corporations. However, an exception, referred to as the Qualifying Income Exception, exists with respect to publicly traded partnerships of which 90% or more of the gross income for every taxable year consists of qualifying income. Qualifying income includes income and gains derived from the transportation, storage, processing and marketing of natural gas and products thereof. Other types of qualifying income include interest (other than from a financial business), dividends, gains from the sale of real property and gains from the sale or other disposition of capital assets held for the production of income that otherwise constitutes qualifying income. We estimate that less than 6% of our current gross income is not qualifying income; however, this estimate could change from time to time. Based upon and subject to this estimate, the factual representations made by us and our general partner and a review of the applicable legal authorities, Latham & Watkins LLP is of the opinion that at least 90% of our current gross income constitutes qualifying income. The portion of our income that is qualifying income may change from time to time.

No ruling has been or will be sought from the IRS and the IRS has made no determination as to our status or the status of our operating company for federal income tax purposes or whether our operations generate—qualifying income—under Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code. Instead, we will rely on the opinion of Latham & Watkins LLP on such matters. It is the opinion of Latham & Watkins LLP that, based upon the Internal Revenue Code, its regulations, published revenue rulings and court decisions and the representations described below that:

We will be classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes; and

Our operating company will be disregarded as an entity separate from us for federal income tax purposes.

In rendering its opinion, Latham & Watkins LLP has relied on factual representations made by us and our general partner. The representations made by us and our general partner upon which Latham & Watkins LLP has relied include:

Neither we nor the operating company has elected or will elect to be treated as a corporation;

For each taxable year, more than 90% of our gross income has been and will be income of the type that Latham & Watkins LLP has opined or will opine is qualifying income within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code; and

We believe that these representations have been true in the past and expect that these representations will continue to be true in the future.

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

If we were taxed as a corporation in any taxable year, either as a result of a failure to meet the Qualifying Income Exception or otherwise, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction would be reflected only on our tax return rather than being passed through to our unitholders, and our net

S-10

#### **Table of Contents**

income would be taxed to us at corporate rates. In addition, any distribution made to a unitholder would be treated as taxable dividend income, to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits, or, in the absence of earnings and profits, a nontaxable return of capital, to the extent of the unitholder s tax basis in his common units, or taxable capital gain, after the unitholder s tax basis in his common units is reduced to zero. Accordingly, taxation as a corporation would result in a material reduction in a unitholder s cash flow and after-tax return and thus would likely result in a substantial reduction of the value of the units.

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

#### **Limited Partner Status**

Unitholders of Regency Energy Partners LP will be treated as partners of Regency Energy Partners LP for federal income tax purposes. Also, unitholders whose common units are held in street name or by a nominee and who have the right to direct the nominee in the exercise of all substantive rights attendant to the ownership of their common units will be treated as partners of Regency Energy Partners LP for federal income tax purposes.

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

Income, gain, deductions or losses would not appear to be reportable by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes, and any cash distributions received by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes would therefore appear to be fully taxable as ordinary income. These holders are urged to consult their tax advisors with respect to their tax consequences of holding common units in Regency Energy Partners LP. The references to unitholders in the discussion that follows are to persons who are treated as partners in Regency Energy Partners LP for federal income tax purposes.

### **Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership**

### Flow-Through of Taxable Income

Subject to the discussion below under Entity-Level Collections, we will not pay any federal income tax. Instead, each unitholder will be required to report on his income tax return his share of our income, gains, losses and deductions without regard to whether we make cash distributions to him. Consequently, we may allocate income to a unitholder even if he has not received a cash distribution. Each unitholder will be required to include in income his allocable share of our income, gains, losses and deductions for our taxable year ending with or within his taxable year. Our taxable year ends on December 31.

### Treatment of Distributions

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

Losses.

S-11

#### **Table of Contents**

A decrease in a unitholder s percentage interest in us because of our issuance of additional common units will decrease his share of our nonrecourse liabilities, and thus will result in a corresponding deemed distribution of cash. This deemed distribution may constitute a non-pro rata distribution. A non-pro rata distribution of money or property may result in ordinary income to a unitholder, regardless of his tax basis in his common units, if the distribution reduces the unitholder s share of our unrealized receivables, including depreciation recapture and/or substantially appreciated inventory items, each as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, and collectively, Section 751 Assets. To that extent, the unitholder will be treated as having been distributed his proportionate share of the Section 751 Assets and then having exchanged those assets with us in return for the non-pro rata portion of the actual distribution made to him. This latter deemed exchange will generally result in the unitholder s realization of ordinary income, which will equal the excess of (i) the non-pro rata portion of that distribution over (ii) the unitholder s tax basis (generally zero) for the share of Section 751 Assets deemed relinquished in the exchange.

### Ratio of Taxable Income to Distributions

We estimate that a purchaser of common units in this offering who owns those common units from the date of closing of this offering through the record date for distributions for the period ending December 31, 2014, will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for that period that will be 20% or less of the cash distributed with respect to that period. Thereafter, we anticipate that the ratio of allocable taxable income to cash distributions to the unitholders will increase. These estimates are based upon the assumption that gross income from operations will approximate the amount required to make distributions on all units and other assumptions with respect to capital expenditures, cash flow, net working capital and anticipated cash distributions. These estimates and assumptions are subject to, among other things, numerous business, economic, regulatory, legislative, competitive and political uncertainties beyond our control. Further, the estimates are based on current tax law and tax reporting positions that we will adopt and with which the IRS could disagree. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that these estimates will prove to be correct. The actual percentage of distributions that will constitute taxable income could be higher or lower than expected, and any differences could be material and could materially affect the value of the common units. For example, the ratio of allocable taxable income to cash distributions to a purchaser of common units in this offering will be greater, and perhaps substantially greater, than our estimate with respect to the period described above if:

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

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

### Basis of Common Units

A unitholder s initial tax basis for his common units will be the amount he paid for the common units plus his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. That basis will be increased by his share of our income and by any increases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. That basis will be decreased, but not below zero, by distributions from us, by the unitholder s share of our losses, by any decreases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities and by his share of our expenditures that are not deductible in computing taxable income and are not required to be capitalized. A unitholder will have no share of our debt that is recourse to our general partner, but will have a share, generally based on

### **Table of Contents**

his share of profits, of our nonrecourse liabilities. Please read Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss.

### Limitations on Deductibility of Losses

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

In general, a unitholder will be at risk to the extent of the tax basis of his units, excluding any portion of that basis attributable to his share of our nonrecourse liabilities, reduced by (i) any portion of that basis representing amounts otherwise protected against loss because of a guarantee, stop loss agreement or other similar arrangement and (ii) any amount of money he borrows to acquire or hold his units, if the lender of those borrowed funds owns an interest in us, is related to the unitholder or can look only to the units for repayment. A unitholder s at-risk amount will increase or decrease as the tax basis of the unitholder s units increases or decreases, other than tax basis increases or decreases attributable to increases or decreases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities.

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

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

#### Limitations on Interest Deductions

The deductibility of a non-corporate taxpayer s investment interest expense is generally limited to the amount of that taxpayer s net investment income. Investment interest expense includes:

interest on indebtedness properly allocable to property held for investment;

our interest expense attributed to portfolio income; and

S-13

#### **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 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 or (if applicable) qualified dividend income. The IRS has indicated that the net passive income earned by a publicly traded partnership will be treated as investment income to its unitholders. In addition, the unitholder s share of our portfolio income will be treated as investment income.

### Entity-Level Collections

If we are required or elect under applicable law to pay any federal, state, local or foreign income tax on behalf of any unitholder or our general partner or any former unitholder, we are authorized to pay those taxes from our funds. That payment, if made, will be treated as a distribution of cash to the unitholder on whose behalf the payment was made. If the payment is made on behalf of a person whose identity cannot be determined, we are authorized to treat the payment as a distribution to all current unitholders. We are authorized to amend our 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 our partnership agreement is maintained as nearly as is practicable. Payments by us as described above could give rise to an overpayment of tax on behalf of an individual unitholder in which event the unitholder would be required to file a claim in order to obtain a credit or refund.

### Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction

In general, if we have a net profit, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated among our general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us, subject to an allocation of net income to the holders of our Series A Cumulative Convertible Units. At any time that incentive distributions are made to our general partner, gross income will be allocated to the recipients to the extent of these distributions. If we have a net loss, that loss will be allocated first to our general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us to the extent of their positive capital accounts, second, to the holders of our Series A Cumulative Convertible Units, pro rata, to the extent of their positive capital accounts, and, finally, to our general partner.

Specified items of our income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated to account for (i) any difference between the tax basis and fair market value of our assets at the time of an offering and (ii) any difference between the tax basis and fair market value of any property contributed to us by the general partner and its affiliates that exists at the time of such contribution, together referred to in this discussion as the Contributed Property. The effect of these allocations, referred to as Section 704(c) Allocations, to a unitholder purchasing common units from us in this offering will be essentially the same as if the tax bases of our assets were equal to their fair market values at the time of this offering. In the event we issue additional common units (including as a result of the conversion of our Series A Cumulative Convertible Units into common units) or engage 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 the general partner and all of our unitholders immediately prior to such issuance or other transactions to account for the difference between the book basis for purposes of maintaining capital accounts and the fair market value of all property held by us at the time of such issuance or 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

S-14

#### **Table of Contents**

income in order to minimize the recognition of ordinary income by some unitholders. Finally, although we do not expect that our operations will result in the creation of negative capital accounts, if negative capital accounts nevertheless result, items of our income and gain will be allocated in an amount and manner sufficient to eliminate the negative balance as quickly as possible.

In connection with the issuance of additional common units (including as a result of the conversion of our Series A Cumulative Convertible Units into common units), we will adjust capital accounts to reflect the fair market value of our property. In doing so, we will allocate any unrealized and, for tax purposes, unrecognized gain or loss resulting from the adjustments to the unitholders and our general partner in the same manner as we allocate gain or loss upon liquidation; provided, that for purposes of determining the amount of such unrealized gain or loss, we will reduce the fair market value of our property (to the extent of any unrealized income or gain in our property that has not previously been reflected in the capital accounts) to reflect the incremental share of such fair market value that would be attributable to the holders of our outstanding Series A Cumulative Convertible Units if all of such Series A Cumulative Convertible Units were converted into common units as of such date. Consequently, a holder of common units may be allocated less unrealized gain (or more unrealized loss) in connection with an adjustment of the capital accounts than such holder would have been allocated if there were no outstanding Series A Cumulative Convertible Units. Following the conversion of our Series A Cumulative Convertible Units into common units, items of gross income and gain (or gross loss and deduction) will be specially allocated to the holders of such common units to reflect differences between the capital accounts maintained with respect to such Series A Cumulative Convertible Units and the capital accounts maintained with respect to common units. This method of maintaining capital accounts and allocating income, gain, loss and deduction with respect to the Series A Cumulative Convertible Units is intended to comply with proposed Treasury Regulations under Section 704 of the Internal Revenue Code. However, the proposed Treasury Regulations are not legally binding until they are finalized. There can be no assurance that the proposed Treasury Regulations will ever be finalized, or that they will not be finalized in a substantially different form. Consequently, Latham & Watkins LLP is unable to opine as to whether our method of allocating income and loss among our unitholders to take into account the conversion feature of our Series A Cumulative Convertible Units will be given effect for federal income tax purposes. If our allocations are not respected, a unitholder could be allocated more taxable income (or less taxable loss).

An allocation of items of our income, gain, loss or deduction, other than an allocation required by the Internal Revenue Code to eliminate the difference between a partner s book capital account, credited with the fair market value of Contributed Property, and tax capital account, credited with the tax basis of Contributed Property, referred to in this discussion as the Book-Tax Disparity, will generally be given effect for federal income tax purposes in determining a partner s share of an item of income, gain, loss or deduction only if the allocation has substantial economic effect. In any other case, a partner s share of an item will be determined on the basis of his interest in us, which will be determined by taking into account all the facts and circumstances, including:

his relative contributions to us;

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.

Latham & Watkins LLP is of the opinion that, with the exception of the issues described above with respect to allocations to take into account the conversion feature of our Series A Cumulative Convertible Units, in Section 754 Election and Disposition of Common Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees, allocations under our 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.

S-15

#### **Table of Contents**

### Treatment of Short Sales

A unitholder whose units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of units may be considered as having disposed of those units. If so, he 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:

any of our income, gain, loss or deduction with respect to those units would not be reportable by the unitholder;

any cash distributions received by the unitholder as to those units would be fully taxable; and

all of these distributions would appear to be ordinary income.

Because there is no direct or indirect controlling authority on the issue relating to partnership interests, Latham & Watkins LLP has not rendered an opinion regarding the tax treatment of a unitholder whose common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units; therefore, unitholders desiring to assure their status as partners and avoid the risk of gain recognition from a loan to a short seller are urged to modify any applicable brokerage account agreements to prohibit their brokers from borrowing and loaning their units. The IRS has previously announced that it is studying issues relating to the tax treatment of short sales of partnership interests. Please also read Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss.

#### Alternative Minimum Tax

Each unitholder will be required to take into account his distributive share of any items of our income, gain, loss or deduction for purposes of the alternative minimum tax. The current minimum tax rate for noncorporate taxpayers is 26% on the first \$175,000 of alternative minimum taxable income in excess of the exemption amount and 28% on any additional alternative minimum taxable income. Prospective unitholders are urged to consult with their tax advisors as to the impact of an investment in units on their liability for the alternative minimum tax.

#### Tax Rates

Under current law, the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income of individuals is 35% and the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to long-term capital gains (generally, capital gains on certain assets held for more than twelve months) of individuals is 15%. These rates are scheduled to sunset after December 31, 2012, and, further, are subject to change by new legislation at any time.

The recently enacted Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 is scheduled to impose a 3.8% Medicare tax on certain net investment income earned by individuals, estates and trusts for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012. For these purposes, net investment income generally includes a unitholder s allocable share of our income and gain realized by a unitholder from a sale of 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) 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.

### **Table of Contents**

Section 754 Election

We have made the election permitted by Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code. That election is irrevocable without the consent of the IRS unless there is a constructive termination of the partnership. Please read Disposition of Common Units Constructive Termination. The election will generally permit us to adjust a common unit purchaser s tax basis in our assets (inside basis) under Section 743(b) of the Internal Revenue Code to reflect his purchase price. This election does not apply with respect to a person who purchases common units directly from us. The Section 743(b) adjustment belongs to the purchaser and not to other unitholders. For purposes of this discussion, the inside basis in our assets with respect to a unitholder will be considered to have two components: (i) his share of our tax basis in our assets (common basis) and (ii) his Section 743(b) adjustment to that basis.

We have adopted the remedial allocation method as to all our properties. Where the remedial allocation method is adopted, the Treasury Regulations under Section 743 of the Internal Revenue Code require a portion of the Section 743(b) adjustment that is attributable to recovery property that is subject to depreciation under Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code and whose book basis is in excess of its tax basis to be depreciated over the remaining cost recovery period for the property sunamortized Book-Tax Disparity. Under Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to property subject to depreciation under Section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code, rather than cost recovery deductions under Section 168, is generally required to be depreciated using either the straight-line method or the 150% declining balance method. Under our partnership agreement, our general partner is authorized to take a position to preserve the uniformity of units even if that position is not consistent with these and any other Treasury Regulations. Please read Uniformity of Units.

We intend to depreciate the portion of a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the value of Contributed Property, to the extent of any unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, using a rate of depreciation or amortization derived from the depreciation or amortization method and useful life applied to the property s unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, or treat that portion as non-amortizable to the extent attributable to property which is not amortizable. This method is consistent with the methods employed by other publicly traded partnerships but is arguably inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), which is not expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets. To the extent this Section 743(b) adjustment is attributable to appreciation in value in excess of the unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, we will apply the rules described in the Treasury Regulations and legislative history. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may take a depreciation or amortization position under which all purchasers acquiring units in the same month would receive depreciation or amortization, whether attributable to common basis or a Section 743(b) adjustment, based upon the same applicable rate as if they had purchased a direct interest in our assets. This kind of aggregate approach may result in lower annual depreciation or amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to some unitholders. Please read

Uniformity of Units. A unitholder s tax basis for his common units is reduced by his share of our deductions (whether or not such deductions were claimed on an individual s income tax return) so that any position we take that understates deductions will overstate the common unitholder s basis in his common units, which may cause the unitholder to understate gain or overstate loss on any sale of such units. Please read Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss. Latham & Watkins LLP is unable to opine as to whether our method for depreciating Section 743 adjustments is sustainable for property subject to depreciation under Section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code or if we use an aggregate approach as described above, as there is no direct or indirect controlling authority addressing the validity of these positions. Moreover, the IRS may challenge our position with respect to depreciating or amortizing the Section 743(b) adjustment we take to preserve the uniformity of the units. If such a challenge were sustained, the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions.

S-17

#### **Table of Contents**

A Section 754 election is advantageous if the transferee s tax basis in his units is higher than the units share of the aggregate tax basis of our assets immediately prior to the transfer. In that case, as a result of the election, the transferee would have, among other items, a greater amount of depreciation deductions and his share of any gain or loss on a sale of our assets would be less. Conversely, a Section 754 election is disadvantageous if the transferee s tax basis in his units is lower than those units—share of the aggregate tax basis of our assets immediately prior to the transfer. Thus, the fair market value of the units may be affected either favorably or unfavorably by the election. A basis adjustment is required regardless of whether a Section 754 election is made in the case of a transfer of an interest in us if we have a substantial built-in loss immediately after the transfer, or if we distribute property and have a substantial basis reduction. Generally, a built-in loss or a basis reduction is substantial if it exceeds \$250,000.

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. For example, the allocation of the Section 743(b) adjustment among our assets must be made in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS could seek to reallocate some or all of any Section 743(b) adjustment allocated by us to our tangible assets to goodwill instead. Goodwill, as an intangible asset, is generally nonamortizable or amortizable over a longer period of time or under a less accelerated method than our tangible assets. We cannot assure you that the determinations we make will not be successfully challenged by the IRS and that the deductions resulting from them will not be reduced or disallowed altogether. Should the IRS require a different basis adjustment to be made, and should, in our opinion, the expense of compliance exceed the benefit of the election, we may seek permission from the IRS to revoke our Section 754 election. If permission is granted, a subsequent purchaser of units may be allocated more income than he would have been allocated had the election not been revoked.

### **Tax Treatment of Operations**

### Accounting Method and Taxable Year

We use the year ending December 31 as our taxable year and the accrual method of accounting for federal income tax purposes. Each unitholder will be required to include in income his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our taxable year ending within or with his taxable year. In addition, a unitholder who has a taxable year ending on a date other than December 31 and who disposes of all of his units following the close of our taxable year but before the close of his taxable year must include his share of our 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 twelve months of our income, gain, loss and deduction. Please read Disposition of Common Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees.

### Initial Tax Basis, Depreciation and Amortization

The tax basis of our assets will be used for purposes of computing depreciation and cost recovery deductions and, ultimately, gain or loss on the disposition of these assets. The federal income tax burden associated with the difference between the fair market value of our assets and their tax basis immediately prior to an offering will be borne by our unitholders holding interests in us prior to any such offering. Please read Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction.

To the extent allowable, we 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. Please read Uniformity of Units. Property we subsequently acquire or construct may be depreciated using accelerated methods permitted by the Internal Revenue Code.

If we dispose of depreciable property by sale, foreclosure or otherwise, all or a portion of any gain, determined by reference to the amount of depreciation previously deducted and the nature of the

S-18

#### **Table of Contents**

property, may be subject to the recapture rules and taxed as ordinary income rather than capital gain. Similarly, a unitholder who has taken cost recovery or depreciation deductions with respect to property we own will likely be required to recapture some or all of those deductions as ordinary income upon a sale of his interest in us. Please read

Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction and Disposition of Commor Units Recognition of Gain or Loss.

The costs we incur in selling our units (called syndication expenses) must be capitalized and cannot be deducted currently, ratably or upon our termination. There are uncertainties regarding the classification of costs as organization expenses, which may be amortized by us, and as syndication expenses, which may not be amortized by us. The underwriting discounts and commissions we incur will be treated as syndication expenses.

### Valuation and Tax Basis of Our Properties

The federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of units will depend in part on our estimates of the relative fair market values, and the initial tax bases, of our assets. Although we may from time to time consult with professional appraisers regarding valuation matters, we will make many of the relative fair market value estimates ourselves. 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 Common Units**

### Recognition of Gain or Loss

Gain or loss will be recognized on a sale of units equal to the difference between the amount realized and the unitholder s tax basis for the units sold. A unitholder s amount realized will be measured by the sum of the cash or the fair market value of other property received by him plus his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. Because the amount realized includes a unitholder s share of our nonrecourse liabilities, the gain recognized on the sale of units could result in a tax liability in excess of any cash received from the sale.

Prior distributions from us that in the aggregate were in excess of cumulative net taxable income for a common unit and, therefore, decreased a unitholder s tax basis in that common unit will, in effect, become taxable income if the common unit is sold at a price greater than the unitholder s tax basis in that common unit, even if the price received is less than his original cost.

Except as noted below, gain or loss recognized by a unitholder, other than a dealer in units, on the sale or exchange of a unit will generally be taxable as capital gain or loss. Capital gain recognized by an individual on the sale of units held for more than twelve months will generally be taxed at a current maximum U.S. federal income tax rate of 15%. However, a portion of this gain or loss, which will likely be substantial, will be separately computed and taxed as ordinary income or loss under Section 751 of the Internal Revenue Code to the extent attributable to assets giving rise to depreciation recapture or other unrealized receivables or to inventory items we own. The term unrealized receivables includes potential recapture items, including depreciation recapture. Ordinary income attributable to unrealized receivables, inventory items and depreciation recapture may exceed net taxable gain realized upon the sale of a unit and may be recognized even if there is a net taxable loss realized on the sale of a unit. Thus, a unitholder may recognize both ordinary income and a capital loss upon a sale of units. Capital losses may offset capital gains and no more than \$3,000 of ordinary income, in the case of individuals, and may only be used to offset capital gains in the case of corporations.

#### **Table of Contents**

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 common units transferred with an ascertainable holding period to elect to use the actual holding period of the common units transferred. Thus, according to the ruling discussed above, a common unitholder will be unable to select high or low basis common units to sell as would be the case with corporate stock, but, according to the Treasury Regulations, he may designate specific common units sold for purposes of determining the holding period of units transferred. A unitholder electing to use the actual holding period of common units transferred must consistently use that identification method for all subsequent sales or exchanges of common units. A unitholder considering the purchase of additional units or a sale of common 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, our taxable income and losses 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 units owned by each of them as of the opening of the applicable exchange on the first business day of the month, which we refer to in this prospectus as the Allocation Date. However, gain or loss realized on a sale or other disposition of our 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 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 as there is no direct or indirect controlling authority on this issue. Recently, the Department of the Treasury and the IRS 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, 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

S-20

#### **Table of Contents**

to change until final Treasury Regulations are issued. Accordingly, Latham & Watkins LLP is unable to opine on the validity of this method of allocating income and deductions between transferor and transferee unitholders because the issue has not been finally resolved by the IRS or the courts. If this method is not allowed under the Treasury Regulations, or only applies to transfers of less than all of the unitholder s interest, our taxable income or losses might be reallocated among the unitholders. We are authorized to revise our 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 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 our 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 any of his units is generally required to notify us in writing of that sale within 30 days after the sale (or, if earlier, January 15 of the year following the sale). A purchaser of units who purchases units from another unitholder is also generally required to notify us in writing of that purchase within 30 days after the purchase. Upon receiving such notifications, we are required to notify the IRS of that transaction and to furnish specified information to the transferor and transferee. Failure to notify us of a purchase 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 or exchange through a broker who will satisfy such requirements.

#### Constructive Termination

We will be considered to have been terminated for tax purposes if there are sales or exchanges which, in the aggregate, constitute 50% or more of the total interests in our capital and profits within a twelve-month period. For purposes of measuring whether the 50% threshold is reached, multiple sales of the same interest are counted only once. A constructive termination results in the closing of our taxable year for all unitholders. In the case of a unitholder reporting on a taxable year other than a fiscal year ending December 31, the closing of our taxable year may result in more than twelve months of our taxable income or loss being includable in his taxable income for the year of termination. A constructive termination occurring on a date other than December 31 will result in us filing two tax returns (and unitholders could receive two Schedules K-1 if the relief discussed below is not available) for one fiscal year and the cost of the preparation of these returns will be borne by all common unitholders. We would be required to make new tax elections after a termination, including a new election under Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code, and a termination would result in a deferral of our deductions for depreciation. A termination could also result in penalties if we were unable to determine that the termination had occurred. Moreover, a termination might either accelerate the application of, or subject us to, any tax legislation enacted before the termination. The IRS has recently announced a publicly traded partnership technical termination relief procedure whereby if a publicly traded partnership that has technically terminated requests publicly traded partnership technical termination relief and the IRS grants such relief, among other things, the partnership will only have to provide one Schedule K-1 to unitholders for the year notwithstanding two partnership tax years.

# Uniformity of Units

Because we cannot match transferors and transferees of units, we must maintain uniformity of the economic and tax characteristics of the units to a purchaser of these units. In the absence of uniformity, we may be unable to completely comply with a number of 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 units. Please read Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Section 754 Election. We intend to depreciate the portion of a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the

#### **Table of Contents**

value of Contributed Property, to the extent of any unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, using a rate of depreciation or amortization derived from the depreciation or amortization method and useful life applied to the property s unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, or treat that portion as nonamortizable, to the extent attributable to property the common basis of which is not amortizable, consistent with the regulations under Section 743 of the Internal Revenue Code, even though that position may be inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), which is not expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets. Please read Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Section 754 Election. To the extent that the Section 743(b) adjustment is attributable to appreciation in value in excess of the unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, we will apply the rules described in the Treasury Regulations and legislative history. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may adopt a depreciation and amortization position under which all purchasers acquiring units in the same month would receive depreciation and amortization deductions, whether attributable to common basis or a Section 743(b) adjustment, based upon the same applicable rate as if they had purchased a direct interest in our assets. If this position is adopted, it may result in lower annual depreciation and amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to some unitholders and risk the loss of depreciation and amortization deductions not taken in the year that these deductions are otherwise allowable. This position will not be adopted if we determine that the loss of depreciation and amortization deductions will have a material adverse effect on the unitholders. If we choose not to utilize this aggregate method, we may use any other reasonable depreciation and amortization method to preserve the uniformity of the intrinsic tax characteristics of any units that would not have a material adverse effect on the unitholders. In either case, and as stated above under Consequences of Unit Ownership Section 754 Election, Latham & Watkins LLP has not rendered an opinion with respect to these methods. Moreover, the IRS may challenge any method of depreciating the Section 743(b) adjustment described in this paragraph. If this challenge were sustained, the uniformity of units might be affected, and the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions. Please read Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss.

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

Ownership of units by employee benefit plans, other tax-exempt organizations, non-resident aliens, foreign corporations and other foreign persons raises issues unique to those investors and, as described below to a limited extent, may have substantially adverse tax consequences to them. If you are a tax-exempt entity or a non-U.S. person, you should consult your tax advisor before investing in our common units. Employee benefit plans and most other organizations exempt from federal income tax, including individual retirement accounts and other retirement plans, are subject to federal income tax on unrelated business taxable income. Virtually all of our income allocated to a unitholder that is a tax-exempt organization will be unrelated business taxable income and will be taxable to it.

Non-resident aliens and foreign corporations, trusts or estates that own units will be considered to be engaged in business in the United States because of the ownership of units. As a consequence, they will be required to file federal tax returns to report their share of our income, gain, loss or deduction and pay federal income tax at regular rates on their share of our net income or gain. Moreover, under rules applicable to publicly traded partnerships, our quarterly distribution to foreign unitholders will be subject to withholding at the highest applicable effective tax rate. Each foreign unitholder must obtain a taxpayer identification number from the IRS and submit that number to our transfer agent on a Form W-8BEN or applicable substitute form in order to obtain credit for these withholding taxes. A change in applicable law may require us to change these procedures.

In addition, because a foreign corporation that owns units will be treated as engaged in a U.S. 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 our earnings and profits, as adjusted for changes in the foreign corporation s U.S. net equity, that is effectively connected with the conduct of a U.S. trade or business. That tax may be reduced or eliminated by an income tax treaty between the

#### **Table of Contents**

United States and the country in which the foreign corporate unitholder is a qualified resident. In addition, this type of unitholder is subject to special information reporting requirements under Section 6038C of the Internal Revenue Code.

A foreign unitholder who sells or otherwise disposes of a common unit will be subject to U.S. 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 foreign unitholder. Under a ruling published by the IRS, interpreting the scope of effectively connected income, a foreign unitholder would be considered to be engaged in a trade or business in the United States by virtue of the U.S. activities of the partnership, and part or all of that unitholder s gain would be effectively connected with that unitholder s indirect U.S. trade or business. Moreover, under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act, a foreign common unitholder generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax upon the sale or disposition of a common unit if (i) he owned (directly or constructively applying certain attribution rules) more than 5% of our common 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 all of our assets consisted of U.S. real property interests at any time during the shorter of the period during which such unitholder held the common units or the five-year period ending on the date of disposition. Currently, more than 50% of our assets consist of U.S. real property interests and we do not expect that to change in the foreseeable future. Therefore, foreign 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

We intend to furnish to each unitholder, within 90 days after the close of each calendar year, specific tax information, including a Schedule K-1, which describes his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our preceding taxable year. In preparing this information, which will not be reviewed by counsel, we 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. We cannot assure you that those positions will yield a result that conforms to the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, Treasury Regulations or administrative interpretations of the IRS. Neither we nor Latham & Watkins LLP can assure prospective 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 units.

The IRS may audit our 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 return. Any audit of a unitholder s return could result in adjustments not related to our returns as well as those related to our returns.

Partnerships generally are treated as separate entities for purposes of federal tax audits, judicial review of administrative adjustments by the IRS and tax settlement proceedings. The tax treatment of partnership items of income, gain, loss and deduction are determined in a partnership proceeding rather than in separate proceedings with the partners. The Internal Revenue Code requires that one partner be designated as the Tax Matters Partner for these purposes. Our partnership agreement names our general partner as our Tax Matters Partner.

The Tax Matters Partner has made and will make some elections on our behalf and on behalf of unitholders. In addition, the Tax Matters Partner can extend the statute of limitations for assessment of tax deficiencies against unitholders for items in our returns. The Tax Matters Partner may bind a unitholder with less than a 1% profits interest in us to a settlement with the IRS unless that unitholder elects, by filing a statement with the IRS, not to give that authority to the Tax Matters Partner. The Tax Matters Partner may seek judicial review, by which all the unitholders are bound, of a final partnership administrative adjustment and, if the Tax Matters Partner fails to seek judicial review, judicial review may be sought by any unitholder having at least a 1% interest in profits or by any group of unitholders

#### **Table of Contents**

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.

A unitholder must file a statement with the IRS identifying the treatment of any item on his federal income tax return that is not consistent with the treatment of the item on our return. Intentional or negligent disregard of this consistency requirement may subject a unitholder to substantial penalties.

Nominee Reporting

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

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

whether the beneficial owner is:

- (1) a person that is not a U.S. 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;

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

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

Brokers and financial institutions are required to furnish additional information, including whether they are U.S. persons and specific information on units they acquire, hold or transfer for their own account. A penalty of \$100 per failure, up to a maximum of \$1,500,000 per calendar year, is imposed by the Internal Revenue Code for failure to report that information to us. The nominee is required to supply the beneficial owner of the units with the information furnished to us.

Accuracy-Related Penalties.

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

For individuals, a substantial understatement of income tax in any taxable year exists if the amount of the understatement exceeds the greater of 10% of the tax required to be shown on the return for the taxable year or \$5,000 (\$10,000 for most corporations). The amount of any understatement subject to penalty generally is reduced if any portion is attributable to a position adopted on the return:

for which there is, or was, substantial authority; or

as to which there is a reasonable basis and the pertinent facts of that position are disclosed on the return.

If any item of income, gain, loss or deduction included in the distributive shares of unitholders might result in that kind of an understatement of income for which no substantial authority exists,

S-24

#### **Table of Contents**

we must disclose the pertinent facts on our return. In addition, we will make a reasonable effort to furnish sufficient information for unitholders to make adequate disclosure on their returns and to take other actions as may be appropriate to permit unitholders to avoid liability for this penalty. More stringent rules apply to tax shelters, which we do not believe includes us, or any of our investments, plans or arrangements.

A substantial valuation misstatement exists if (a) the value of any property, or the adjusted basis of any property, claimed on a tax return is 150% or more of the amount determined to be the correct amount of the valuation or adjusted basis, (b) the price for any property or services (or for the use of property) claimed on any such return with respect to any transaction between persons described in Internal Revenue Code Section 482 is 200% or more (or 50% or less) of the amount determined under Section 482 to be the correct amount of such price, or (c) the net Internal Revenue Code Section 482 transfer price adjustment for the taxable year exceeds the lesser of \$5 million or 10% of the taxpayer s gross receipts. No penalty is imposed unless the portion of the underpayment attributable to a substantial valuation misstatement exceeds \$5,000 (\$10,000 for most corporations). If the valuation claimed on a return is 200% or more than the correct valuation or certain other thresholds are met, the penalty imposed increases to 40%. We do not anticipate making any valuation misstatements.

In addition, the 20% accuracy-related penalty also applies to any portion of an underpayment of tax that is attributable to transactions lacking economic substance. To the extent that such transactions are not disclosed, the penalty imposed is increased to 40%. Additionally, there is no reasonable cause defense to the imposition of this penalty to such transactions.

## Reportable Transactions

If we were to engage in a reportable transaction, we (and possibly you and others) would be required to make a detailed disclosure of the transaction to the IRS. A transaction may be a reportable transaction based upon any of several factors, including the fact that it is a type of tax avoidance transaction publicly identified by the IRS as a listed transaction or that it produces certain kinds of losses for partnerships, individuals, S corporations, and trusts in excess of \$2 million in any single year, or \$4 million in any combination of six successive tax years. Our participation in a reportable transaction could increase the likelihood that our federal income tax information return (and possibly your tax return) would be audited by the IRS. Please read Information Returns and Audit Procedures.

Moreover, if we were to participate in a reportable transaction with a significant purpose to avoid or evade tax, or in any listed transaction, you may be subject to the following additional consequences:

accuracy-related penalties with a broader scope, significantly narrower exceptions, and potentially greater amounts than described above at Accuracy-Related Penalties;

for those persons otherwise entitled to deduct interest on federal tax deficiencies, nondeductibility of interest on any resulting tax liability; and

in the case of a listed transaction, an extended statute of limitations.

We do not expect to engage in any reportable transactions.

# **Recent Legislative Developments**

The present federal income tax treatment of publicly traded partnerships, including us, or an investment in our common units may be modified by administrative, legislative or judicial interpretation at any time. For example, the U.S. House of Representatives recently passed legislation that would provide for substantive changes to the definition

of qualifying income and the treatment of certain types of income earned from profits interests in partnerships. It is possible that these legislative efforts

S-25

#### **Table of Contents**

could result in changes to the existing federal income tax laws that affect publicly traded partnerships. As previously and currently proposed, we do not believe any such legislation would affect our tax treatment as a partnership. However, the proposed legislation could be modified in a way that could affect us. We are unable to predict whether any of these changes, or other proposals, will ultimately be enacted. Any such changes could negatively impact the value of an investment in our units.

## State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Considerations

In addition to federal income taxes, you likely will be subject to other taxes, such as 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 we do business or own property or in which you are a resident. Although an analysis of those various taxes is not presented here, each prospective unitholder should consider their potential impact on his investment in us. We currently own property or do business in Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas and West Virginia. Many of these states impose a personal income tax on individuals; certain of these states also impose an income tax on corporations and other entities. Texas imposes a margin tax (which is based in part on net income) on corporations, limited partnerships and limited liability companies. We may also own property or do business in other jurisdictions in the future. Although you may not be required to file a return and pay taxes in some jurisdictions because your income from that jurisdiction falls below the filing and payment requirement, you will be required to file income tax returns and to pay income taxes in many of these jurisdictions in which we do business or own property and may be subject to penalties for failure to comply with those requirements. In some jurisdictions, tax losses may not produce a tax benefit in the year incurred and may not be available to offset income in subsequent taxable years. Some of the jurisdictions may require us, or we may elect, to withhold a percentage of income from amounts to be distributed to a unitholder who is not a resident of the 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. Amounts withheld will be treated as if distributed to unitholders for purposes of determining the amounts distributed Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Entity-Level Collections. Based on current law and our estimate of our future operations, our general partner anticipates that any amounts required to be withheld will not be material.

It is the responsibility of each unitholder to investigate the legal and tax consequences, under the laws of pertinent states, localities and foreign jurisdictions, of his investment in us. Accordingly, each prospective unitholder is urged to consult his own tax counsel or other advisor with regard to those matters. Further, it is the responsibility of each unitholder to file all state, local and foreign, as well as U.S. federal tax returns, that may be required of him. Latham & Watkins LLP has not rendered an opinion on the state, local or foreign tax consequences of an investment in us.

S-26

### **UNDERWRITING**

Barclays Capital Inc., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, UBS Securities LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC are acting as representatives of the underwriters and joint book-running managers of this offering. Under the terms of an underwriting agreement, which we will file as an exhibit to a current report on Form 8-K and incorporate by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, each of the underwriters named below has severally agreed to purchase from us the respective number of common units shown opposite its name below:

Number of Common Units

#### **Underwriters**

Barclays Capital Inc.
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith
Incorporated
Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC
J.P. Morgan Securities LLC
Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC
UBS Securities LLC
Wells Fargo Securities, LLC
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.
Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.

Total

The underwriting agreement provides that the underwriters obligation to purchase the common units depends on the satisfaction of the conditions contained in the underwriting agreement including:

the obligation to purchase all of the common units offered hereby (other than those common units covered by their option to purchase additional common units as described below), if any of the common units are purchased;

the representations and warranties made by us to the underwriters are true;

there is no material change in our business or in the financial markets; and

we deliver customary closing documents to the underwriters.

## **Commissions and Expenses**

The following table summarizes the underwriting discounts and commissions we will pay to the underwriters. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters—option to purchase additional common units. The underwriting fee is the difference between the initial price to the public and the amount the underwriters pay to us for the common units.

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

The representatives of the underwriters have advised us that the underwriters propose to offer the common units directly to the public at the public offering price on the cover of this prospectus supplement and to selected dealers, which may include the underwriters, at such offering price less a selling concession not in excess of \$ per common unit. After the offering, the representatives may change the offering price and other selling terms.

S-27

#### **Table of Contents**

The expenses of the offering that are payable by us are estimated to be \$370,000 (excluding underwriting discounts and commissions).

## **Option to Purchase Additional Common Units**

We have granted the underwriters an option exercisable for 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase, from time to time, in whole or in part, up to an aggregate of 1,500,000 common units at the public offering price less underwriting discounts and commissions. This option may be exercised if the underwriters sell more than 10,000,000 common units in connection with this offering. To the extent that this option is exercised, each underwriter will be obligated, subject to certain conditions, to purchase its pro rata portion of these additional common units based on the underwriter s percentage underwriting commitment in the offering as indicated in the table at the beginning of this Underwriting Section.

## **Lock-Up Agreements**

We and the non-independent directors and executive officers of our general partner have agreed that, for a period of 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, subject to certain exceptions, without the prior written consent of Barclays Capital Inc., we and they will not directly or indirectly (1) offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, lend, or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, any common units (including common units that may be deemed to be beneficially owned in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC) or securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common units or (2) enter into any swap or other arrangement that transfers to another, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of the common units, provided that the forgoing restrictions do not apply to: (a) the issuance of common units in connection with this offering, (b) issuance or vesting of restricted or phantom units pursuant to an employee benefit plan or net exercises of options to purchase common units, (c) withholding of common units to pay income taxes upon the vesting of restricted or phantom units under an employee benefit plan, or (d) transfers of common units or securities convertible into common units as a bona fide gift so long as each done delivers to the underwriters a substantially similar lock-up letter.

Barclays Capital Inc., in its sole discretion, may release the common units and other securities subject to the lock-up agreements described above in whole or in part at any time with or without notice. When determining whether or not to release common units and other securities from lock-up agreements, Barclays Capital Inc. will consider, among other factors, the holder s reasons for requesting the release, the number of common units and other securities for which the release is being requested and market conditions at the time.

#### Indemnification

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act ), and to contribute to payments that the underwriters may be required to make for these liabilities.

### Stabilization, Short Positions and Penalty Bids

The representatives may engage in stabilizing transactions, short sales and purchases to cover positions created by short sales, and penalty bids or purchases for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of the common units, in accordance with Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended:

Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.

S-28

#### **Table of Contents**

A short position involves a sale by the underwriters of common units in excess of the number of common units the underwriters are obligated to purchase in the offering, which creates the syndicate short position. This short position may be either a covered short position or a naked short position. In a covered short position, the number of common units involved in the sales made by the underwriters in excess of the number of common units they are obligated to purchase is not greater than the number of common units that they may purchase by exercising their option to purchase additional common units. In a naked short position, the number of common units involved is greater than the number of common units in their option to purchase additional common units. The underwriters may close out any short position by either exercising their option to purchase additional common units and/or purchasing common units in the open market. In determining the source of common units to close out the short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of common units available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase common units through their option to purchase additional common units. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there could be downward pressure on the price of the common units in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering.

Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the common units in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions.

Penalty bids permit the representatives to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the common units originally sold by the syndicate member is purchased in a stabilizing or syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions.

These stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our common units or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common units. As a result, the price of the common units may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions may be effected on the New York Stock Exchange or otherwise and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

Neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the common units. In addition, neither we nor any of the underwriters make representation that the representatives will engage in these stabilizing transactions or that any transaction, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

#### **Electronic Distribution**

A prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus in electronic format may be made available on the Internet sites or through other online services maintained by one or more of the underwriters and/or selling group members participating in this offering, or by their affiliates. In those cases, prospective investors may view offering terms online and, depending upon the particular underwriter or selling group member, prospective investors may be allowed to place orders online. The underwriters may agree with us to allocate a specific number of common units for sale to online brokerage account holders. Any such allocation for online distributions will be made by the representatives on the same basis as other allocations.

Other than the prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus in electronic format, the information on any underwriter s or selling group member s web site and any information contained in any other web site maintained by an underwriter or selling group member is not part of the prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus or the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus

forms a part, has not been approved and/or endorsed by us or any underwriter or selling group member in its capacity as underwriter or selling group member and should not be relied upon by investors.

S-29

## **Discretionary Sales**

The underwriters have informed us that they do not intend to confirm sales to discretionary accounts without the specific written approval of the customer.

# Relationships/FINRA Rules

Certain of the underwriters and their related entities have engaged, and may in the future engage, in commercial and investment banking transactions with us in the ordinary course of their business. They have received, and expect to receive, customary compensation and expense reimbursement for these commercial and investment banking transactions. In particular, affiliates of Barclays Capital Inc. Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, UBS Securities LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC are lenders under our revolving credit facility and, as such, will receive a portion of the proceeds from this offering pursuant to the repayment of borrowings under such facility.

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

#### SALES TO FOREIGN INVESTORS

## Germany

This document has not been prepared in accordance with the requirements for a securities or sales prospectus under the German Securities Prospectus Act (Wertpapierprospektgesetz), the German Sales Prospectus Act (Verkaufsprospektgesetz), or the German Investment Act (Investmentgesetz). Neither the German Federal Financial Services Supervisory Authority (Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht BaFin) nor any other German authority has been notified of the intention to distribute the common units in Germany. Consequently, the common units may not be distributed in Germany by way of public offering, public advertisement or in any similar manner and this document and any other document relating to the offering, as well as information or statements contained therein, may not be supplied to the public in Germany or used in connection with any offer for subscription of the common units to the public in Germany or any other means of public marketing. The common units are being offered and sold in Germany only to qualified investors which are referred to in Section 3, paragraph 2 no. 1 in connection with Section 2 no. 6 of the German Securities Prospectus Act, Section 8f paragraph 2 no. 4 of the German Sales Prospectus Act, and in Section 2 paragraph 11 sentence 2 no. 1 of the German Investment Act. This document is strictly for use of the person who has received it. It may not be forwarded to other persons or published in Germany.

The offering does not constitute an offer to buy or the solicitation or an offer to sell the common units in any circumstances in which such offer or solicitation is unlawful.

## **Netherlands**

The common units may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in the Netherlands, other than to qualified investors (*gekwalificeerde beleggers*) within the meaning of Article 1:1 of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (*Wet op het financieel toezicht*).

#### **Switzerland**

This prospectus supplement is being communicated in Switzerland to a small number of selected investors only. Each copy of this document is addressed to a

## **Table of Contents**

specifically named recipient and may not be copied, reproduced, distributed or passed on to third parties. The common units are not being offered to the public in Switzerland, and neither this prospectus supplement, nor any other offering materials relating to the common units may be distributed in connection with any such public offering.

The Partnership has not been registered with the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA as a foreign collective investment scheme pursuant to Article 120 of the Collective In