MARTIN MIDSTREAM PARTNERS LP Form 424B5 February 16, 2017 Table of Contents

> Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5) Registration No. 333-211407

**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT** (To the Prospectus dated June 8, 2016)

# 2,600,000 Common Units

# Martin Midstream Partners L.P.

# **Representing Limited Partner Interests**

We are selling 2,600,000 common units representing limited partner interests in Martin Midstream Partners L.P. Our common units are listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol MMLP. The last reported sale price of our common units on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on February 14, 2017 was \$19.00 per common unit.

# Investing in our common units involves risks. Please read <u>Risk Factors</u> beginning on page S-7 of this prospectus supplement and on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus.

	Per Common Unit	Total
Public Offering Price	\$18.00	\$46,800,000
Underwriting Discounts and Commissions	\$0.72	\$1,872,000
Proceeds, Before Expenses, to Martin Midstream Partners L.P.	\$17.28	\$44,928,000
	17	

The underwriters expect to deliver the common units on or about February 22, 2017.

The underwriters may also purchase up to an additional 390,000 common units from us at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount, within 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement.

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

Joint Book-Running Managers

**RBC CAPITAL MARKETS** 

WELLS FARGO SECURITIES

Prospectus supplement dated February 15, 2017

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

#### PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

Prospectus Supplement Summary	S-1
The Offering	S-5
Risk Factors	S-7
Use of Proceeds	S-7
<u>Capitalization</u>	S-8
Price Range of Common Units and Distributions	S-9
Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations	S-10
Investment in Us by Benefit Plans	S-12
Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest)	S-13
Legal Matters	S-19
Experts	S-19
Where You Can Find More Information	S-19

## **PROSPECTUS DATED JUNE 8, 2016**

About This Prospectus 1
Martin Midstream Partners L.P. 2
The Subsidiary Guarantors 55
Risk Factors 55
Forward-Looking Statements 55
Use of Proceeds 6
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges
Description of the Debt Securities
Description of the Common Units
Cash Distribution Policy
The Partnership Agreement 25
Selling Unitholders 37
Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations 40
Investment in Us by Benefit Plans
Plan of Distribution 62
Legal Matters 63
Experts 63
Where You Can Find More Information 63
Incorporation by Reference 63

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT INFORMATION IN THIS

#### PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT AND THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS

This document is in two parts. The first part is the prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which gives more general information about securities we may offer from time to time. To the extent the information contained in this prospectus supplement differs or varies from the information contained in the accompanying prospectus, the information in this prospectus supplement controls. Before you invest in our common units, you should carefully read this prospectus supplement, along with the accompanying prospectus, in addition to the information contained in the documents we refer to under the heading Where You Can Find More Information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be delivered to you. Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide you with additional or different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy our common units in any jurisdiction where such offer or any sale would be unlawful. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any free writing prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the dates shown in these documents or any information that we have incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since such dates. If any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date for example, a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus the statement in the date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement.

#### PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein. 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 prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference herein and the other information to which we refer for a more complete understanding of this offering. Please read the sections entitled Risk Factors on page S-7 of this prospectus supplement and page 5 of the accompanying prospectus for more information about important factors that you should consider before buying our common units in this offering. Unless we indicate otherwise, the information presented in this prospectus supplement assumes that the underwriters option to purchase additional common units is not exercised.

References in this prospectus supplement to Martin Midstream Partners L.P., the Partnership, we, our, us or like terms refer to Martin Midstream Partners L.P. and its consolidated subsidiaries. References in this prospectus supplement to Martin Resource Management refer to Martin Resource Management Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries other than our general partner.

#### Martin Midstream Partners L.P.

#### Overview

We are a publicly traded limited partnership with a diverse set of operations focused primarily in the United States Gulf Coast region. Our four primary business lines include:

Terminalling and storage services for petroleum products and by-products including the refining of naphthenic crude oil and the blending and packaging of finished lubricants;

Natural gas liquids transportation and distribution services and natural gas storage;

Sulfur and sulfur-based products gathering, processing, marketing, manufacturing and distribution; and

Marine transportation services for petroleum products and by-products.

The petroleum products and by-products we collect, transport, store and market are produced primarily by major and independent oil and gas companies who often turn to third parties, such as us, for the transportation and disposition of these products. In addition to these major and independent oil and gas companies, our primary customers include independent refiners, large chemical companies, fertilizer manufacturers and other wholesale purchasers of these products. We operate primarily in the United States Gulf Coast region. This region is a major hub for petroleum refining, natural gas gathering and processing, and support services for the exploration and production industry.

#### **Recent Developments**

On February 14, 2017, we entered into a Membership Interests Purchase Agreement (the Purchase Agreement ) with Martin Resource Management and MRMC Equipment Holdings LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Martin Resource Management, to acquire 100% of the membership interests of MEH South Texas Terminals LLC (MEH) for a purchase price of \$27.4 million (the Hondo Acquisition). MEH is currently constructing in Hondo, Texas an asphalt terminal facility (the Hondo Terminal), which will serve the asphalt market in San Antonio, Texas and surrounding areas. The Hondo Acquisition is expected to close on or about February 28, 2017. After closing, we will spend \$8.6 million to finalize construction of the Hondo Terminal with substantial completion expected to be on or about July 1, 2017. Martin Resource Management is obligated to pay us the amount required to complete the construction of the Hondo Terminal in excess of \$8.6 million, if any.

The Hondo Acquisition was evaluated for its fairness and approved by the conflicts committee (the Conflicts Committee ) of the board of directors of our general partner. The Conflicts Committee, which is

comprised entirely of independent directors, retained independent legal counsel to assist it in evaluating the Hondo Acquisition. Each of our general partner and MEH is a direct or indirect subsidiary of Martin Resource Management. As a result, certain individuals, including directors and officers of Martin Resource Management, MEH and our general partner, serve as directors and/or officers of more than one of such entities.

There can be no assurance that the Hondo Acquisition will be completed in the anticipated time frame, or at all, or that the anticipated benefits of the Hondo Acquisition will be realized. The closing of the acquisition is conditioned on the closing of this offering, but this offering is not conditioned on the closing of the acquisition.

#### **Business Strategy**

The key components of our business strategy are to:

*Pursue Organic Growth Projects.* We continually evaluate economically attractive organic expansion opportunities in new or existing areas of operation that will allow us to leverage our existing market position and increase the distributable cash flow from our existing assets through improved utilization and efficiency.

*Pursue Internal Organic Growth by Attracting New Customers and Expanding Services Provided to Existing Customers.* Significant opportunities exist to expand our customer base across all four of our business segments and provide additional services and products to existing customers. We generally begin a relationship with a customer by transporting, storing or marketing a limited range of products and services. Expanding our customer base and our service and product offerings to existing customers is an efficient and cost effective method of achieving organic growth in revenues and cash flow.

*Pursue Strategic Acquisitions.* We continually monitor the marketplace to identify and pursue accretive acquisitions that expand the services and products we offer or that expand our geographic presence. After acquiring other businesses, we will attempt to utilize our industry knowledge, network of customers and suppliers and strategic asset base to operate the acquired businesses more efficiently and competitively, thereby increasing revenues and cash flow. Our diversified base of operations provides multiple platforms for strategic growth through acquisitions.

*Pursue Strategic Commercial Alliances.* Many of our larger customers, which include major integrated energy companies, have established strategic alliances with midstream service providers, such as us, to address logistical and transportation problems or achieve operational synergies. We intend to pursue strategic commercial alliances with such customers in the future. *Competitive Strengths* 

Commodity prices have declined substantially and experienced significant volatility. We plan for these cyclical downturns in commodity prices and we believe we are positioned to withstand the effect on our assets with respect to current and future commodity price volatility as a result of the following information.

*Fee Based Contracts.* We generate a majority of our cash flow from fee-based contracts with our customers. In addition, a significant portion of these fee-based contracts consist of reservation charges or minimum fee arrangements, which reduce the volatility of a portion of our cash flows due to volume fluctuations.

*Asset Base and Integrated Distribution Network.* We operate a diversified asset base that enables us to offer our customers an integrated distribution network consisting of transportation, terminalling and storage and midstream logistical services while minimizing our dependence on the availability and pricing of services provided by third parties. Our integrated distribution network enables us to provide customers with a complementary portfolio of transportation, terminalling, distribution and other midstream services for petroleum products and by-products.

*Strategically Located Assets.* A significant portion of our cash flow comes from providing various services to the oil refining industry. Accordingly, a significant portion of our assets are located in proximity to refining operations along the U.S. Gulf Coast. For example, we are one of the largest operators of marine service shore-based terminals in the U.S. Gulf Coast region providing broad geographic coverage and distribution capability of our products and services to our customers. Our natural gas storage and NGL distribution and storage assets are located in areas highly desirable for our customers. Finally, many of our sulfur services assets are strategically located to source sulfur from the largest refinery sources in the U.S.

*Specialized Transportation Equipment and Storage Facilities.* We have the assets and expertise to handle and transport certain petroleum products and by-products with unique requirements for transportation and storage. For example, we own facilities and resources to transport a variety of specialty products, including ammonia, molten sulfur and asphalt. Some of these specialty products require treatment across a wide range of temperatures ranging between approximately -30 to +400 degrees Fahrenheit to remain in liquid form, which our facilities are designed to accommodate. These capabilities help us enhance relationships with our customers by offering them services to handle their unique product requirements.

*Strong Industry Reputation and Established Relationships with Suppliers and Customers.* We have established a reputation in our industry as a reliable and cost-effective supplier of services to our customers and have a track record of safe, efficient operation of our facilities. Our management has also established long-term relationships with many of our suppliers and customers. We benefit from our management s reputation and track record and from these long-term relationships.

*Experienced Management Team and Operational Expertise.* Members of our executive management team and the heads of our principal business lines have a significant amount of experience in the industries in which we operate. Our management team has a successful track record of creating internal growth and completing acquisitions. We believe our management team s experience and familiarity with our industry and businesses are important assets that assist us in implementing our business strategies.

#### Our Relationship with Martin Resource Management

We were formed in 2002 by Martin Resource Management, a privately held company whose initial predecessor was incorporated in 1951 as a supplier of products and services to drilling rig contractors. Since then, Martin Resource Management has expanded its operations through acquisitions and internal expansion initiatives as its management identified and capitalized on the needs of producers and purchasers of petroleum products and by-products and other bulk liquids. Martin Resource Management owns an approximate 17.7% limited partnership interest in us. Furthermore, it controls our general partner, by virtue of its 51% voting interest in MMGP Holdings LLC. Certain affiliated investment funds managed by Alinda Capital Partners own 49% of the voting interest (50% of the economic interest) of MMGP Holdings LLC. Our General Partner owns a 2.0% general partner interest and incentive distribution rights in us. Martin Resource Management directs our business operations through its ownership and control of our general partner. In addition, under the terms of an Omnibus Agreement dated November 1, 2002, with Martin Resource Management is also an important supplier and customer of ours.

#### **Our Executive Offices**

Our principal executive offices are located at 4200 Stone Road, Kilgore, Texas 75662, our phone number is (903) 983-6200, and our website is http://www.martinmidstream.com. Information contained on

# Edgar Filing: MARTIN MIDSTREAM PARTNERS LP - Form 424B5

#### Table of Contents

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

#### Our Ownership and Organizational Structure

The diagram below depicts our organizational structure after giving effect to this offering (excluding any exercise of the underwriters option to purchase additional common units) and the use of proceeds contemplated hereby:

#### Ownership of Martin Midstream Partners L.P.

Public Common Units	81.9%
Martin Resource Management s Common Units	16.1%
General Partner Interest	2.0%

Total

S-4

100.0%

The Offering				
Common Units Offered by Us	2,600,000 common units, or 2,990,000 common units if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional common units in full.			
Units Outstanding Before this Offering	35,450,562 common units, representing a 98% limited partner interest in us.			
Units Outstanding After this Offering	38,050,562 common units, representing a 98% limited partner interest in us, or 38,440,562 common units if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional common units in full.			
Use of Proceeds	We will use the net proceeds from this offering (including any net proceeds from the exercise of the underwriters option to purchase additional common units), including our general partner s proportionate capital contribution and after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses, to fund a portion of the purchase price for the Hondo Acquisition, to repay a portion of the outstanding indebtedness incurred under our revolving credit facility and for general partnership purposes. This offering is not conditioned on the consummation of the Hondo Acquisition. If the Hondo Acquisition is not consummated, we intend to use the net proceeds from this offering to repay a portion of the outstanding indebtedness incurred under our revolving credit facility and for 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. We refer to this cash as available cash, and we define its meaning in our partnership agreement.			
On January 19, 2017, we declared a quarterly cash distribution attributable to the quarter ended December 31, 2016 of \$0.50 per common unit, or \$2.00 per common unit on an annualized basis, which was paid on February 14, 2017 to unitholders of record as of				

Limited Voting Rights

February 7, 2017.

Our general partner manages and operates us. Unlike the holders of common stock in a corporation, you will have only limited voting rights on matters affecting our business. You will have no right to elect our general partner or its officers or directors. Our general partner may not be removed except by a vote of the holders of at least 66 2/3% of the outstanding units, including units owned by our general partner and its

	affiliates, voting together as a single class. Following this offering (excluding any exercise of the underwriters option to purchase additional common units), Martin Resource Management will own an approximate 16.5% limited partnership interest in us. Therefore, it is unlikely that our general partner would be removed involuntarily without the consent of one or more affiliates of our general partner.
Conflicts of Interest	As described in Use of Proceeds, some of the net proceeds of this offering will be used to repay outstanding indebtedness incurred under our revolving credit facility. Because affiliates of certain of the underwriters are lenders under our revolving credit facility, certain of the underwriters or their affiliates may receive more than 5% of the proceeds of this offering (not including underwriting discounts and commissions). Nonetheless, in accordance with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA, Rule 5121, the appointment of a qualified independent underwriter is not necessary in connection with this offering because the common units offered hereby are interests in a direct participation program. Investor suitability with respect to the common units will be judged similarly to the suitability with respect to other securities that are listed for trading on a national securities exchange.
Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations	For a discussion of other material U.S. federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States, please read Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.
Agreement to be Bound by the Partnership Agreement	By purchasing a common unit, you will be bound by all of the terms of our partnership agreement. Please read The Partnership Agreement in the accompanying prospectus for more information.
Risk Factors	You should consider carefully the information set forth in the section of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus entitled Risk Factors as well as the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement before deciding whether to invest in our common units.
Exchange Listing	Our common units are listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol MMLP.

#### **RISK FACTORS**

An investment in our common units involves risk. You should read carefully the risk factors included under the caption Risk Factors beginning on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus as well as the risk factors discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, together with all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. If any of the risks were to occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected. In this case, we might not be able to pay distributions on our common units, the trading price of our common units could decline and unitholders could lose all or part of their investment.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We will receive net proceeds of approximately \$45.9 million from the sale of the 2,600,000 common units offered by this prospectus supplement, after deducting underwriting discounts and the estimated offering expenses. This amount includes a proportionate capital contribution from our general partner to maintain its 2% general partner interest in us. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional common units in full, we will receive total net proceeds of approximately \$52.8 million. We will use the net proceeds from this offering (including any proceeds from the exercise of the underwriters option to purchase additional common units) to fund a portion of the purchase price for the Hondo Acquisition, to repay a portion of the outstanding indebtedness incurred under our revolving credit facility and for general partnership purposes.

The closing of this offering is not contingent upon the closing of the Hondo Acquisition. Accordingly, if you decide to purchase shares of our common units, you should be willing to do so whether or not we complete the Hondo Acquisition. In addition, prior to funding the Hondo Acquisition, or if we do not complete the pending Hondo Acquisition, we may use the net proceeds from the offering to repay indebtedness incurred under our revolving credit facility and for general partnership purposes.

Within the past year, we have used borrowings under our revolving credit facility for general partnership purposes. Because affiliates of certain of the underwriters are lenders under our revolving credit facility, certain of the underwriters or their affiliates may receive more than 5% of the proceeds of this offering. Please see Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest). As of February 15, 2017, we had \$465.0 million of outstanding indebtedness under our revolving credit facility at a weighted average interest rate of 3.78% with a maturity date of March 28, 2020.

#### CAPITALIZATION

The following table shows our cash and cash equivalents and our capitalization as of December 31, 2016:

on an actual basis; and

on a pro forma and as adjusted basis to give effect to: (a) the public offering of 2,600,000 common units offered hereby, (b) the increase in our general partner capital account of approximately \$1.0 million to allow it to maintain its 2% general partner interest and (c) the application of the net proceeds. Please read Use of Proceeds.

This table should be read in conjunction with our historical financial statements and the accompanying notes incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement.

	Actual	December 31, 2016 Pro Forma and as Actual Adjusted (In thousands)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 15	\$ 15	
Debt, including current maturities:			
Revolving credit facility(1)(2)	435,868	417,805	
7.250% Senior Notes due 2021(3)	372,239	372,239	
Total long-term debt	808,107	790,044	
Partners capital			
Common unitholders(4)	304,594	340,959	
General partner	7,412	8,367	
Total partners capital(4)	312,006	349,326	
Total capitalization	\$ 1,120,113	\$ 1,139,370	

(1) As of February 15, 2017, borrowings under our revolving credit facility were \$465.0 million.

- (2) Net of unamortized debt issuance costs of \$7.1 million.
- (3) Net of unamortized premium of \$1.3 million and unamortized debt issuance costs of \$2.8 million.
- (4) Includes an \$8.2 million reduction in partners capital attributed to common unitholders related to the transfer of net assets between entities under common control, which amount represents the excess of the purchase price over the historical cost of the assets being transferred in the Hondo Acquisition.

This table does not reflect the issuance of up to 390,000 common units that may be sold to the underwriters upon exercise of their option to purchase additional common units, the proceeds of which will be used in the manner described under Use of Proceeds.

#### PRICE RANGE OF COMMON UNITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

Our common units are listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol MMLP. The last reported sales price of the common units on February 14, 2017 was \$19.00. As of February 15, 2017, we had issued and outstanding 35,450,562 common units, which were beneficially held by approximately 23,305 unitholders. The following table sets forth the range of high and low sales prices of the common units based on the daily composite listing of stock transactions for the Nasdaq Global Select Market, as well as the amount of cash distributions paid per common unit for the periods indicated.

	Price Range		Cash Distributions	
	High	Low	Per	Unit(1)
Year Ending December 31, 2017	0			
First Quarter (through February 14, 2017)	\$ 20.10	\$ 17.50		(2)
Year Ending December 31, 2016				
Fourth Quarter	\$ 21.63	\$ 15.80	\$	0.5000
Third Quarter	\$ 25.12	\$ 18.99	\$	0.5000
Second Quarter	\$ 23.77	\$ 19.40	\$	0.8125
First Quarter	\$ 22.22	\$ 14.05	\$	0.8125
Year Ending December 31, 2015				
Fourth Quarter	\$ 29.44	\$ 18.62	\$	0.8125
Third Quarter	\$ 32.83	\$ 23.43	\$	0.8125
Second Quarter	\$ 38.03	\$ 30.95	\$	0.8125
First Quarter	\$ 35.44	\$ 24.97	\$	0.8125

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

(2) The distribution with respect to the quarter ending March 31, 2017 has not been declared or paid. We expect to declare and pay a cash distribution within 45 days following the end of the quarter.

#### MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The tax consequences to you of an investment in our common units will depend in part on your own tax circumstances. For a discussion of the principal federal income tax considerations associated with our operations and the purchase, ownership and disposition of our common units, please read Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations in the accompanying base prospectus. Please also read Item 1A. Risk Factors Tax Risks in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 for a discussion of the tax risks related to purchasing and owning our common units. You are urged to consult with your own tax advisor about the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences peculiar to your circumstances.

#### **Partnership Status**

Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the 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. In rendering its opinion, Locke Lord LLP has relied on factual representations made by us and our general partner and on an estimate prepared by us that less than 8% of our current gross income will not be qualifying income; however, this estimate could change from time to time.

#### **Recent Legislative and Regulatory Developments**

The present U.S. 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 changes or differing interpretations at any time. At the federal level, from time to time, members of Congress propose and consider substantive changes to the existing U.S. federal income tax laws that affect publicly traded partnerships. One such legislative proposal would have eliminated the qualifying income exception to the treatment of all publicly traded partnerships as corporations upon which we rely for our treatment as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. At the state level, because of widespread state budget deficits and other reasons, several states are evaluating ways to subject partnerships to entity-level taxation through the imposition of state income, franchise and other forms of taxation. We are unable to predict whether any of these changes or other proposals will be reintroduced or will ultimately be enacted. Any such changes could negatively impact the value of an investment in our common units. Any modification to U.S. federal income tax laws may be applied retroactively and could make it more difficult or impossible for us to meet the qualifying income requirement to be treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Moreover, imposition of any tax on us by any state may reduce the cash available for distribution to our unitholders.

On January 24, 2017, the U.S. Department of the Treasury issued final regulations (the Final Regulations ) regarding qualifying income under Section 7704(d)(1)(E) of the Code, which relate to the qualifying income exception upon which we rely for partnership tax treatment. The Final Regulations apply to income earned in a taxable year beginning on or after January 19, 2017. The Final Regulations include reserved paragraphs for fertilizer and hedging, which the U.S. Department of the Treasury plans to address in future proposed and final Treasury regulations (Treasury Regulations). The Final Regulations provide for a ten year transition period during which certain taxpayers that either obtained a favorable private letter ruling or treated income under a reasonable interpretation of the statute or prior proposed regulations as qualifying income may continue to treat such income as qualifying income. We have obtained favorable private letter rulings from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in the past as to what constitutes qualifying income within the meaning of Section 7704(d)(1)(E) of the Code and we expect to rely upon these private letter rulings for purposes of the ten year transition rule contained in the Final Regulations. With respect to some of these private letter rulings, the income that we derived from certain affected activities will be treated as qualifying income only until the end of the ten year transition period (and possibly beyond if not involving such affected affected affected activities will be treated as qualifying income only until the end of the ten year transition period (and possibly beyond if not involving such affected affected affected activities will be treated as qualifying income only until the end of the ten year transition period (and possibly beyond if not involving such affected affected activities will be treated as qualifying income only until the end of the ten year transition period (and possibly beyond if not involving such affected affected activities will be treated as

activities), we believe that the Final Regulations will not significantly impact the amount of our gross income that we are able to treat as qualifying income or affect our ability to qualify as a publicly traded partnership.

Pursuant to the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 and recently issued proposed Treasury Regulations (the Proposed Partnership Audit Regulations), for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, if the IRS makes audit adjustments to our income tax returns, it may assess and collect any taxes (including any applicable penalties and interest) resulting from such audit adjustment directly from us. Similarly, for such taxable years, if the IRS makes audit adjustments to income tax returns filed by an entity in which we are a member or partner, the IRS may assess and collect any taxes (including penalties and interest) resulting from such audit adjustment directly from such entity. Generally, we expect to elect to have our unitholders take such audit adjustment into account in accordance with their interests in us during the tax year under audit, but there can be no assurance that such election will be effective in all circumstances. With respect to audit adjustments as to an entity in which we are a member or partner, the Joint Committee on Taxation has stated that we should not be able to have our unitholders take such audit adjustment into account would present complexities, challenges, and inefficiencies. If we are unable to have our unitholders take such audit adjustment into account in accordance with their interests in us during the tax year under audit, our current unitholders take such audit adjustment into account would present complexities, challenges, and inefficiencies. If we are unable to have our unitholders take such audit adjustment into account in accordance with their interests in us during the tax year under audit, our current unitholders take such audit adjustment into account in accordance with their interests in us during the tax year under audit, our current unitholders may bear some or all of the tax liability resulting from such audit adjustment, even if such unitholders did not own units in us during the tax year under audit. If, as a result of any such audit adjustment, we are required to

Additionally, pursuant to the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 and the Proposed Partnership Audit Regulations, we will no longer be required to designate a tax matters partner. Instead, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, we will be required to designate a partner, or other person, with a substantial presence in the United States as the partnership representative (Partnership Representative). The Partnership Representative will have the sole authority to act on our behalf for purposes of, among other things, U.S. federal income tax audits and judicial review of administrative adjustments by the IRS. If we do not make such a designation, the IRS can select any person as the Partnership Representative. Any actions taken by us or by the Partnership Representative on our behalf with respect to, among other things, U.S. federal income tax audits and judicial review of administrative adjustments by the IRS, will be binding on us and all of the unitholders. We anticipate that our current tax matters partner will be designated the Partnership Representative.

The partnership audit rules discussed above are not applicable to us for taxable years beginning on or prior to December 31, 2017. In addition, on January 20, 2017, White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus issued a Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies (the Regulatory Freeze Memorandum ) that prevents regulations from being sent to the Federal Register for publication until such regulations have been reviewed and approved by a department or agency head appointed or designed by the new administration. The Proposed Partnership Audit Regulations are subject to the Regulatory Freeze Memorandum and, as such, are subject to review and approval by a department or agency head appointed or designated by the new administration.

#### INVESTMENT IN US BY BENEFIT PLANS

An equity investment in us by a benefit plan may raise certain issues under the U.S. Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA), and the Code. For a discussion of the considerations applicable to employee benefit plans when investing in our common units, please read Investment in Us by Benefit Plans beginning on page 59 of the accompanying base prospectus. Prospective investors that may be subject to any such laws should consult their professional advisors with regard to such laws.

#### UNDERWRITING (CONFLICTS OF INTEREST)

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

Underwriter	Number of Common Units
RBC Capital Markets, LLC	1,820,000
Wells Fargo Securities, LLC	780,000
Total	2,600,000

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

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

We have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to 390,000 additional common units at the public offering price less the underwriting discount. To the extent the option is exercised, each underwriter must purchase a number of additional common units approximately proportionate to that underwriter s initial purchase commitment.

#### **Underwriting Discounts and Expenses**

The underwriters propose to offer some of the common units directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and some of the common units to dealers at the public offering price less a concession not to exceed \$0.43 per common unit. If all of the common units are not sold at the initial offering price, the underwriters may change the public offering price and the other selling terms. All compensation received by the underwriters in connection with this offering will not exceed eight percent of the gross offering proceeds.

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

	No	Exercise	Fu	Ill Exercise
Per Unit	\$	0.72	\$	0.72
Total	\$ 1	1,872,000	\$	2,152,800
	· / 1	¢O 4 .11.		

We estimate that our total expenses of this offering, excluding the underwriting discounts, will be approximately \$0.4 million.

#### Lock-Up Agreements

Martin Resource Management, certain of its subsidiaries and all of the directors and executive officers of our general partner have entered into lock-up agreements with the underwriters. Under these agreements, each of the these persons may not, without the prior written approval of RBC Capital Markets, LLC, offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge or otherwise dispose of or hedge our common units or securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common units, enter into any swap or other agreement that

transfers, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of the common units, make any demand for or exercise any right or file or cause to be filed a registration statement with respect to the registration of any common units or securities convertible, exercisable or exchangeable into common units or publicly disclose the intention to do any of the foregoing. These restrictions will be in effect for a period of 45 days after the date of this prospectus supplement; provided, however, these restrictions will be in effect for a period of 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement for the sale of common units pursuant to our at-the-market program. The restrictions described in this paragraph do not apply to, among other things, the sale of units to the underwriters pursuant to the underwriting agreement, grants of restricted common units or options to acquire restricted common units pursuant to our long term incentive plan or the issuance of common units pursuant to distribution reinvestments under a plan maintained by Martin Resource Management.

At any time and without public notice, RBC Capital Markets, LLC may in its discretion, release all or some of the securities from these lock-up agreements.

#### Listing

Our common units are listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol MMLP.

#### **Passive Market Making**

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

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

In connection with the offering, the representatives, on behalf of the underwriters, may purchase and sell common units in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, syndicate covering transactions and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve syndicate sales of common units in excess of the number of common units to be purchased by the underwriters in the offering, which creates a syndicate short position. Covered short sales are sales of common units made in an amount up to the number of common units represented by the underwriters option to purchase additional common units. In determining the source of common units to close out the covered syndicate 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 units through the option. Transactions to close out the covered syndicate short position involve either purchases of the common units in excess of the option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing common units in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the common units in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of bids for or purchases of common units in the open market while the offering is in progress.

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

Any of these activities may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common units. They may also cause the price of the common units to be higher than the price that

would otherwise exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. The underwriters may conduct these transactions on the Nasdaq Global Select Market or in the over-the-counter market, or otherwise. If the underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

The underwriters and their affiliates have performed investment and commercial banking and advisory services for us and our affiliates from time to time for which they have received customary fees and expenses. The underwriters and their affiliates may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for us in the ordinary course of their business. As described in Use of Proceeds, some of the net proceeds of this offering may be used to repay borrowings under our secured credit facility. Because affiliates of RBC Capital Markets, LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC are lenders under our secured credit facility, certain of the underwriters or their affiliates may receive more than 5% of the proceeds of this offering (not including underwriting discounts and commissions). Nonetheless, in accordance with the Financial Industry Authority Rule 5121, the appointment of a qualified independent underwriter is not necessary in connection with this offering because the common units offered hereby are interests in a direct participation program. Investor suitability with respect to the common units will be judged similarly to the suitability with respect to other securities that are listed for trading on a national securities exchange.

#### **Electronic Distribution**

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

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

#### Indemnification

We, our general partner, our operating subsidiaries and the general partner of our operating partnership have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make because of any of these liabilities.

#### Notice to Prospective Investors in Australia

No placement document, prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document has been lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), in relation to the offering. This prospectus supplement does not constitute a prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document under the Corporations Act 2001 (the Corporations Act), and does not purport to include the information required for a prospectus, product disclosure document or other disclosure document under the Corporations Act.

Any offer in Australia of the common units may only be made to persons (the Exempt Investors ), who are:

(a) sophisticated investors (within the meaning of section 708(8) of the Corporations Act), professional investors (within the meaning of section 708(11) of the Corporations Act) or

otherwise pursuant to one or more exemptions contained in section 708 of the Corporations Act; and

(b) wholesale clients (within the meaning of section 761G of the Corporations Act), so that it is lawful to offer the common units without disclosure to investors under Chapters 6D and 7 of the Corporations Act.

The common units applied for by Exempt Investors in Australia must not be offered for sale in Australia in the period of 12 months after the date of allotment under the offering, except in circumstances where disclosure to investors under Chapters 6D and 7 of the Corporations Act would not be required pursuant to an exemption under both section 708 and Subdivision B of Division 2 of Part 7.9 of the Corporations Act or otherwise or where the offer is pursuant to a disclosure document which complies with Chapters 6D and 7 of the Corporations Act. Any person acquiring common units must observe such Australian on-sale restrictions.

This prospectus supplement contains general information only and does not take account of the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. It does not contain any securities recommendations or financial product advice. Before making an investment decision, investors need to consider whether the information in this prospectus supplement is appropriate to their needs, objectives and circumstances, and, if necessary, seek expert advice on those matters.

#### Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area

In relation to each member state of the European Economic Area (each, a relevant member state), other than Germany, an offer of securities described in this prospectus supplement may not be made to the public in that relevant member state other than:

to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive (as defined below);

to fewer than 100 or, if the relevant member state has implemented the relevant provision of the 2010 PD Amending Directive, 150, natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), as permitted under the Prospectus Directive, subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant dealer or dealers nominated by the Issuer for any such offer; or

in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive; provided that no such offer of securities shall require us or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

For purposes of this provision, the expression an offer of securities to the public in any relevant member state means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the securities to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the securities, as the expression may be varied in that member state by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that member state, and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in the relevant member state), and includes any relevant implementing measure in the relevant member state. The expression 2010 PD Amending Directive 2010/73/EU.

We have not authorized and do not authorize the making of any offer of securities through any financial intermediary on their behalf, other than offers made by the underwriters with a view to the final placement of the securities as contemplated in this prospectus. Accordingly, no purchaser of the securities, other than the underwriters, is authorized to make any further offer of the securities on behalf of us or the underwriters.

#### Notice to Prospective Investors in Germany

This prospectus supplement 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 prospectus and any other document relating to this 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 prospectus is strictly for use of the person who has received it. It may not be forwarded to other persons or published in Germany.

This offering of our common units 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.

#### Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong

No advertisement, invitation or document relating to the common units has been or may be issued or has been or may be in the possession of any person for the purposes of issue, whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere, which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public of Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to common units which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made under that Ordinance.

#### Notice to Prospective Investors in the 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 financiael toezicht).

#### Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland

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

We have not been registered with the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA) as a foreign collective investment scheme pursuant to Article 120 of the Collective Investment Schemes Act of June 23, 2006 (CISA). Accordingly, the common units may not be offered to the public in or from Switzerland, and neither this prospectus supplement, nor any other offering materials relating to the common units may be made available through a public offering in or from Switzerland. The common units may only be offered and this prospectus supplement may only be distributed in or from Switzerland by way of private placement exclusively to qualified investors (as this term is defined in the CISA and its implementing ordinance).

#### Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

Our partnership may constitute a collective investment scheme as defined by section 235 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (FSMA) that is not a recognised collective investment scheme for the purposes of FSMA (CIS) and that has not been authorised or otherwise approved. As an unregulated scheme, it cannot be marketed in the United Kingdom to the general public, except in accordance with FSMA. This prospectus supplement is only being distributed in the United Kingdom to, and is only directed at:

- (i) if we are a CIS and are marketed by a person who is an authorised person under FSMA, (a) investment professionals falling within Article 14(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Promotion of Collective Investment Schemes) Order 2001, as amended (the CIS Promotion Order ) or (b) high net worth companies and other persons falling within Article 22(2)(a) to (d) of the CIS Promotion Order; or
- (ii) otherwise, if marketed by a person who is not an authorised person under FSMA, (a) persons who fall within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the Financial Promotion Order ) or (b) Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Financial Promotion Order; and
- (iii) in both cases (i) and (ii) to any other person to whom it may otherwise lawfully be made, (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons). The common units are only available to, and any invitation, offer or agreement to subscribe, purchase or otherwise acquire such common units will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this prospectus or any of its contents.

An invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of FSMA) in connection with the issue or sale of any common units which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this prospectus will only be communicated or caused to be communicated in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of FSMA does not apply to us.

#### LEGAL MATTERS

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

#### EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Martin Midstream Partners L.P., as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2016, and management s assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016 have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

#### WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file periodic reports and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). You may read and copy this information, for a copying fee, at the SEC s public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. We encourage you to call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information about its public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public from commercial document retrieval services and at the website maintained by the SEC at http://www.sec.gov. Information about us is also available to the public from our website at http://www.martinmidstream.com. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and, you should not consider information contained on our website as part of this prospectus supplement.

This prospectus supplement is part of a registration statement we have filed with the SEC relating to the securities we may offer. As permitted by SEC rules, this prospectus supplement does not contain all of the information we have included in the registration statement and the accompanying exhibits and schedules we file with the SEC. You should read the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules for more information about us and our securities. The registration statement, exhibits and schedules are available at the SEC s public reference room or through its website.

You may also obtain a copy of our filings with the SEC, at no cost, by telephoning or writing us at the following address:

Martin Midstream Partners L.P.

4200 Stone Road

Kilgore, Texas 75662

Attention: Joe McCreery

Telephone: (903) 983-6200

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

We incorporate by reference in this prospectus supplement the documents listed below (excluding any portions thereof that are deemed to be furnished and not filed):

# Edgar Filing: MARTIN MIDSTREAM PARTNERS LP - Form 424B5

our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 filed on February 15, 2017;

our current report on Form 8-K/A (excluding any portions thereof that may be deemed to be furnished and not filed) filed on February 15, 2017;

the description of our common units in our registration statement on Form 8-A (File No. 000-50056) filed pursuant to the Exchange Act on October 29, 2002; and

all documents filed by us under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act between the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of this offering.

You may obtain any of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement from the SEC through the SEC s website at the address provided above or by contacting us using the address or telephone number provided above.

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus supplement and the accompany prospectus. If information in incorporated documents conflicts with information in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus you should rely on the most recent information. If information in an incorporated document conflicts with information in another incorporated document, you should rely on the most recent incorporated document. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of those documents. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with any information.

# PROSPECTUS

Martin Midstream Partners L.P.

# Martin Midstream Finance Corp.

\$300,000,000

# **COMMON UNITS**

# **DEBT SECURITIES**

# 6,264,532 COMMON UNITS

# **OFFERED BY THE SELLING UNITHOLDERS**

The following securities may be offered in one or more offerings under this prospectus:

Common units representing limited partner interests in Martin Midstream Partners L.P.; and

Debt securities of Martin Midstream Partners L.P. and Martin Midstream Finance Corp. Martin Midstream Finance Corp. may act as co-issuer of the debt securities, and certain direct or indirect subsidiaries of Martin Midstream Partners L.P. may guarantee the debt securities.

The aggregate initial offering price of the securities that we offer by this prospectus will not exceed \$300,000,000. We will offer the securities in amounts, at prices and on terms to be determined by market conditions at the time of our offerings.

In addition, the selling unitholders may offer and sell, from time to time, under this prospectus up to an aggregate of 6,264,532 common units. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of our units by the selling unitholders.

This prospectus describes only the general terms of these securities and the general manner in which we or the selling unitholders may offer the securities. The specific terms of any securities we or the selling unitholders may offer will be included in a supplement to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement will describe the specific manner in which we or the selling unitholders will offer the securities and also may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. The common units are traded on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol MMLP.

You should read this prospectus and the prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in any of our securities. This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of our securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

Investing in our securities involves risk. You should carefully consider the risk factors described under <u>Risk</u> <u>Factors</u> beginning on page 5 of this prospectus before you make any investment in our securities.

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

The date of this prospectus is June 8, 2016

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS	1
MARTIN MIDSTREAM PARTNERS L.P.	2
THE SUBSIDIARY GUARANTORS	5
RISK FACTORS	5
FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	5
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	6
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES	7
DESCRIPTION OF THE DEBT SECURITIES	7
DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON UNITS	17
CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY	19
THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT	25
SELLING UNITHOLDERS	37
MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS	40
INVESTMENT IN US BY BENEFIT PLANS	59
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	62
LEGAL MATTERS	63
EXPERTS	63
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	63
INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE	63
You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplem	ent and the documents

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated by reference. We have not authorized anyone else to give you different information. We are not offering these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents. We will disclose any material changes in our affairs in an amendment to this prospectus, a prospectus supplement or a future filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

# **ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may sell, in one or more offerings, up to \$300,000,000 in total aggregate initial offering price of securities described in this prospectus. The selling unitholders may, from time to time, use this process to sell in one or more offering transactions an aggregate of up to 6,264,532 common units. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of units by the selling unitholders.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of us and the securities offered under this prospectus. Each time we or the selling unitholders sell securities under this prospectus, we or the selling unitholders will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering and the securities being offered. The prospectus supplement also may add to, update or change information in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. You should read carefully this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the additional information described below under the heading Where You Can Find More Information.

As used in this prospectus, Martin Midstream Partners, we, us, and our and similar terms mean Martin Midstream Partners L.P., and its subsidiaries. References to Martin Midstream Partners Predecessor, we, ours, us, or like terms when used in a historical context for periods prior to November 2002 refer to the assets and operations of Martin Resource Management Corporation s businesses that were contributed to us in connection with the closing of our initial public offering in November 2002. References in this prospectus to Martin Resource Management refer to Martin Resource Management Corporation and its direct and indirect consolidated and unconsolidated subsidiaries.

1

# MARTIN MIDSTREAM PARTNERS L.P.

## Overview

We are a publicly traded limited partnership with a diverse set of operations focused primarily in the United States Gulf Coast region. Our four primary business lines include:

Terminalling and storage services for petroleum products and by-products, including the refining of naphthenic crude oil and the blending and packaging of finished lubricants;

Natural gas liquids transportation and distribution services and natural gas storage;

Sulfur and sulfur-based products gathering, processing, marketing, manufacturing and distribution; and

Marine transportation services for petroleum products and by-products.

The petroleum products and by-products we collect, transport, store and market are produced primarily by major and independent oil and gas companies who often turn to third parties, such as us, for the transportation and disposition of these products. In addition to these major and independent oil and gas companies, our primary customers include independent refiners, large chemical companies, fertilizer manufacturers and other wholesale purchasers of these products. We operate primarily in the U.S. Gulf Coast region. This region is a major hub for petroleum refining, natural gas gathering and processing, and support services for the exploration and production industry.

We were formed in 2002 by Martin Resource Management, a privately-held company whose initial predecessor was incorporated in 1951 as a supplier of products and services to drilling rig contractors. Since then, Martin Resource Management has expanded its operations through acquisitions and internal expansion initiatives as its management identified and capitalized on the needs of producers and purchasers of petroleum products and by-products and other bulk liquids. Martin Resource Management is an important supplier and customer of ours. As of December 31, 2015, Martin Resource Management owned 17.7% of our total outstanding common limited partner units. Furthermore, Martin Resource Management controls Martin Midstream GP LLC (MMGP), our general partner, by virtue of its 51% voting interest in MMGP Holdings, LLC (Holdings), the sole member of MMGP. MMGP owns a 2.0% general partner interest in us and all of our incentive distribution rights. Martin Resource Management directs our business operations through its ownership interests in and control of our general partner.

We entered into an omnibus agreement dated November 1, 2002, with Martin Resource Management (the Omnibus Agreement ) that governs, among other things, potential competition and indemnification obligations among the parties to the agreement, related party transactions, the provision of general administration and support services by Martin Resource Management and our use of certain of Martin Resource Management s trade names and trademarks. Under the terms of the Omnibus Agreement, the employees of Martin Resource Management are responsible for conducting our business and operating our assets. The Omnibus Agreement was amended on November 25, 2009, to include processing crude oil into finished products including naphthenic lubricants, distillates, asphalt and other intermediate cuts. The Omnibus Agreement was amended further on October 1, 2012, to permit the Partnership to provide certain lubricant packaging products and services to Martin Resource Management.

# Edgar Filing: MARTIN MIDSTREAM PARTNERS LP - Form 424B5

Martin Resource Management has operated our business since 2002. Martin Resource Management began operating our natural gas services business in the 1950s and our sulfur business in the 1960s. It began our marine transportation business in the late 1980s. It entered into our fertilizer and terminalling and storage businesses in the early 1990s. In recent years, Martin Resource Management has increased the size of our asset base through expansions and strategic acquisitions.

2

### **Primary Business Segments**

Our primary business segments can be generally described as follows:

*Terminalling and Storage*. We own or operate 29 marine shore-based terminal facilities and 16 specialty terminal facilities located primarily in the U.S. Gulf Coast region that provide storage, refining, blending, packaging, and handling services for producers and suppliers of petroleum products and by-products, including the refining of naphthenic crude oil and the blending and packaging of various grades and quantities of industrial, commercial, and automotive lubricants and greases. Our facilities and resources provide us with the ability to handle various products that require specialized treatment, such as molten sulfur and asphalt. We also provide land rental to oil and gas companies along with storage and handling services for lubricants and fuels. We provide these terminalling and storage services on a fee basis primarily under long-term contracts. A significant portion of the contracts in this segment provide for minimum fee arrangements that are not based on the volumes handled.

*Natural Gas Services*. We distribute natural gas liquids ( NGLs ). We purchase NGLs primarily from refineries and natural gas processors. We store and transport NGLs for wholesale deliveries to refineries, industrial NGL users in Texas and the Southeastern U.S, and propane retailers. We own a NGL pipeline, which spans approximately 200 miles from Kilgore, Texas to Beaumont, Texas. We own approximately 2.4 million barrels of underground storage capacity for NGLs. Additionally, we own 100% of the interests in Cardinal Gas Storage Partners LLC ( Cardinal ), which is focused on the development, construction, operation and management of natural gas storage facilities across northern Louisiana and Mississippi. We own a combined 20% interest in West Texas LPG Pipeline L.P. ( WTLPG ). WTLPG is operated by ONEOK Partners, L.P. ( ONEOK ), which owns the remaining 80.0% interest. WTLPG owns an approximate 2,300 mile common-carrier pipeline system that transports NGLs from New Mexico and Texas to Mont Belvieu, Texas for fractionation. This asset enables us to participate in the transportation of NGL production in West Texas and other basins along the WTLPG pipeline route. We owned six liquefied petroleum gas ( LPG ) pressure barges, (collectively referred to as the Floating Storage Assets were primarily operated under the floating storage component of our NGL distribution business. On February 12, 2015, we sold the Floating Storage Assets for \$41.3 million.

*Sulfur Services.* We have developed an integrated system of transportation assets and facilities relating to sulfur services. We process and distribute sulfur produced by oil refineries primarily located in the U.S. Gulf Coast region. We buy and sell molten sulfur on contracts that are tied to sulfur indices and tend to provide stable margins. We process molten sulfur into prilled or pelletized sulfur at our facilities in Port of Stockton, California and Beaumont, Texas on contracts that often provide guaranteed minimum fees. The sulfur we process and handle is primarily used in the production of fertilizers and industrial chemicals. We own and operate six sulfur-based fertilizer production plants and one emulsified sulfur blending plant that manufactures primarily sulfur-based fertilizer products for wholesale distributors and industrial users. These plants are located in Texas, Illinois, and Utah. Demand for our sulfur products exists in both the domestic and foreign markets, and we believe our asset base provides us with additional opportunities to handle increases in U.S. supply and access to foreign demand.

*Marine Transportation.* We operate a fleet of 45 inland marine tank barges, 25 inland push boats and three offshore tug and barge units that transport petroleum products and by-products largely in the U.S. Gulf Coast region. We provide these transportation services on a fee basis primarily under annual contracts, and many of our customers have long standing contractual relationships with us. Our modernized asset base is attractive both to our existing customers as well as potential new customers. In addition, our fleet contains several vessels that reflect our focus on specialty products.

Our principal executive offices are located at 4200 Stone Road, Kilgore, Texas 75662, our phone number is (903) 983-6200, and our web site is www.martinmidstream.com.

### **Our Relationship with Martin Resource Management**

We were formed in 2002 by Martin Resource Management, a privately-held company whose initial predecessor was incorporated in 1951 as a supplier of products and services to drilling rig contractors. Since then, Martin Resource Management has expanded its operations through acquisitions and internal expansion initiatives as its management identified and capitalized on the needs of producers and purchasers of hydrocarbon products and by-products and other bulk liquids. Martin Resource Management owns an approximate 17.7% limited partnership interest in us. Furthermore, it owns and controls our general partner, which owns a 2.0% general partner interest and incentive distribution rights in us. Martin Resource Management directs our business operations through its ownership and control of our general partner. In addition, under the terms of an omnibus agreement with Martin Resource Management, the employees of Martin Resource Management are responsible for conducting our business and operating our assets. Martin Resource Management is also an important supplier and customer of ours.

# THE SUBSIDIARY GUARANTORS

Our general partner, Martin Midstream GP LLC, is a Delaware limited liability company. Martin Resource Management Corporation, a Delaware corporation, owns and controls Martin Midstream GP LLC, such that it has ultimate responsibility for conducting our business and managing our operations.

We own 100% of Martin Midstream Finance Corp. Martin Midstream Finance Corp. was organized for the purpose of co-issuing our debt securities and has no material assets or liabilities, other than as co-issuer of our debt securities. Its activities will be limited to co-issuing our debt securities and engaging in activities thereto.

Martin Operating GP LLC, Martin Operating Partnership L.P., Cardinal Gas Storage Partners LLC, MOP Midstream Holdings LLC, Martin Midstream NGL Holdings, LLC, Martin Midstream NGL Holdings II, LLC, Perryville Gas Storage LLC, Arcadia Gas Storage, LLC, Cadeville Gas Storage LLC, and Monroe Gas Storage Company, LLC may unconditionally guarantee any series of debt securities of Martin Midstream Partners L.P. and Martin Midstream Finance Corp. offered by this prospectus, as set forth in a related prospectus supplement. As used in this prospectus, the term Subsidiary Guarantors means the subsidiaries that unconditionally guarantee any such series of debt securities.

## **RISK FACTORS**

An investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks described in our filings with the SEC referred to under the heading Where You Can Find More Information, as well as the risks included and incorporated by reference in this prospectus, including the risk factors incorporated by reference herein from our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, as amended by Amendment No. 1 on Form 10-K/A for the year ended on December 31, 2015 and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2016, as updated by annual, quarterly and other reports and documents we file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus and that are incorporated by reference herein. If any of these risks were to occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be adversely affected. In that case, the trading price of our common units or debt securities could decline and you could lose all or part of your investment. When we offer and sell any securities pursuant to a prospectus supplement, we may include additional risk factors relevant to such securities in the prospectus supplement.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference include forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ). Statements included in this prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference that are not historical facts (including any statements concerning plans and objectives of management for future operations or economic performance, or assumptions or forecasts related thereto), are forward-looking statements. These statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology including forecast, may, believe, will, expect, anticipate, continue or other similar words. These statements discuss future expectations, contain projections of results estimate. of operations or of financial condition or state other forward-looking information. We and our representatives may from time to time make other oral or written statements that are also forward-looking statements.

These forward-looking statements are made based upon management s current plans, expectations, estimates, assumptions and beliefs concerning future events impacting us and therefore involve a number of risks and uncertainties. We caution that forward-looking statements are not guarantees and that actual results could differ

materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements.

Because these forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, actual results could differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements for a number of important reasons, including, but not limited to, the matters discussed under Risk Factors and elsewhere in this prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference herein. If one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize (or the consequences of such a development changes), or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual outcomes may vary materially from those forecasted or expected. We undertake no responsibility to update forward-looking statements for changes related to these or any other factors that may occur subsequent to this filing for any reason.

### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless we specify otherwise in any prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds (after the payment of offering expenses and underwriting discounts and commissions) from the sale of securities offered hereby for general partnership purposes, which may include, among other things:

paying or refinancing all or a portion of our indebtedness outstanding at the time, including indebtedness incurred in connection with acquisitions; and

funding working capital, capital expenditures or acquisitions.

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

We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of the common units by the selling unitholders.

# **RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

The table below sets forth the Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges for us for each of the periods indicated.

			Fis 2011	cal Year 2012	Ended De 2013	cember 2014	r 31, 2015	Three Months Ended March 31, 2016
					2010	-011	-010	2010
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges			1.61	2.11	(0.07)	0.77	1.54	2.18

Earnings included in the calculation of this ratio consist of pre-tax income from continuing operations before minority interest and equity in earnings of the partnership, fixed charges and amortization of capitalized interest less capitalized interest. Fixed charges included in the calculation of this ratio consist of fixed charges interest expense, capitalized interest and estimated interest element of rentals.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE DEBT SECURITIES**

Martin Midstream Partners and Martin Midstream Finance Corp. may issue senior debt securities under an indenture among them, the Subsidiary Guarantors, if any, and a trustee that we will name in the related prospectus supplement. We refer to this indenture as the Martin Midstream Partners senior indenture. The issuers may also issue subordinated debt securities under an indenture to be entered into among them, the Subsidiary Guarantors, if any, and a trustee that we will name in the related prospectus supplement. We refer to this indenture as the Martin Midstream Partners subordinated indenture. We refer to the Martin Midstream Partners senior indenture and the Martin Midstream Partners subordinated indenture collectively as the indentures. The debt securities will be governed by the provisions of the related indenture and those made part of the indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939.

We have summarized material provisions of the indentures, the debt securities and the guarantees below. This summary is not complete. We have filed the form of senior indentures and the form of subordinated indentures with the SEC as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, and you should read the indentures for provisions that may be important to you.

Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this Description of the Debt Securities to we, us and our mean Martin Midstream Partners and Martin Midstream Finance Corp. and references herein to an indenture refer to the particular indenture under which we issue a series of debt securities.

### **Provisions Applicable to Each Indenture**

General. Any series of debt securities:

will be general obligations of the issuer;

will be general obligations of the Subsidiary Guarantors if they are guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors; and

may be subordinated to the Senior Indebtedness (as defined below) of the issuers and the Subsidiary Guarantors.

The indentures do not limit the amount of debt securities that may be issued under any indenture, and do not limit the amount of other indebtedness or securities that we may issue. We may issue debt securities under the indentures from time to time in one or more series, each in an amount authorized prior to issuance.

No indenture contains any covenants or other provisions designed to protect holders of the debt securities in the event we participate in a highly leveraged transaction or upon a change of control. The indentures also do not contain provisions that give holders the right to require us to repurchase their securities in the event of a decline in our credit ratings for any reason, including as a result of a takeover, recapitalization or similar restructuring or otherwise.

*Terms.* We will prepare a prospectus supplement and either a supplemental indenture, or authorizing resolutions of the board of directors of our general partner, accompanied by an officers certificate, relating to any series of debt securities that we offer, which will include specific terms relating to some or all of the following:

whether the debt securities will be senior or subordinated debt securities;

the form and title of the debt securities of that series;

whether or not the debt securities will be secured;

the total principal amount of the debt securities of that series;

whether the debt securities will be issued in individual certificates to each holder or in the form of temporary or permanent global securities held by a depositary on behalf of holders;

the date or dates on which the principal of and any premium on the debt securities of that series will be payable;

any interest rate which the debt securities of that series will bear, the date from which interest will accrue, interest payment dates and record dates for interest payments;

any right to extend or defer the interest payment periods and the duration of the extension;

whether and under what circumstances any additional amounts with respect to the debt securities will be payable;

whether the debt securities are entitled to the benefit of any guarantee by any Subsidiary Guarantor;

the place or places where payments on the debt securities of that series will be payable;

any provisions for optional redemption or early repayment;

any provisions that would require the redemption, purchase or repayment of debt securities;

the denominations in which the debt securities will be issued;

whether payments on the debt securities will be payable in foreign currency or currency units or another form and whether payments will be payable by reference to any index or formula;

the portion of the principal amount of debt securities that will be payable if the maturity is accelerated, if other than the entire principal amount;

any additional means of defeasance of the debt securities, any additional conditions or limitations to defeasance of the debt securities or any changes to those conditions or limitations;

any changes or additions to the events of default or covenants described in this prospectus;

any restrictions or other provisions relating to the transfer or exchange of debt securities;

any terms for the conversion or exchange of the debt securities for our other securities or securities of any other entity;

whether the securities are to constitute Rule 144A securities;

any changes to the subordination provisions for the subordinated debt securities; and

any other terms of the debt securities of that series.

This description of debt securities will be deemed modified, amended or supplemented by any description of any series of debt securities set forth in a prospectus supplement related to that series.

We may sell the debt securities at a discount, which may be substantial, below their stated principal amount. These debt securities may bear no interest or interest at a rate that at the time of issuance is below market rates. If we sell these debt securities, we will describe in the prospectus supplement any material United States federal income tax consequences and other special considerations.

If we sell any of the debt securities for any foreign currency or currency unit or if payments on the debt securities are payable in any foreign currency or currency unit, we will describe in the prospectus supplement the restrictions, elections, tax consequences, specific terms and other information relating to those debt securities and the foreign currency or currency unit.

*The Subsidiary Guarantees.* The Subsidiary Guarantors may fully, unconditionally and absolutely guarantee on an unsecured basis all series of debt securities of the issuers and may execute a notation of guarantee as further evidence of such guarantee. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any such guarantee by the Subsidiary Guarantors.

If a series of senior debt securities is so guaranteed, the Subsidiary Guarantors guarantee of the senior debt securities will be the Subsidiary Guarantors unsecured and unsubordinated general obligation, and will rank on a parity with all of the Subsidiary Guarantors other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. If a series of subordinated debt securities is so guaranteed, the Subsidiary Guarantors guarantee of the subordinated debt securities will be the Subsidiary Guarantors unsecured general obligation and will be subordinated to all of the Subsidiary Guarantors other unsecured and unsubordinated to all of the Subsidiary Guarantors other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness.

The obligations of each Subsidiary Guarantor under its guarantee of the debt securities will be limited to the maximum amount that will not result in the obligations of the Subsidiary Guarantor under the guarantee constituting a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under federal or state law, after giving effect to:

all other contingent and fixed liabilities of the Subsidiary Guarantor; and

any collections from or payments made by or on behalf of any other Subsidiary Guarantor in respect of the obligations of the Subsidiary Guarantor under its guarantee.

The guarantee of any Subsidiary Guarantor may be released under certain circumstances. If we exercise our legal or covenant defeasance option with respect to debt securities of a particular series as described below in Defeasance, then any Subsidiary Guarantor will be released with respect to that series. Further, if no default has occurred and is continuing under the indentures, and to the extent not otherwise prohibited by the indentures, a Subsidiary Guarantor will be unconditionally released and discharged from the guarantee:

automatically upon any sale, exchange or transfer, whether by way of merger or otherwise, to any person that is not our affiliate, of all of our direct or indirect limited partnership or other equity interests in the Subsidiary Guarantor;

automatically upon the merger of the Subsidiary Guarantor into us or the liquidation and dissolution of the Subsidiary Guarantor; or

following delivery of a written notice by us to the trustee, upon the release of all guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantor of any debt of ours for borrowed money for a purchase money obligation or for a guarantee of either, except for any series of debt securities.

*Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets.* The indentures generally permit a consolidation or merger involving the issuer or the Subsidiary Guarantors. They also permit the issuers or the Subsidiary Guarantors, as applicable, to lease, assign, transfer or dispose of all or substantially all of their assets. Each of the issuers and the Subsidiary

<sup>9</sup> 

Guarantors has agreed, however, that it will not consolidate with or merge into any entity (other than one of the issuers or a Subsidiary Guarantor, as applicable) or lease, transfer or dispose of all or substantially all of its assets to any entity (other than one of the issuers or a Subsidiary Guarantor, as applicable) unless:

it is the continuing entity; or

if it is not the continuing entity, the resulting entity or transferee is organized and existing under the laws of any United States jurisdiction and assumes the performance of its covenants and obligations under the indentures; and

in either case, immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no default or event of default would occur and be continuing or would result from the transaction.

Upon any such consolidation, merger or asset lease, transfer or disposition involving the issuers or the Subsidiary Guarantors, the resulting entity or transferee will be substituted for the issuers or the Subsidiary Guarantors, as applicable, under the applicable indenture and debt securities. In the case of an asset transfer or disposition other than a lease, the issuers or the Subsidiary Guarantors, as applicable, will be released from the applicable indenture.

*Events of Default.* Unless we inform you otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the following are events of default with respect to a series of debt securities:

failure to pay interest or any additional amounts on that series of debt securities when due that continue for 30 days;

default in the payment of principal of or premium, if any, on any debt securities of that series when due at its stated maturity, upon redemption, upon required repurchase or otherwise;

default in the payment of any sinking fund payment on any debt securities of that series when due;

failure by the issuers or, if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantor, by such Subsidiary Guarantor, to comply for 60 days with the other agreements contained in the indentures, any supplement to the indentures or any board resolution authorizing the issuance of that series after written notice by the trustee or by the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities issued under that indenture that are affected by that failure;

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the issuer or, if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantor, of the Subsidiary Guarantor;

if the series is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantor;

any of the guarantees ceases to be in full force and effect, except as otherwise provided in the indentures;

any of the guarantees is declared null and void in a judicial proceeding; or

the Subsidiary Guarantor denies or disaffirms its obligations under the indentures or its guarantee; and

any other event of default provided for in that series of debt securities.

A default under one series of debt securities will not necessarily be a default under another series. The trustee may withhold notice to the holders of the debt securities of any default or event of default (except in any payment on the debt securities) if the trustee considers it in the interest of the holders of the debt securities to do so.

If an event of default for any series of debt securities occurs and is continuing, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the series affected by the default (or, in some cases, 25% in principal amount of all debt securities issued under the applicable indenture that are affected, voting as one class) may declare the principal of and all accrued and unpaid interest on those debt securities to be

due and payable. If an event of default relating to certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occurs, the principal of and interest on all the debt securities issued under the applicable indenture will become immediately due and payable without any action on the part of the trustee or any holder. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the series affected by the default (or, in some cases, of all debt securities issued under the applicable indenture that are affected, voting as one class) may in some cases rescind this accelerated payment requirement.

A holder of a debt security of any series issued under each indenture may pursue any remedy under that indenture only if:

the holder gives the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default for that series;

the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series make a written request to the trustee to pursue the remedy;

the holders offer to the trustee indemnity satisfactory to the trustee;

the trustee fails to act for a period of 60 days after receipt of the request and offer of indemnity; and

during that 60-day period, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the debt securities of that series do not give the trustee a direction inconsistent with the request.

This provision does not, however, affect the right of a holder of a debt security to sue for enforcement of any overdue payment.

In most cases, holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series (or of all debt securities issued under the applicable indenture that are affected, voting as one class) may direct the time, method and place of:

conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee; and

exercising any trust or power conferred upon the trustee relating to or arising as a result of an event of default.

The issuer is required to file each year with the trustee a written statement as to its compliance with the covenants contained in the applicable indenture.

*Modification and Waiver*. Each indenture may be amended or supplemented if the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series issued under that indenture that are affected by the amendment or supplement (acting as one class) consent to it. Without the consent of the holder of each debt security affected, however, no modification may:

reduce the amount of debt securities whose holders must consent to an amendment, a supplement or a waiver;

reduce the rate of or change the time for payment of interest on the debt security;

reduce the principal of, and any premium on or any mandatory sinking fund payment with respect to, the debt security or change its stated maturity or reduce the portion of the principal amount of debt securities that will be payable if the maturity is accelerated;

reduce any premium payable on the redemption of the debt security or change the time at which the debt security may or must be redeemed;

change any obligation to pay additional amounts on the debt security;

make payments on the debt security payable in currency other than as originally stated in the debt security;

impair the holder s right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or with respect to the debt security;

make any change in the percentage of principal amount of debt securities necessary to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture or to make any change in the provision related to modification;

modify the provisions relating to the subordination of any subordinated debt security in a manner adverse to the holder of that security;

waive a continuing default or event of default regarding any payment on the debt securities; or

release the Subsidiary Guarantor, or modify the guarantee of the Subsidiary Guarantor in any manner adverse to the holders.

Each indenture may be amended or supplemented or any provision of that indenture may be waived without the consent of any holders of debt securities issued under that indenture:

to cure any ambiguity, omission, defect or inconsistency;

to provide for the assumption of the issuer s obligations under the indentures by a successor upon any merger, consolidation or asset transfer permitted under the indenture;

to provide for uncertificated debt securities in addition to or in place of certificated debt securities or to provide for bearer debt securities;

to provide any security for, any guarantees of or any additional obligors on any series of debt securities or, with respect to the senior indentures, the related guarantees;

to comply with any requirement to effect or maintain the qualification of that indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939;

to add covenants that would benefit the holders of any debt securities or to surrender any rights the issuer has under the indentures;

to add events of default with respect to any debt securities;

to make any change that does not adversely affect any outstanding debt securities of any series issued under that indenture in any material respect;

to establish the form or terms of securities of any series;

to supplement any of the provisions necessary to permit or facilitate defeasance and discharge; and

to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor trustee and to modify provisions necessary to provide for or facilitate the administration of trusts by more than one trustee. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series (or, in some cases, of all debt securities issued under the applicable indenture that are affected, voting as one class) may waive any existing or past default or event of default with respect to those debt securities. Those holders may not, however, waive any default or event of default in any payment on any debt security or compliance with a provision that cannot be amended or supplemented without the consent of each holder affected.

*Defeasance.* When we use the term defeasance, we mean discharge from some or all of our obligations under the indentures. If any combination of funds or government securities are deposited with the trustee under an indenture sufficient to make payments on the debt securities of a series issued under that indenture on the dates those payments are due and payable, then, at our option, either of the following will occur:

we will be discharged from our or their obligations with respect to the debt securities of that series and, if applicable, the related guarantees ( legal defeasance ); or

we will no longer have any obligation to comply with the restrictive covenants, the merger covenant and other specified covenants under the applicable indenture, and the related events of default will no longer apply ( covenant defeasance ).

If a series of debt securities is defeased, the holders of the debt securities of the series affected will not be entitled to the benefits of the applicable indenture, except for obligations to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities, replace stolen, lost or mutilated debt securities or maintain paying agencies and hold moneys for payment in trust. In the case of covenant defeasance, our obligation to pay principal, premium and interest on the debt securities and, if applicable, guarantees of the payments will also survive.

Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, we will be required to deliver to the trustee an opinion of counsel that the deposit and related defeasance would not cause the holders of the debt securities to recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If we elect legal defeasance, that opinion of counsel must be based upon a ruling from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service or a change in law to that effect.

*No Personal Liability of General Partner*. Martin Midstream GP LLC, the general partner of Martin Midstream Partners, and its directors, managers, officers, employees and members, in such capacity, will not be liable for the obligations of Martin Midstream Partners, Martin Midstream Finance Corp. or the Subsidiary Guarantors under the debt securities, the indentures or the guarantees or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. By accepting a debt security, each holder of that debt security will have agreed to this provision and waived and released any such liability on the part of Martin Midstream GP LLC, Martin Midstream Finance Corp. and their directors, managers, officers, employees and members. This waiver and release are part of the consideration for our issuance of the debt securities. It is the view of the SEC that a waiver of liabilities under the federal securities laws is against public policy and unenforceable.

Governing Law. New York law will govern the indentures and the debt securities.

*Trustee.* We may appoint a separate trustee for any series of debt securities. We use the term trustee to refer to the trustee appointed with respect to any such series of debt securities. We may maintain banking and other commercial relationships with the trustee and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business, and the trustee may own debt securities.

*Form, Exchange, Registration and Transfer.* The debt securities will be issued in registered form, without interest coupons. There will be no service charge for any registration of transfer or exchange of the debt securities. However, payment of any transfer tax or similar governmental charge payable for that registration may be required.

Debt securities of any series will be exchangeable for other debt securities of the same series, the same total principal amount and the same terms but in different authorized denominations in accordance with the applicable indenture. Holders may present debt securities for registration of transfer at the office of the security registrar or any transfer agent we designate. The security registrar or transfer agent will effect the transfer or exchange if its requirements and the requirements of the applicable indenture are met.

The trustee will be appointed as security registrar for the debt securities. If a prospectus supplement refers to any transfer agent we initially designate, we may at any time rescind that designation or approve a change in the location through which any transfer agent acts. We are required to maintain an office or agency for transfers and exchanges in each place of payment. We may at any time designate additional transfer agents for any series of debt securities.

In the case of any redemption, we will not be required to register the transfer or exchange of:

any debt security during a period beginning 15 business days prior to the mailing of the relevant notice of redemption and ending on the close of business on the day of mailing of such notice; or

any debt security that has been called for redemption in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any debt security being redeemed in part.

*Payment and Paying Agents.* Unless we inform you otherwise in a prospectus supplement, payments on the debt securities will be made in U.S. dollars at the office of the trustee or any paying agent. At our option, however, payments may be made by wire transfer for global debt securities or by check mailed to the address of the person entitled to the payment as it appears in the security register. Unless we inform you otherwise in a prospectus supplement, interest payments may be made to the person in whose name the debt security is registered at the close of business on the record date for the interest payment.

Unless we inform you otherwise in a prospectus supplement, the trustee under the applicable indenture will be designated as the paying agent for payments on debt securities issued under that indenture. We may at any time designate additional paying agents or rescind the designation of any paying agent or approve a change in the office through which any paying agent acts.

If the principal of or any premium or interest on debt securities of a series is payable on a day that is not a business day, the payment will be made on the following business day. For these purposes, unless we inform you otherwise in a prospectus supplement, a business day is any day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which banking institutions in New York, New York or a place of payment on the debt securities of that series is authorized or obligated by law, regulation or executive order to remain closed.

Subject to the requirements of any applicable abandoned property laws, the trustee and paying agent will pay to us upon written request any money held by them for payments on the debt securities that remains unclaimed for two years after the date upon which that payment has become due. After payment to us, holders entitled to the money must look to us for payment. In that case, all liability of the trustee or paying agent with respect to that money will cease.

*Book-Entry Debt Securities.* The debt securities of a series may be issued in the form of one or more global debt securities that would be deposited with a depositary or its nominee identified in the prospectus supplement. Global debt securities may be issued in either temporary or permanent form. We will describe in the prospectus supplement the terms of any depositary arrangement and the rights and limitations of owners of beneficial interests in any global debt security.

### Provisions Applicable Solely to the Subordinated Indenture

*Subordination.* Debt securities of a series may be subordinated to the issuer s Senior Indebtedness, which is defined generally to include any obligation created or assumed by the issuer (or, if the series is guaranteed, the Subsidiary Guarantor) for the repayment of borrowed money, any purchase money obligation created or assumed by the issuer, and any guarantee therefor, whether outstanding or hereafter issued, unless, by the terms of the instrument creating or evidencing such obligation, it is provided that such obligation is subordinate or not superior in right of payment to the debt securities (or, if the series is guaranteed, the guarantee of the Subsidiary Guarantor), or to other obligations which are pari passu with or subordinated to the debt securities (or, if the series is guaranteed, the guarantee of the Subsidiary Guarantor) and any modifications, refunding, deferrals, renewals or extensions of any such debt or securities, notes or other evidence of debt issued in exchange for such debt. Subordinated indentures and the prospectus supplement relating to such series, to the prior payment of all of the issuer is indebtedness and that of the Subsidiary Guarantor that is designated as Senior Indebtedness with respect to the series.

The holders of Senior Indebtedness of the issuer or, if applicable, the Subsidiary Guarantor, will receive payment in full of the Senior Indebtedness before holders of subordinated debt securities will receive any payment of

#### Table of Contents

principal, premium or interest with respect to the subordinated debt securities upon any payment or distribution of our assets or, if applicable to any series of outstanding debt securities, the Subsidiary Guarantors assets, to creditors:

upon a liquidation or dissolution of the issuer or, if applicable to any series of outstanding debt securities, the Subsidiary Guarantor; or

in a bankruptcy, receivership or similar proceeding relating to the issuer or, if applicable to any series of outstanding debt securities, to the Subsidiary Guarantor.

Until the Senior Indebtedness is paid in full, any distribution to which holders of subordinated debt securities would otherwise be entitled will be made to the holders of Senior Indebtedness, except that the holders of subordinated debt securities may receive units representing limited partner interests and any debt securities that are subordinated to Senior Indebtedness to at least the same extent as the subordinated debt securities.

If the issuer does not pay any principal, premium or interest with respect to Senior Indebtedness within any applicable grace period (including at maturity), or any other default on Senior Indebtedness occurs and the maturity of the Senior Indebtedness is accelerated in accordance with its terms, the issuer may not:

make any payments of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to subordinated debt securities;

make any deposit for the purpose of defeasance of the subordinated debt securities; or

repurchase, redeem or otherwise retire any subordinated debt securities, except that in the case of subordinated debt securities that provide for a mandatory sinking fund, the issuer may deliver subordinated debt securities to the trustee in satisfaction of our sinking fund obligation, unless, in either case;

the default has been cured or waived and any declaration of acceleration has been rescinded;

the Senior Indebtedness has been paid in full in cash; or

the issuer and the trustee receive written notice approving the payment from the representatives of each issue of Designated Senior Indebtedness.

Generally, Designated Senior Indebtedness will include:

any specified issue of Senior Indebtedness of at least \$100.0 million; and

any other Senior Indebtedness that we may designate in respect of any series of subordinated debt securities. During the continuance of any default, other than a default described in the immediately preceding paragraph, that may cause the maturity of any Designated Senior Indebtedness to be accelerated immediately without further notice, other than any notice required to effect such acceleration, or the expiration of any applicable grace periods, the issuer may not pay the subordinated debt securities for a period called the Payment Blockage Period. A Payment Blockage Period will commence on the receipt by the issuer and the trustee of written notice of the default, called a Blockage Notice, from the representative of any Designated Senior Indebtedness specifying an election to effect a Payment Blockage Period and will end 179 days thereafter.

The Payment Blockage Period may be terminated before its expiration:

by written notice from the person or persons who gave the Blockage Notice;

by repayment in full in cash of the Designated Senior Indebtedness with respect to which the Blockage Notice was given; or

if the default giving rise to the Payment Blockage Period is no longer continuing.

Unless the holders of the Designated Senior Indebtedness have accelerated the maturity of the Designated Senior Indebtedness, we may resume payments on the subordinated debt securities after the expiration of the Payment Blockage Period.

Generally, not more than one Blockage Notice may be given in any period of 360 consecutive days. The total number of days during which any one or more Payment Blockage Periods are in effect, however, may not exceed an aggregate of 179 days during any period of 360 consecutive days.

After all Senior Indebtedness is paid in full and until the subordinated debt securities are paid in full, holders of the subordinated debt securities shall be subrogated to the rights of holders of Senior Indebtedness to receive distributions applicable to Senior Indebtedness.

As a result of the subordination provisions described above, in the event of insolvency, the holders of Senior Indebtedness, as well as certain of our general creditors, may recover more, ratably, than the holders of the subordinated debt securities.

# DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON UNITS

Our common units represent limited partner interests that entitle the holders to participate in our partnership distributions and to exercise the rights and privileges available to limited partners under our partnership agreement. For a description of the relative rights and preferences of holders of common units and our general partner in and to partnership distributions, see Cash Distribution Policy. For a general discussion of the expected federal income tax consequences of owning and disposing of common units, see Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations. References in this Description of the Common Units to we, us and our mean Martin Midstream Partners L.P.

## Number of Units

We currently have 35,454,962 common units outstanding, 29,190,430 of which are held by the public, 4,203,823 are held by Martin Resource LLC, 889,444 are held by Cross Oil Refining & Marketing Inc. and 1,171,265 are held by Martin Product Sales LLC, each a wholly owned subsidiary of Martin Resource Management. The common units represent an aggregate 98.0% limited partner interest. Our general partner owns an aggregate 2.0% general partner interest in us.

## Listing

Our outstanding common units are traded on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol MMLP. Any additional common units that we issue also will be traded on the Nasdaq National Market.

### **Transfer Agent and Registrar**

*Duties.* Computershare serves as transfer agent and registrar for our common units. We will pay all fees charged by the transfer agent for transfers of common units, except the following must be paid by unitholders:

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

special charges for services requested by a holder of a common unit; and

other similar fees or charges.

We will indemnify the transfer agent, its agents and each of their stockholders, directors, officers and employees against all claims and losses that may arise out of acts performed or omitted in that capacity, except for any liability due to any gross negligence or intentional misconduct of the indemnified person or entity.

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

# **Transfer of Common Units**

Each purchaser of common units offered by this prospectus must execute a transfer application. Any subsequent transfers of a common unit will not be recorded by the transfer agent or recognized by us unless the transferee executes and delivers a transfer application. By executing and delivering a transfer application, the transferee of common units:

becomes the record holder of the common units and is an assignee until admitted into our partnership as a substituted limited partner;

automatically requests admission as a substituted limited partner in our partnership;

agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of, and executes, our partnership agreement;

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

grants powers of attorney to officers of our general partner and any liquidator of us as specified in our partnership agreement; and

makes the consents and waivers contained in our partnership agreement.

An assignee will become a substituted limited partner of our partnership for the transferred common units upon the consent of our general partner and the recording of the name of the assignee on our books and records. Our general partner may withhold its consent in its sole discretion.

A transferee s broker, agent or nominee may complete, execute and deliver a transfer application. We are entitled to treat the record holder of a common unit as the absolute owner. In that case, the beneficial holder s rights are limited solely to those that it has against the record holder as a result of any agreement between the beneficial owner and the record holder.

Common units are securities and are transferable according to the laws governing transfer of securities. In addition to other rights acquired upon transfer, the transferor gives the transferee the right to request admission as a substituted limited partner in our partnership for the transferred common units. A purchaser or transferee of common units who does not execute and deliver a transfer application obtains only:

the right to assign the common unit to a purchaser or other transferee; and

the right to transfer the right to seek admission as a substituted limited partner in our partnership for the transferred common units.

Thus, a purchaser or transferee of common units who does not execute and deliver a transfer application:

will not receive cash distributions, unless the common units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application; and

may not receive some federal income tax information or reports furnished to record holders of common units.

Our partnership agreement requires that a transferor of common units must provide the transferee with all information that may be necessary to transfer the common units. The transferor is not required to insure the execution of the transfer application by the transferee and has no liability or responsibility if the transferee neglects or chooses not to execute and forward the transfer application to the transfer agent. Please read The Partnership Agreement Status as Limited Partner or Assignee.

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

## Voting

Each holder of common units is entitled to the voting rights specified under The Partnership Agreement Voting Rights below.

# CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY

### **Distributions of Available Cash**

*General.* Within 45 days after the end of each quarter, Martin Midstream Partners will distribute all of our available cash to unitholders of record on the applicable record date.

*Available Cash.* Available Cash generally means, for each fiscal quarter, all cash on hand at the end of the quarter less the amount of cash reserves our general partner determines in its reasonable discretion is necessary or appropriate to:

provide for the proper conduct of our business;

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

provide funds for distributions to our unitholders and to our general partner for any one or more of the next four quarters.

Cash on hand includes cash on hand on the date of determination of available cash for the quarter resulting from working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter. Working capital borrowings are borrowings that are made under our revolving credit facility or other arrangement requiring all borrowings thereunder to be reduced to a relatively small amount each year for an economically meaningful period of time and in all cases are used solely for working capital purposes or to pay distributions to partners. Our general partner may not establish cash reserves for distributions on the subordinated units unless our general partner has determined that the establishment of such reserves will not prevent the distribution of the minimum quarterly distribution on all common units and any cumulative common unit arrearages thereon for the next four quarters. Common unit arrearage is defined as the amount by which the minimum quarterly distribution for a quarter during the subordination period exceeds the distribution of available cash from operating surplus actually made for that quarter on a common unit, cumulative for that quarter and all prior quarters during the subordination period.

*Intent to Distribute the Minimum Quarterly Distribution.* We intend to distribute to the holders of common units and subordinated units on a quarterly basis at least the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.50 per unit, or \$2.00 per year, to the extent we have sufficient cash from our operations after the establishment of cash reserves and payment of expenses, including payments to our general partner. There is no guarantee, however, that we will pay the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units in any quarter, and we will be prohibited from making any distributions to unitholders if it would cause an event of default, or an event of default is existing, under our revolving credit facility.

*Restrictions on Our Ability to Distribute Available Cash Contained in Our Credit Agreement.* Our ability to distribute available cash is contractually restricted by the terms of our credit agreement. Our credit agreement contains covenants requiring us to maintain certain financial ratios. We are prohibited from making any distributions to unitholders if the distribution would cause an event of default, or an event of default is existing, under our credit agreement.

# **Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus**

*General.* All cash distributed to unitholders will be characterized as either operating surplus or capital surplus. We distribute available cash from operating surplus differently than available cash from capital surplus.

Operating Surplus. Operating Surplus generally means:

our cash balance at the closing of our initial public offering; plus

\$8.5 million (as described below); plus

all of our cash receipts since our initial public offering, excluding cash from borrowings that are not working capital borrowings, sales of equity and debt securities and sales or other dispositions of assets outside the ordinary course of business; plus

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

all of our operating expenditures since our initial public offering, including the repayment of working capital borrowings, but not the repayment of other borrowings, and including maintenance capital expenditures; less

the amount of cash reserves our general partner deems necessary or advisable to provide funds for future operating expenditures.

Operating Expenditures generally means all expenditures of Martin Midstream Partners L.P. and its subsidiaries, including, but not limited to, taxes, reimbursements of Martin Midstream GP LLC, repayment of working capital borrowings, debt service payments and capital expenditures. Payments (including prepayments) of principal of and premium on indebtedness, other than working capital borrowings will not constitute operating expenditures. Operating expenditures will not include:

capital expenditures made for acquisitions or for capital improvements;

payment of transaction expenses relating to interim capital transactions; or

distributions to partners.

Interim Capital Transactions include the following transactions if they occur prior to liquidation:

borrowings, refinancings or refundings of indebtedness and sales of debt securities (other than for working capital borrowings and other than for items purchased on open account in the ordinary course of business) by Martin Midstream Partners L.P. or any of its subsidiaries;

sales of equity interests by Martin Midstream Partners L.P. or any of its subsidiaries;

sales or other voluntary or involuntary dispositions of any assets of Martin Midstream Partners L.P. or any of its subsidiaries (other than sales or other dispositions of inventory, accounts receivable and other assets in the ordinary course of business, and sales or other dispositions of assets as a part of normal retirements or replacements).

Capital Surplus. Capital Surplus will generally be generated only by:

borrowings other than working capital borrowings;

sales of debt and equity securities; and

sales or other disposition of assets for cash, other than inventory, accounts receivable and other current assets sold in the ordinary course of business or as part of normal retirements or replacements of assets. *Characterization of Cash Distributions.* We will treat all available cash distributed as coming from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed since we began operations equals the operating surplus as of the most recent date of determination of available cash. We will treat any amount distributed in excess of operating surplus, regardless of its source, as capital surplus. As reflected above, operating surplus includes \$8.5 million in addition to our cash balance at the closing of our initial public offering, cash receipts from our operations and cash from working capital borrowings. This amount does not reflect actual cash on hand at the closing of our initial public offering that was available for distribution to our unitholders. Rather, it is a provision that will enable us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to \$8.5 million of cash we receive in the future from non-operating sources, such as asset sales, issuances of securities and long-term borrowings, that would otherwise be distributed as capital surplus. While we do not currently anticipate that we will make any

distributions from capital surplus in the near term, we may determine that the sale or disposition of an asset or business owned or acquired by us may be beneficial to our unitholders. If we distribute to you the equity we own in a subsidiary or the proceeds from the sale of one of our businesses, such a distribution would be characterized as a distribution from capital surplus.

# **Incentive Distribution Rights**

Incentive distribution rights represent the right to receive an increasing percentage (13%, 23% and 48%) of quarterly distributions of available cash from operating surplus after the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels (as detailed below) have been achieved. Our general partner currently holds the incentive distribution rights but may transfer these rights separately from its general partner interest, subject to restrictions in our partnership agreement.

If for any quarter:

we have distributed available cash from operating surplus on each common unit and subordinated unit in an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution; and

we have distributed available cash from operating surplus on each outstanding common unit in an amount necessary to eliminate any cumulative arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution. then we will distribute any additional available cash from operating surplus for that quarter among the unitholders and our general partner (assuming our general partner has not transferred the incentive distribution rights) in the following manner:

*First*, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of 0.55 per unit for that quarter (the first target distribution );

*Second*, 85% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.625 per unit for that quarter (the second target distribution );

*Third*, 75% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.75 per unit for that quarter (the third target distribution );

*Thereafter*, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to our general partner. In each case, the amount of the target distribution set forth above is exclusive of any distributions to common unitholders to eliminate any cumulative arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution. The preceding discussion is based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

# Percentage Allocations of Available Cash from Operating Surplus

# Table of Contents

The following table illustrates the percentage allocations of the additional available cash from operating surplus between the unitholders and our general partner up to various target distribution levels. The amounts set forth under

Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions are the percentage interests of our general partner and the unitholders in any available cash from operating surplus we distribute up to and including the corresponding amount in the column

Total Quarterly Distribution Per Unit Target Amount, until available cash from operating surplus we distribute reaches the next target distribution level, if any. The percentage interests shown for the unitholders and our general partner for the minimum quarterly distribution are also applicable to quarterly distribution amounts that are less than the minimum quarterly distribution. The percentage interests shown for our general partner include its 2% general partner interest and assumes the general partner has not transferred the incentive distribution rights.

	Total Quarterly Distribution Per Unit	Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions			
	Target Amount	Unitholder	<b>General Partner</b>		
Minimum Quarterly					
Distribution	\$0.50	98%	2%		
First Target Distribution	up to \$0.55	98%	2%		
Second Target Distribution	above \$0.55 up to \$0.625	85%	15%		
Third Target Distribution	above \$0.625 up to \$0.75	75%	25%		
Thereafter	above \$0.75	50%	50%		
hutians from Conital Sumplus					

#### **Distributions from Capital Surplus**

*How Distributions from Capital Surplus Will Be Made.* We will make distributions of available cash from capital surplus, if any, in the following manner:

*First*, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each common unit that was issued in our initial public offering an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to the initial public offering price;

*Second*, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each common unit an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units; and

*Thereafter*, we will make all distributions of available cash from capital surplus as if they were from operating surplus.

*Effect of a Distribution from Capital Surplus.* Our partnership agreement treats a distribution of capital surplus as the repayment of the initial unit price from the initial public offering, which is a return of capital. The initial public offering price less any distributions of capital surplus per unit is referred to as the unrecovered initial unit price. Each time a distribution of capital surplus is made, the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels will be reduced in the same proportion as the corresponding reduction in the unrecovered initial unit price. Because distributions of capital surplus will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution, after any of these distributions are made, it may be easier for our general partner to receive incentive distributions and for the subordinated units to convert into common units. Any distribution of capital surplus before the unrecovered initial unit price is reduced to zero, however, cannot be applied to the payment of the minimum quarterly distribution or any arrearages.

Once we distribute capital surplus on a unit in an amount equal to the initial unit price, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels to zero. We will then make all future distributions from operating surplus, with 50% being paid to the holders of units, 48% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to our general partner (assuming our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest).

# Adjustment to the Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels

In addition to adjusting the minimum quarterly distribution and target distribution levels to reflect a distribution of capital surplus, if we combine our units into fewer units or subdivide our units into a greater number of units, we will proportionately adjust:

the minimum quarterly distribution;

target distribution levels; and

unrecovered initial unit price.

For example, if a two-for-one split of the common units should occur, the minimum quarterly distribution, the target distribution levels and the unrecovered initial unit price would each be reduced to 50% of its initial level. We will not make any adjustment by reason of the issuance of additional units for cash or property.

In addition, if legislation is enacted or if existing law is modified or interpreted in a manner that causes us to become taxable as a corporation or otherwise subject to taxation as an entity for federal, state or local income tax purposes, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels by multiplying the same by one minus the sum of the highest marginal federal corporate income tax rate that could apply and any increase in the effective overall state and local income tax rates. For example, if we became subject to a maximum marginal federal and effective state and local income tax rate of 38%, then the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distributions levels would each be reduced to 62% of their previous levels.

### **Distributions of Cash upon Liquidation**

If we dissolve in accordance with our partnership agreement, we will sell or otherwise dispose of our assets in a process called liquidation. We will first apply the proceeds of liquidation to the payment of our creditors. We will distribute any remaining proceeds to the unitholders and our general partner, in accordance with their capital account balances, as adjusted to reflect any gain or loss upon the sale or other disposition of our assets in liquidation. The capital account of a partner for a common unit, a subordinated unit, an incentive distribution right or any other partnership interest will be the amount which that capital account would be if that common unit, subordinated unit, incentive distribution right or other partnership interest were the only interest in us held by a partner.

The allocations of gain and loss upon liquidation are intended, to the extent possible, to entitle the holders of outstanding common units to a preference over the holders of outstanding subordinated units upon our liquidation, to the extent required to permit common unitholders to receive their unrecovered initial unit price plus the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which liquidation occurs plus any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units. However, there may not be sufficient gain upon our liquidation to enable the holders of common units to fully recover all of these amounts, even though there may be cash available for distribution to the holders of subordinated units. Any further net gain recognized upon liquidation will be allocated in a manner that takes into account the incentive distribution rights of our general partner.

*Manner of Adjustments for Gain.* The manner of the adjustment for gain is set forth in our partnership agreement. If our liquidation occurs before the end of a subordination period, we will allocate any gain to the partners in the following manner:

*First*, to our general partner and the holders of units who have negative balances in their capital accounts to the extent of and in proportion to those negative balances;

*Second*, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner until the capital account for each common unit is equal to the sum of:

(1) the unrecovered initial unit price; plus

(2) the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs; plus

(3) any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution;

### Table of Contents

*Third*, 98% to the subordinated unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner until the capital account for each subordinated unit is equal to the sum of:

(1) the unrecovered initial unit price; and

(2) the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs;

*Fourth*, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

(1) the sum of the excess of the first target distribution per unit over the minimum quarterly distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less

(2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the minimum quarterly distribution per unit that we distributed 98% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, for each quarter of our existence;

*Fifth*, 85% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner, pro rata, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

(1) the sum of the excess of the second target distribution per unit over the first target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less

(2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the minimum quarterly distribution per unit that we distributed 85% to the units, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner, pro rata, for each quarter of our existence;

*Sixth*, 75% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

(1) the sum of the excess of the third target distribution per unit over the second target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less

(2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the first target distribution per unit that we distributed 75% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner for each quarter of our existence;

*Thereafter*, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to our general partner. The percentage interest set forth above for our general partner assume that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and has not transferred the incentive distribution rights.

If the liquidation occurs after the end of a subordination period, the distinction between common units and subordinated units will disappear, so that clause (3) of the second bullet point above and all of the third bullet point above will no longer be applicable.

*Manner of Adjustments for Losses.* Upon our liquidation, we will generally allocate any loss to our general partner and the unitholders in the following manner:

*First*, 98% to holders of subordinated units in proportion to the positive balances in their capital accounts and 2% to our general partner until the capital accounts of the subordinated unitholders have been reduced to

zero;

Second, 98% to the holders of common units in proportion to the positive balances in their capital accounts and 2% to our general partner until the capital accounts of the common unitholders have been reduced to zero; and

Thereafter, 100% to our general partner. If the liquidation occurs after the end of the subordination period, the distinction between common units and subordinated units will disappear, so that all of the first priority above will no longer be applicable.

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

liquidation. In the event that we make positive adjustments to the capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units, we will allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional units or upon our liquidation in a manner that results, to the extent possible, in the general partner s capital account balances equaling the amount that they would have been if no earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts had been made.

# THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The following is a summary of the material provisions of our partnership agreement. A copy of our partnership agreement has been filed with the SEC and is incorporated by reference in the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

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

With regard to distributions of available cash, please read Cash Distribution Policy.

With regard to the transfer of common units, please read Description of the Common Units Transfer of Common Units.

With regard to allocations of taxable income and taxable loss, please read Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations.

### **Organization and Duration**

We were organized in June 2002 and have a perpetual existence.

### Purpose

Our purposes under our partnership agreement are limited to owning the equity of the general partner of our operating partnership, serving as the limited partner of our operating partnership and engaging in any business activities that may be engaged in by our operating partnership or that are approved by our general partner. The partnership agreement of our operating partnership provides that our operating partnership may, directly or indirectly, engage in:

its operations as conducted immediately after our initial public offering;

any other activity approved by our general partner but only to the extent that our general partner reasonably determines that, as of the date of the acquisition or commencement of the activity, the activity generates qualifying income as this term is defined in Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code; or

any activity that enhances the operations of an activity that is described in either of the two preceding clauses.

Although our general partner has the ability to cause us and our operating partnership to engage in activities other than those described in this prospectus, our general partner has no current plans to do so. Our general partner is authorized in general to perform all acts as it may deem, in its sole discretion, necessary to carry out our purposes and to conduct our business.

### **Power of Attorney**

Each limited partner, and each person who acquires a unit from a unitholder and executes and delivers a transfer application, grants to our general partner and, if appointed, a liquidator, a power of attorney to, among other

things, execute and file documents required for our qualification, continuance or dissolution. The power of attorney also grants our general partner the authority to amend, and to make consents and waivers under, our partnership agreement.

### **Capital Contributions**

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

### Limited Liability

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

to remove or replace our general partner;

to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement; or

to take other action under our partnership agreement;

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

Under the Delaware Act, a limited partnership may not make a distribution to a partner if, after the distribution, all liabilities of the limited partnership, other than liabilities to partners on account of their partnership interests and liabilities for which the recourse of creditors is limited to specific property of the partnership, would exceed the fair value of the assets of the limited partnership. For the purpose of determining the fair value of the assets of a limited partnership, the Delaware Act provides that the fair value of property subject to liability for which recourse of creditors is limited by an the assets of the limited partnership only to the extent that the fair value of that property exceeds that liability. The Delaware Act provides that a limited partner who receives a distribution and knew at the time of the distribution that the distribution was in violation of the Delaware Act, unless otherwise agreed, an assignee who becomes a substituted limited partner of a limited partnership is liable for the obligations of his assignor to make contributions to the partnership, except the assignee is not obligated for liabilities unknown to him at the time he became a limited partner and that could not be ascertained from our partnership agreement.

Our operating partnership currently conducts business in 11 states. Maintenance of our limited liability as a limited partner of our operating partnership may require compliance with legal requirements in the jurisdictions in which our operating partnership conducts business, including qualifying our subsidiaries to do business there. Limitations on the liability of limited partners for the obligations of a limited partnership have not been clearly established in many jurisdictions. If, by virtue of our limited partner interest in our operating partnership or otherwise, it were determined that we were conducting business in any state without compliance with the applicable limited partnership or limited liability company statute, or that the right or exercise of the right to

remove or replace the general partner of our operating partnership, to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement of our operating partnership, or to take other action under our partnership agreement of our operating partnership constituted participation in the control of its business for purposes of the statutes of any relevant jurisdiction, then we could be held personally liable for the obligations of our operating partnership under the law of that jurisdiction to the same extent as its general partner under the circumstances.

# **Voting Rights**

The following matters require the unitholder vote specified below. Matters requiring the approval of a unit majority requires the approval of a majority of the outstanding common units.

Matter	Vote Requirement				
Issuance of additional units	No approval rights.				
Amendment of the partnership agreement	Certain amendments may be made by the general partner without the approval of the unitholders. Other amendments generally require the approval of a unit majority. Please read Amendment of the Partnership Agreement.				
Merger of our partnership or the sale of all or substantially all of our assets	Unit majority. Please read Merger, Sale or Other Disposition of Assets.				
Dissolution of our partnership	Unit majority. Please read Termination and Dissolution.				
Reconstitution of our partnership upon dissolution	Unit majority.				
Withdrawal of the general partner	The approval of a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding common units held by the general partner and its affiliates, is required for the withdrawal of the general partner prior to September 30, 2012 in a manner which would cause a dissolution of our partnership. Please read Withdrawal or Removal of the General Partner.				
Removal of the general partner	Not less than 66 2/3% of the outstanding units, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates. Please read Withdrawal or Removal of the General Partner.				
Transfer of ownership interests in the general partner Transfer of incentive distribution rights	Our general partner may transfer its general partner interest without a vote of our unitholders in connection with the general partner s merger or consolidation with or into, or sale of all or substantially all of its assets to, a third person. Our general partner may also transfer all of its general partner interest to an affiliate without a vote of our unitholders. The approval of a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding common units held by the general partner and its affiliates, is required in other circumstances for a transfer of the general partner interest to a third party prior to September 30, 2012. Please read Transfer of General Partner Interests and Incentive Distribution Rights. Except for transfers to an affiliate or another person as part of the general partner s merger or consolidation with or into, or sale of all or substantially all of its assets to, such affiliate or person, the approval of a majority of the				

outstanding common units is required in most circumstances for a transfer of the incentive distribution rights to a third party prior to September 30, 2012. Please read Transfer of General Partner Interests and Incentive Distribution Rights.

#### Matter

#### **Vote Requirement**

Transfer of ownership interests in the general partner **Issuance of Additional Securities** 

No approval required at any time. Please read Transfer of Ownership Interests in the General Partner.

Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of additional partnership securities and rights to buy partnership securities for the consideration and on the terms and conditions established by our general partner in its sole discretion without the approval of the unitholders.

We may issue an unlimited number of common units as follows:

under employee benefit plans;

upon conversion of the general partner interest and incentive distribution rights as a result of a withdrawal of our general partner;

in the event of a combination or subdivision of common units;

in connection with an acquisition or a capital improvement that increases cash flow from operations per unit on a pro forma basis; or

if the proceeds of the issuance are used exclusively to repay up to \$15 million of certain of our indebtedness. It is possible that we will fund acquisitions through the issuance of additional common units or other equity securities. Holders of any additional common units we issue will be entitled to share equally with the then-existing holders of common units in our distributions of available cash. In addition, the issuance of additional partnership interests may dilute the value of the interests of the then-existing holders of common units in our net assets.

In accordance with Delaware law and the provisions of our partnership agreement, we may also issue additional partnership securities that, in the sole discretion of our general partner, have special voting rights to which the common units are not entitled.

Upon issuance of additional partnership securities, our general partner will be required to make additional capital contributions to the extent necessary to maintain its 2% general partner interest in us. Moreover, our general partner will have the right, which it may from time to time assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates, to purchase common units or other equity securities whenever, and on the same terms that, we issue those securities to persons other than our general partner and its affiliates, to the extent necessary to maintain its percentage interest, including its interest represented by common units, that existed immediately prior to each issuance. The holders of common units will not have preemptive rights to acquire additional common units or other partnership securities.

### Amendment of the Partnership Agreement

*General.* Amendments to our partnership agreement may be proposed only by or with the consent of our general partner, which consent may be given or withheld in its sole discretion. In order to adopt a proposed amendment, other than the amendments discussed below, our general partner must seek written approval of the holders of the number of units required to approve the amendment or call a meeting of the limited partners to consider and vote upon the proposed amendment. Except as described below, an amendment must be approved by a unit majority.

Prohibited Amendments. No amendment may be made that would:

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

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

change the duration of our partnership;

provide that our partnership is not dissolved upon an election to dissolve our partnership by our general partner that is approved by a unit majority; or

give any person the right to dissolve our partnership other than our general partner s right to dissolve our partnership with the approval of a unit majority.

The provision of our partnership agreement preventing the amendments having the effects described in any of the clauses above can be amended upon the approval of the holders of at least 90% of the outstanding units voting together as a single class.

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

- a. a change in our name, the location of our principal place of business, our registered agent or our registered office;
- b the admission, substitution, withdrawal, or removal of partners in accordance with our partnership agreement;
- c. change that, in the sole discretion of our general partner, is necessary or advisable for us to qualify or to continue our qualification as a limited partnership or a partnership in which the limited partners have limited liability under the laws of any state or to ensure that neither we, our operating partnership nor its subsidiaries will be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for federal income tax purposes;
- e. an amendment changing our fiscal or taxable year and any changes that are necessary as a result of a change in our fiscal or taxable year;
- f. an amendment that is necessary, in the opinion of our counsel, to prevent us or our general partner or its directors, officers, agents, or trustees from in any manner being subjected to the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Investment Advisors Act of 1940, or plan asset regulations adopted under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, whether or not substantially similar to plan asset regulations currently applied or proposed;

- g. subject to the limitations on the issuance of additional partnership securities described above, an amendment that in the discretion of our general partner is necessary or advisable for the authorization of additional partnership securities or rights to acquire partnership securities;
- h. any amendment expressly permitted in our partnership agreement to be made by our general partner acting alone;
- i. an amendment effected, necessitated or contemplated by a merger agreement that has been approved under the terms of our partnership agreement;
- j. any amendment that, in the sole discretion of our general partner, is necessary or advisable for the formation by us of, or our investment in, any corporation, partnership or other entity, as otherwise permitted by our partnership agreement;
- k. a merger of the partnership or any of its subsidiaries into, or a conveyance of assets to, a newly-created limited liability entity the sole purpose of which is to effect a change in the legal form of the partnership into another limited liability entity; and

- 1. the reduction in the vote needed to remove the general partner from not less than  $66^{2}/_{3}\%$  of all outstanding units to a lesser percentage of all outstanding units;
- m. an increase in the percentage of a class of units that a person or group may own without losing their voting rights from 20% to a higher percentage; or

n. any other amendments substantially similar to any of the matters described in the clauses above. In addition, our general partner may make amendments to our partnership agreement without the approval of any limited partner or assignee if those amendments, in the sole discretion of our general partner:

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

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

are necessary or advisable to facilitate the trading of limited partner interests or to comply with any rule, regulation, guideline or requirement of any securities exchange or trading system on which the limited partner interests are or will be listed for trading, compliance with any of which our general partner deems to be in our best interest and the best interest of the limited partners;

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

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

*Opinion of Counsel and Unitholder Approval.* Our general partner will not be required to obtain an opinion of counsel that an amendment will not result in a loss of limited liability to the limited partners or result in our being treated as an entity for federal income tax purposes if one of the amendments described above under No Unitholder Approval should occur. No other amendments to our partnership agreement will become effective without the approval of holders of at least 90% of the units unless we obtain an opinion of counsel to the effect that the amendment will not affect the limited liability under applicable law of any of our limited partners or cause us, our operating partnership or our subsidiaries to be taxable as a corporation or otherwise to be taxed as an entity for federal income tax purposes (to the extent not previously taxed as such).

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

### Action Relating to our Operating Partnership

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

### Merger, Sale or Other Disposition of Assets

Our partnership agreement generally prohibits our general partner, without the prior approval of a unit majority, from causing us to, among other things, sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets

in a single transaction or a series of related transactions, including by way of merger, consolidation or other combination, or approving on our behalf the sale, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of our subsidiaries. Our general partner may, however, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or grant a security interest in all or substantially all of our assets without that approval. Our general partner may also sell all or substantially all of our assets under a foreclosure or other realization upon those encumbrances without that approval.

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

#### **Termination and Dissolution**

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

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

the sale, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all of our assets and properties and our subsidiaries;

the entry of a judicial order dissolving us; or

the withdrawal or removal of our general partner or any other event that results in its ceasing to be our general partner other than by reason of a transfer of its general partner interest in accordance with our partnership agreement or withdrawal or removal following approval and admission of a successor.
Upon a dissolution under the last clause, the holders of a majority of the outstanding common units and subordinated units, voting as separate classes, may also elect, within specific time limitations, to reconstitute us and continue our business on the same terms and conditions described in our partnership agreement by forming a new limited partnership on terms identical to those in our partnership agreement and having as general partner an entity approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding common units and subordinated units, voting as separate classes, subject to our receipt of an opinion of counsel to the effect that:

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

neither our partnership, the reconstituted limited partnership nor our operating partnership would be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise be taxable as an entity for federal income tax purposes upon the exercise of that right to continue.

Liquidation and Distribution of Proceeds

Upon our dissolution, unless we are reconstituted and continued as a new limited partnership, the liquidator authorized to wind up our affairs will, acting with all of the powers of our general partner that the liquidator deems necessary or desirable in its judgment, liquidate our assets and apply the proceeds of the liquidation as provided in Cash Distribution Policy Distributions of Cash upon Liquidation. The liquidator may defer liquidation of our assets for a reasonable period or distribute assets to partners in kind if it determines that a sale would be impractical or would cause undue loss to the partners.

### Withdrawal or Removal of the General Partner

Except as described below, our general partner has agreed not to withdraw voluntarily as our general partner prior to September 30, 2012 without obtaining the approval of the holders of at least a majority of the outstanding

common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, and furnishing an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. On or after September 30, 2012, our general partner may withdraw as general partner without first obtaining approval of any unitholder by giving 90 days written notice, and that withdrawal will not constitute a violation of our partnership agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, our general partner may withdraw withdraw without unitholder approval upon 90 days notice to the limited partners if at least 50% of the outstanding common units are held or controlled by one person and its affiliates other than our general partner and its affiliates. In addition, our partnership agreement permits our general partner in some instances to sell or otherwise transfer all of its general partner interest in us without the approval of the unitholders. Please read Transfer of General Partner Interests and Incentive Distribution Rights.

Upon the withdrawal of our general partner under any circumstances, other than as a result of a transfer by our general partner of all or a part of its general partner interest in us, the holders of a majority of the outstanding common units and subordinated units, voting as separate classes, may select a successor to that withdrawing general partner. If a successor is not elected, or is elected but an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters cannot be obtained, we will be dissolved, wound up and liquidated, unless within 180 days after that withdrawal, the holders of a majority of the outstanding common units and subordinated units, voting as separate classes, agree in writing to continue our business and to appoint a successor general partner.

Our general partner may not be removed unless that removal is approved by the vote of the holders of not less than  $66^{2}/_{3}\%$  of the outstanding units, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates, and we receive an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. Any removal of our general partner is also subject to the approval of a successor general partner by the vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding common units and subordinated units, voting as separate classes. The ownership of more than  $33^{1}/_{3}\%$  of the outstanding units by our general partner and its affiliates would give it the practical ability to prevent its removal. As of March 31,2016, affiliates of our general partner owned approximately 17.7% of our outstanding units.

Our partnership agreement also provides that if our general partner is removed under circumstances where cause does not exist and units held by our general partner and its affiliates are not voted in favor of that removal:

any existing arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units will be extinguished; and

our general partner will have the right to convert its general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights into common units or to receive cash in exchange for those interests based on the fair market value of those interests at the time.

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

then an expert chosen by agreement of the experts selected by each of them will determine the fair market value.

If the option described above is not exercised by either the departing general partner or the successor general partner, the departing general partner s general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights will automatically convert into common units equal to the fair market value of those interests as determined by an investment banking firm or other independent expert selected in the manner described in the preceding paragraph.

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

### **Transfer of General Partner Interests and Incentive Distribution Rights**

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

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

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

Our general partner may transfer any or all of its incentive distribution rights without unitholder approval. In the case of a transfer by our general partner of its general partner interest in us, as a condition of this transfer, the transferee must, among other things, assume the rights and duties of our general partner, agree to be bound by the provisions of our partnership agreement, furnish an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters, and agree to be bound by the provisions of our partnership agreement and the partnership agreement of our operating partnership.

The general partner and its affiliates may at any time transfer units to one or more persons, without unitholder approval, except that they may not transfer subordinated units to us.

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

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

### **Change of Management Provisions**

Our partnership agreement contains specific provisions that are intended to discourage a person or group from attempting to remove Martin Midstream GP LLC as our general partner or otherwise change management. If any person or group other than our general partner and its affiliates acquires beneficial ownership of 20% or more of any class of units, that person or group loses voting rights on all of its units. The general partner has the discretion to increase, but not subsequently decrease, the ownership percentage at which voting rights are forfeited. This loss of voting rights does not apply to any person or group that acquires the units from our general partner or its affiliates and any transferees of that person or group approved by our general partner or to any person or group who acquires the units with the prior approval of the directors of our general partner.

Our partnership agreement also provides that if our general partner is removed under circumstances where cause does not exist and units held by our general partner and its affiliates are not voted in favor of that removal:

the subordination period will end and all outstanding subordinated units will immediately convert into common units on a one-for-one basis;

any existing arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units will be extinguished; and

our general partner will have the right to convert its general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights into common units or to receive cash in exchange for those interests.

# Limited Call Right

If at any time our general partner and its affiliates own more than 80% of the then-issued and outstanding partnership securities of any class, our general partner will have the right, which it may assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates or to us, to acquire all, but not less than all, of the remaining partnership securities of the class held by unaffiliated persons as of a record date to be selected by our general partner, on at least ten but not more than 60 days notice. Our general partner may exercise this right in its sole discretion. The purchase price in the event of this purchase will be the greater of:

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

the current market price, which is defined as the average of the daily closing prices for the 20 consecutive trading days immediately prior to that date for any class of units listed or admitted to trading on any national securities exchange as of any date, as of the date three days before the date the notice is mailed.
As a result of our general partner s right to purchase outstanding partnership securities, a holder of partnership securities may have his partnership securities purchased at an undesirable time or price. The tax consequences to a unitholder of the exercise of this call right are the same as a sale by that unitholder of his common units in the market.
Please read Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations Disposition of Common Units.

### **Meetings and Voting**

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

Our general partner does not anticipate that any meeting of unitholders will be called in the foreseeable future. Any action that is required or permitted to be taken by the unitholders may be taken either at a meeting of the unitholders or without a meeting if consents in writing describing the action so taken are signed by holders of the number of units necessary to authorize or take that action at a meeting. Meetings of the unitholders may be called by our general partner or, subject to the provision described in the next paragraph, by unitholders owning at least 20% of the outstanding units of the class for which a meeting is proposed. Unitholders may vote either in person or by proxy at meetings. The holders of a majority of the outstanding units of the class or classes for which a meeting has been called, represented in person or by proxy, will constitute a quorum unless any action by the unitholders requires approval by holders of a greater percentage of the units, in which case the quorum will be the greater percentage.

Each record holder of a unit has a vote according to his percentage interest in us, although additional limited partner interests having special voting rights could be issued. Please read Issuance of Additional Securities. However, if at any time any person or group, other than our general partner and its affiliates, or a direct or subsequently approved

transferee of our general partner or its affiliates, acquires, in the aggregate, beneficial ownership of 20% or more of any class of units then outstanding, that person or group will lose voting rights on all of its units and the units may not be voted on any matter and will not be considered to be outstanding when sending notices of a meeting of unitholders, calculating required votes, determining the presence of a quorum or for other similar purposes. Common units held in nominee or street name account will be voted by the broker or

other nominee in accordance with the instruction of the beneficial owner unless the arrangement between the beneficial owner and his nominee provides otherwise. Except as our partnership agreement otherwise provides, subordinated units will vote together with common units as a single class.

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

#### Status as Limited Partner or Assignee

Except as described above under Limited Liability, the common units will be fully paid and unitholders will not be required to make additional contributions.

An assignee of a common unit, after executing and delivering a transfer application, but pending its admission as a substituted limited partner, is entitled to an interest equivalent to that of a limited partner for the right to share in allocations and distributions from us, including liquidating distributions. Our general partner will vote and exercise other powers attributable to common units owned by an assignee that has not become a substitute limited partner at the written direction of the assignee. Please read Meetings and Voting. Transferees that do not execute and deliver a transfer application will not be treated as assignees or as record holders of common units, and will not receive cash distributions, federal income tax allocations or reports furnished to holders of common units. Please read Description of the Common Units Transfer of Common Units.

#### Non-citizen Assignees; Redemption

If we are or become subject to federal, state or local laws or regulations that, in the reasonable determination of our general partner, create either (i) a substantial risk of cancellation or forfeiture of any property in which we have an interest because of the nationality, citizenship or other related status of any limited partner or assignee, or (ii) a substantial risk that we or one or more of our subsidiaries or other entities in which we have at least a 25% equity interest will not be permitted to conduct business as a United States maritime company under the Jones Act and other United States federal statutes based on the status of any limited partner or assignee as a non-United States citizen, we may redeem the units held by any of these limited partners or assignees at the units current market price. In order to avoid any cancellation or forfeiture, our general partner may require each limited partner or assignee to furnish information about his nationality, citizenship or other related status within 30 days after a request for the information or if our general partner or assignee may be treated as a non-citizen assignee. In addition to other limitations on the rights of an assignee that is not a substituted limited partner, a non-citizen assignee does not have the right to direct the voting of his units and may not receive distributions in kind upon our liquidation.

### Indemnification

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

our general partner;

any departing general partner;

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

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

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

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

### **Books and Reports**

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

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

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

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

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

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

a copy of our tax returns;

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

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

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

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

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

#### **Registration Rights**

Under our partnership agreement, we have agreed to register for resale under the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws any common units, subordinated units or other partnership securities proposed to be sold by

our general partner or any of its affiliates or their assignees if an exemption from the registration requirements is not otherwise available. These registration rights continue for two years following any withdrawal or removal of Martin Midstream GP LLC as our general partner. We are obligated to pay all expenses incidental to the registration, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions.

### SELLING UNITHOLDERS

The selling unitholders, Martin Resource LLC, Cross Oil Refining and Marketing Inc., and Martin Product Sales LLC, may resell the common units that are the subject of this prospectus only in the manner contemplated under the Plan of Distribution. Martin Resource LLC, Cross Oil Refining and Marketing Inc. and Martin Product Sales LLC are each wholly-owned subsidiaries of Martin Resource Management Corporation.

The common units offered by this prospectus may be offered from time to time by the selling unitholders and the selling unitholders may sell some, all or none of their common units. We do not know how long the selling unitholders will hold the common units before selling them. We do not currently have any agreements, arrangements or understandings with the selling unitholders regarding the sale of any of the common units. In making offers and sales pursuant to this prospectus, each of the selling unitholders is deemed to be acting as an underwriter, and their offers and sales are deemed to be made indirectly on our behalf.

The following table sets forth for each selling unitholder:

(1) the number and percent of common units beneficially owned prior to the offering for resale of the common units under this prospectus;

(2) the number of common units registered for sale for the account of each unitholder under this prospectus (representing all of the common units that such selling unitholder may offer under this prospectus); and

(3) the number and percent of common units to be beneficially owned after this offering is completed, assuming all of the unitholder s common units are sold.

			Number of Common Units				
	Number of			Beneficially			
	Common Units			Owned			
	Beneficially Owned Prior to the Offering		Number of	After the Offering			
			Units				
	Number	Percentage	Offered	Number	Percentage		
Martin Resource LLC	4,203,823	11.9%	4,203,823	0	0%		
Cross Oil Refining and Marketing Inc.	889,444	2.5%	889,444	0	0%		
Martin Product Sales LLC	1,171,265	3.3%	1,171,265	0	0%		
Aur Palationshin with Martin Pasourca Managamant							

Our Relationship with Martin Resource Management

Martin Resource Management is engaged in the following principal business activities:

providing land transportation of various liquids using a fleet of trucks and road vehicles and road trailers;

distributing fuel oil, ammonia, asphalt, sulfuric acid, marine fuel and other liquids;

providing marine bunkering and other shore-based marine services in Alabama, Louisiana, Florida, Mississippi and Texas;

operating a crude oil gathering business in Stephens, Arkansas;

providing crude oil gathering, refining, and marketing services of base oils, asphalt, and distillate products in Smackover, Arkansas;

providing crude oil marketing and transportation from the well head to the end market;

operating an environmental consulting company;

operating an engineering services company;

supplying employees and services for the operation of our business;

operating a natural gas optimization business;

operating, for its account and our account, the docks, roads, loading and unloading facilities and other common use facilities or access routes at our Stanolind terminal; and

operating, solely for our account, the asphalt facilities in Omaha, Nebraska, Port Neches, Texas and South Houston, Texas.

We are and will continue to be closely affiliated with Martin Resource Management as a result of the following relationships.

### **Ownership**

Martin Resource Management owns approximately 17.7% of the outstanding limited partner units. In addition, Martin Resource Management controls MMGP, our general partner, by virtue of its 51% voting interest in Holdings, the sole member of MMGP. MMGP owns a 2.0% general partner interest in us and all of our incentive distribution rights.

### Management

Martin Resource Management directs our business operations through its ownership interests in and control of our general partner. We benefit from our relationship with Martin Resource Management through access to a significant pool of management expertise and established relationships throughout the energy industry. We do not have employees. Martin Resource Management employees are responsible for conducting our business and operating our assets on our behalf.

### **Related Party Agreements**

The Omnibus Agreement with Martin Resource Management requires us to reimburse Martin Resource Management for all direct expenses it incurs or payments it makes on our behalf or in connection with the operation of our business. We reimbursed Martin Resource Management for \$149.3 million, \$183.2 million and \$177.1 million of direct costs and expenses for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. There is no monetary limitation on the amount we are required to reimburse Martin Resource Management for direct expenses.

In addition to the direct expenses, under the Omnibus Agreement, we are required to reimburse Martin Resource Management for indirect general and administrative and corporate overhead expenses. For the years ended December

31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, the conflicts committee of our general partner ( Conflicts Committee ) approved reimbursement amounts of \$13.7 million, \$12.5 million and \$10.6 million, respectively, reflecting our allocable share of such expenses. The Conflicts Committee will review and approve future adjustments in the reimbursement amount for indirect expenses, if any, annually. These indirect expenses covered the centralized corporate functions Martin Resource Management provides for us, such as accounting, treasury, clerical, engineering, legal, billing, information technology, administration of insurance, environmental and safety compliance, general office expenses and employee benefit plans and other general corporate overhead functions we share with Martin Resource Management s retained businesses. The Omnibus Agreement also contains significant non-compete provisions and indemnity obligations. Martin Resource Management also licenses certain of its trademarks and trade names to us under the Omnibus Agreement.

Other agreements include, but are not limited to, a motor carrier agreement, marine transportation agreements, terminal services agreements, a tolling agreement, and a sulfuric acid sales agency agreement. Pursuant to the terms of the Omnibus Agreement, we are prohibited from entering into certain material agreements with Martin Resource Management without the approval of the Conflicts Committee.

For a more comprehensive discussion concerning the Omnibus Agreement and the other agreements that we have entered into with Martin Resource Management, please see Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence. set forth in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, filed with the SEC on February 29, 2016, as amended by Amendment No. 1 on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2015, filed on March 30, 2016.

### Commercial

We have been and anticipate that we will continue to be both a significant customer and supplier of products and services offered by Martin Resource Management. Our motor carrier agreement with Martin Resource Management provides us with access to Martin Resource Management s fleet of road vehicles and road trailers to provide land transportation in the areas served by Martin Resource Management. Our ability to utilize Martin Resource Management s land transportation operations is currently a key component of our integrated distribution network.

In the aggregate, our purchases from Martin Resource Management accounted for approximately 9%, 7%, and 8% of our total cost of products sold during for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. We also purchase marine fuel from Martin Resource Management, which we account for as an operating expense.

Correspondingly, Martin Resource Management is one of our significant customers. Our sales to Martin Resource Management accounted for approximately 11% of our total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2015 and 6% of our total revenues for each of the years ended December 31, 2014, and 2013. We have entered into certain agreements with Martin Resource Management pursuant to which we provide terminalling and storage and marine transportation services to its subsidiary, Martin Energy Services LLC (MES), and MES provides terminal services to us to handle lubricants, greases and drilling fluids. Additionally, we have entered into a long-term, fee for services-based tolling agreement with Martin Resource Management where Martin Resource Management agrees to pay us for the processing of its crude oil into finished products, including naphthenic lubricants, distillates, asphalt and other intermediate cuts.

For a more comprehensive discussion concerning the Omnibus Agreement and the other agreements that we have entered into with Martin Resource Management, please see Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence set forth in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, filed with the SEC on February 29, 2016, as amended by Amendment No. 1 on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2015, filed on March 30, 2016.

### Approval and Review of Related Party Transactions

If we contemplate entering into a transaction, other than a routine or in the ordinary course of business transaction, in which a related person will have a direct or indirect material interest, the proposed transaction is submitted for consideration to the board of directors of our general partner or to our management, as appropriate. If the board of directors is involved in the approval process, it determines whether to refer the matter to the Conflicts Committee, as provided under our limited partnership agreement. If a matter is referred to the Conflicts Committee, it obtains information regarding the proposed transaction from management and determines whether to engage independent legal counsel or an independent financial advisor to advise the members of the committee regarding the transaction. If

the Conflicts Committee retains such counsel or financial advisor, it considers such advice and, in the case of a financial advisor, such advisor s opinion as to whether the transaction is fair and reasonable to us and to our unitholders.

### MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

This section discusses the material U.S. federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the U.S. and, unless otherwise noted in the following discussion, is the opinion of Locke Lord 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 Martin Midstream Partners L.P.

The following discussion does not comment on all U.S. federal income tax matters affecting us or our unitholders. Moreover, the discussion focuses on unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the U.S. and has only limited application to corporations, estates, entities treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes, trusts, nonresident aliens, U.S. expatriates and former citizens or long-term residents of the U.S., or other unitholders subject to specialized tax treatment, such as tax-exempt institutions, foreign persons (including, without limitation, controlled foreign corporations, passive foreign investment companies and foreign persons eligible for benefits of an applicable income tax treaty with the U.S.), individual retirement accounts (IRAs) and other tax-gualified retirement plans, real estate investment trusts (REITs), mutual funds, dealers in securities or currencies, traders in securities, U.S. persons whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar, persons holding their units as part of a straddle, hedge. conversion transaction or other risk reduction transactions, and persons deemed to sell their units under the constructive sale provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, the discussion only comments, to a limited extent, on state, local and foreign tax consequences. Accordingly, we urge each prospective unitholder to consult, and depend on, his own tax advisor in analyzing the federal, state, local, and foreign tax consequences particular to him of the ownership or disposition of common units and potential changes in applicable tax laws.

No ruling has been or will be requested from the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS) regarding any matter affecting us or prospective unitholders. 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 our common units and the prices at which the 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 law and legal conclusions, but not as to factual matters, contained in this section, unless otherwise noted, are the opinions of Locke Lord LLP and are based on the accuracy and completeness of facts described herein and representations made by us. Locke Lord LLP has not undertaken any obligation to update its opinions after the date of this prospectus.

For the reasons described below, Locke Lord LLP has not rendered an opinion with respect to the following specific U.S. federal income tax issues:

the treatment of a unitholder whose common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units (Please see Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Treatment of Short Sales );

whether our monthly convention for allocating taxable income and losses is permitted by existing Treasury Regulations (Please see Disposition of Common Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees );

whether our method for depreciating Section 743 adjustments is sustainable in certain cases (Please see Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Section 754 Election and Uniformity of Units ); and

whether assignees of common units who fail to execute and deliver transfer applications will be treated as partners for federal income tax purposes (please read Limited Partner Status ).
In addition, Locke Lord LLP has not rendered an opinion with respect to the state, local or foreign tax consequences of an investment in us (please read State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Considerations ).

### **Partnership Status**

A partnership is not a taxable entity and incurs no U.S. 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 deduction of the partnership in computing his U.S. 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 to 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 exploration, development, mining or production, processing, refining, transportation, storage, and marketing of any mineral or natural resource, including crude oil, natural gas and products thereof. Other types of qualifying income include interest (other than from a financial business), dividends, gains from the sale of real property and gains from the sale or other disposition of capital assets held for the production of income that otherwise constitutes qualifying income. Qualifying income does not include rental income from leasing personal property.

Locke Lord LLP is of the opinion that, based upon the Internal Revenue Code, Treasury Regulations, published revenue rulings and court decisions, and the representations and estimate described below, we will be classified as a partnership and the Operating Partnership will be disregarded as an entity separate from us for federal income tax purposes.

In rendering its opinion, Locke Lord LLP has relied on factual representations made by us and our general partner and on an estimate prepared by us that less than 5% of our current gross income will not be qualifying income; however, this estimate could change from time to time. Among the factual representations made by us and our general partner upon which Locke Lord LLP has relied are:

Neither we nor the Operating Partnership 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 that Locke Lord LLP has opined or will opine is qualifying income within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code; and

Each hedging transaction that we treat as resulting in qualifying income has been and will be appropriately identified as a hedging transaction pursuant to applicable Treasury Regulations, and has been and will be associated with oil, gas, or products thereof that are held or to be held by us in activities that Locke Lord LLP has opined or will opine result in qualifying income.

We believe that these representations have been true in the past and expect that these representations will 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 treated as an association taxable as a corporation in any taxable year, either as a result of a failure to meet the Qualifying Income Exception or otherwise, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction would be reflected only on our tax return rather than being passed through to our unitholders, and we would owe federal income tax on our income at the corporate rates (and would likely owe state income tax at varying rates). In addition, any distribution made to a unitholder would be treated as either taxable dividend income, to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, or, in the absence of earnings and profits, a nontaxable return of capital, to the extent of the unitholder s tax basis in his common units, or taxable capital gain, after the unitholder s tax basis in his common units is reduced to zero. Accordingly, taxation as a corporation would result in a reduction in the anticipated cash flow and after-tax return to unitholders and therefore would likely result in a reduction of the value of the units.

The discussion below is based on Locke Lord LLP s opinion that we will be classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

## **Recent Administrative and Legislative Developments**

The present federal income tax treatment of publicly traded partnerships, or an investment in the common units of a publicly traded partnership, may be modified by administrative, legislative or judicial interpretation at any time. From time to time, members of the U.S. Congress propose and consider substantive changes to the existing federal income tax laws that affect publicly traded partnerships, such as proposals eliminating the qualifying income exception upon which we rely for our treatment as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. For example, the Obama administration s budget proposal for fiscal year 2016 recommends that certain publicly traded partnerships earning income from activities related to fossil fuel be taxed as corporations beginning in 2021. If successful, the Obama administration s proposal or other similar proposals could eliminate the Qualifying Income Exception to the treatment of all publicly traded partnerships as corporations upon which we rely for our treatment as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. We are unable to predict whether any such changes will ultimately be enacted. However, it is possible that a change in law could affect us, and any such changes could negatively impact the value of an investment in our common units.

On May 6, 2015, the IRS and the Department of the Treasury published proposed Treasury Regulations (the May 2015 Proposed Regulations ) that provide industry-specific guidance regarding whether income earned from certain activities will constitute qualifying income. We have previously received private letter rulings from the IRS regarding the issue of whether certain of our activities generate qualifying income. We are unable to predict whether any of the changes in the May 2015 Proposed Regulations will ultimately be enacted, or whether the May 2015 Proposed Regulations, once issued in final form, will materially change interpretations of the current law, but it is possible that a change in law could affect us and may, if enacted, be applied retroactively. Any such changes could affect our ability to meet the Qualifying Income Exception and could negatively impact the value of an investment in our common units. In the event that the May 2015 Proposed Regulations are finalized in their current form and an activity does not satisfy the standards set forth in the May 2015 Proposed Regulations, those regulations provide a ten-year transition period for a publicly traded partnership that either (i) has received a private letter ruling from the IRS concluding that

the income earned from this activity is qualifying income, or (ii) has engaged in the activity prior to May 6, 2015 and has treated the income from this activity as qualifying income under the statute as reasonably interpreted prior to the issuance of the May 2015 Proposed Regulations. In the event that such transition

period rules apply, the income that we derive from affected activities will be treated as qualifying income for the purposes of the Qualifying Income Exception only until the end of the transition period.

# **Limited Partner Status**

Unitholders who have become limited partners of Martin Midstream Partners L.P. will be treated as partners of Martin Midstream Partners L.P. for federal income tax purposes. Also, (a) assignees who have executed and delivered transfer applications and are awaiting admission as limited partners, and (b) unitholders whose common units are held in street name or by a nominee and who have the right to direct the nominee in the exercise of all substantive rights attendant to the ownership of their common units, will be treated as our partners for federal income tax purposes. 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 see Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Treatment of Short Sales.

Because there is no direct authority dealing with the status of assignees of common units who are entitled to execute and deliver transfer applications and become entitled to direct the exercise of attendant rights, but who fail to execute and deliver transfer applications, counsel is unable to opine that such persons are partners for federal income tax purposes. If not partners, such persons will not be eligible for the federal income tax treatment described in this discussion. Furthermore, a purchaser or other transferee of common units who does not execute and deliver a transfer application may not receive some federal income tax information or reports furnished to record holders of common units unless the common units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application for those common units.

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 own tax advisors with respect to their tax consequences of holding common units in Martin Midstream Partners L.P.

The references to unitholders in the discussion that follows assume that a unitholder is treated as one of our partners 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 corresponding cash distributions are received by 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 our 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 see Limitations on Deductibility of Losses.

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 to the unitholder. 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, both 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 tax basis (generally zero) for the share of Section 751 Assets deemed relinquished in the exchange.

## Basis of Common Units

A unitholder s initial tax basis for his common units will be the amount he paid for our 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 his share of profits, of our nonrecourse liabilities. Please see 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 s 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 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 unitholders 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 a unitholder s 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

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 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 for purposes of the investment interest deduction limitation. 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 or partner 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 partner in which event the partner 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 the general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us. At any time that distributions are made to the common units in excess of distributions to certain other classes of units, or incentive distributions are made to the general partner, gross income will be allocated to the recipients to the extent of

these excess distributions or incentive distributions. If we have a net loss for the entire year, that loss generally will be allocated first to the general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us to the extent of their positive capital accounts and, second, to the 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 assets contributed to us that exists at the time of such contribution (the assets described in clauses (i) and (ii) are 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 an 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 such offering. In the event we issue additional common units or engage in certain other transactions in the future, we will make reverse Section 704(c) Allocations, similar to the Section 704(c) Allocations described above, to all holders of partnership interests 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 partner who was allocated the deduction giving rise to the treatment of that gain as recapture income in order to

minimize the recognition of ordinary income by some unitholders. 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 as is needed to eliminate the negative balance as quickly as possible.

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 interests of all the partners in cash flow; and

the rights of all the partners to distributions of capital upon liquidation.

Locke Lord LLP is of the opinion that, with the exception of those issues specified in Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Section 754 Election and Disposition of Common Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees on which Locke Lord LLP has not rendered an opinion, 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.

Treatment of Short Sales

Table of Contents

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. Locke Lord 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 announced that it is actively 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. 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 39.6% and the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to long-term capital gains (generally, capital gains on certain assets held for more than 12 months) of individuals is 20%.

In addition, there is a 3.8% Medicare tax ( NIIT ) on net investment income earned by certain individuals, estates and trusts. 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 (1) the unitholder s net investment income or (2) 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 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 (1) undistributed net investment income, or (2) the excess adjusted gross income over the dollar amount at which the highest income tax bracket applicable to an estate or trust begins. The Department of the Treasury and the IRS have issued Treasury Regulations that provide guidance regarding the NIIT. Prospective unitholders are urged to consult with their tax advisors as to the impact of the NIIT on an investment in our common units.

# 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. The election generally permits 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. The Section 743(b) adjustment does not apply to a person who purchases common units directly from us, and it belongs only to the purchaser and not to other unitholders. For purposes of this discussion, a unitholder s inside basis in our assets will be considered to have two components: (1) his share of our tax basis in our assets (common basis) and (2) his Section 743(b) adjustment to that basis.

Where the remedial allocation method is adopted (which we have generally adopted as to all of our properties), 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 under Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code whose book basis

# Table of Contents

is in excess of its tax basis to be depreciated over the remaining cost recovery period for the Section 704(c) built-in gain. 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, the 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.

Although Locke Lord LLP is unable to opine as to the validity of this approach because there is no direct or indirect controlling authority on this issue, 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 Uniformity of Units. A unitholder s tax basis for his common units is allowable to some unitholders. Please see 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 Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss. The IRS may challenge our position with respect to see 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.

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-inD style="border-top: 3px double #000000">

Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities \$ 78,932 \$ 35,398 \$ (5,863 ) \$ 1,880 \$ (6,339 ) \$ (3,644 ) Other Data:

Funds from operations(1) \$ 15,037 \$ (4,518 ) \$ 12,303 \$ 17,656 \$ 13,462 \$ 9,276

#### Table of Contents

(1) As defined by the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts, or NAREIT, funds from operations, or FFO, represents net income (computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP), excluding gains from sales of property, plus real estate depreciation and amortization (excluding amortization of deferred financing costs) and after adjustments for unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures. The Company adjusts the NAREIT definition to add back minority interests expense. The Company presents FFO because the Company considers it an important supplemental measure of the Company s operational performance and believes it is frequently used by securities analysts, investors and other interested parties in the evaluation of REITs, many of which present FFO when reporting their results. FFO is intended to exclude GAAP historical cost depreciation and amortization of real estate and related assets, which assumes that the value of real estate assets diminishes ratably over time. Historically, however, real estate values have risen or fallen with market conditions. Because FFO excludes depreciation and amortization unique to real estate, gains and losses from property dispositions and extraordinary items, it provides a performance measure that, when compared year over year, reflects the impact to operations from trends in occupancy rates, rental rates, operating costs, development activities and interest costs, providing perspective not immediately apparent from net income. The Company computes FFO in accordance with standards established by the Board of Governors of NAREIT in its March 1995 White Paper (as amended in November 1999 and April 2002), which may differ from the methodology for calculating FFO utilized by other equity REITs and, accordingly, may not be comparable to such other REITs. Further, FFO does not represent amounts available for management s discretionary use because of needed capital replacement or expansion, debt service obligations, or other commitments and uncertainties, FFO should not be considered as an alternative to net income (loss) (computed in accordance with GAAP) as an indicator of the Company s performance, nor is it indicative of funds available to fund the Company s cash needs, including the Company s ability to pay dividends or make distributions.

The following table presents the reconciliation of FFO to net income (loss), which is the most directly comparable GAAP measure to FFO (in thousands):

	Company For the					Predecessor										
	Year Ended		November 1, 2005 - Docombor 31		January 1, 2005 - October 31		For the Year Ended December 31,									
	Dec	ember 31, 2006	Dec	December 31, 2005		October 31, 2005		2004		2003		2002				
Funds from operations:																
Net income (loss)	\$	(9,097)	\$	(5,600)	\$	3,824	\$	8,044	\$	3,671	\$	399				
Minority interests		(5,058)		(3,055)												
Real estate depreciation																
and amortization		30,052		4,128		8,384		9,533		9,702		9,466				
Unconsolidated entities																
real estate depreciation and amortization		59		9		95		79		89		51				
Gain on sale of real estate		59		9		95		19		69		51				
properties		(919)										(640)				
properties		()1))										(0+0)				
Total funds from																
operations	\$	15,037	\$	(4,518)	\$	12,303	\$	17,656	\$	13,462	\$	9,276				

## Item 7. Management Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto appearing elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Where appropriate, the following discussion includes analysis of the effects of the Company s Offering, the Formation Transactions and related refinancing transactions and certain other transactions. The Company makes statements in this section that are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. For a complete discussion of forward-looking statements, see the section in this Annual Report on Form 10-K entitled Statements Regarding Forward-Looking Information. Certain risk factors may cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the following discussion. For a discussion of such risk factors, see the section in this Annual Report on Form 10-K entitled Statements to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the following discussion. For a discussion of such risk factors, see the section in this Annual Report on Form 10-K entitled Statements to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the following discussion. For a discussion of such risk factors, see the section in this Annual Report on Form 10-K entitled Statements Regarding Forward-Looking Information.

### Overview

The Company is a fully-integrated, self-administered and self-managed REIT that invests in specialty office buildings for the medical profession, including medical offices, ambulatory surgery and diagnostic centers, in the United States of America. The Company has been built around understanding and addressing the specialized real estate needs of the healthcare industry. The Company s management team has developed long-term and extensive relationships through developing and maintaining modern, customized medical office buildings and healthcare related facilities. The Company has been able to maintain occupancy above market levels and secure strategic hospital campus locations. The Company operates its business through Cogdell Spencer LP, its operating partnership subsidiary, and its subsidiaries.

The Company derives a significant portion of its revenues from rents received from tenants under existing leases in medical office buildings and other healthcare related facilities. The Company derives a lesser portion of its revenues from fees that are paid for managing and developing medical office buildings and other healthcare related facilities for third parties. The Company s management believes a strong internal property management capability is a vital component of the Company s business, both for the properties the Company owns and for those that the Company manages.

As of December 31, 2006, the Company owned and/or managed 112 medical office buildings and healthcare related facilities, serving 27 hospital systems in ten states. The Company s aggregate portfolio was comprised of:

50 wholly-owned properties;

Four joint venture properties; and

58 properties owned by third parties

At December 31, 2006, the Company s aggregate portfolio contains approximately 5.3 million net rentable square feet, consisting of approximately 2.6 million net rentable square feet from wholly-owned properties, approximately 0.2 million net rentable square feet from joint venture properties, and approximately 2.5 million net rentable square feet from properties owned by third parties and managed by the Company. Approximately 79% of the net rentable square feet of the wholly-owned properties are situated on hospital campuses. As such, the Company believes that its assets occupy a premier franchise location in relation to local hospitals, providing the Company s properties with a distinct competitive advantage over alternative medical office space in an area. As of December 31, 2006, the Company s wholly-owned properties were approximately 94.2% occupied, with a weighted average remaining lease term of

approximately 3.8 years.

## **Factors Which May Influence Future Results of Operations**

Generally, the Company s revenues and expenses have remained consistent except for development fees and changes in the fair value of interest rate swap agreements reflected in interest expense. Development fees from wholly-owned and consolidated joint venture projects are eliminated in consolidation and will continue to vary to the extent there are fees from third party projects.

Related to the Company s interest rate swap agreements that do not qualify for hedge accounting, changes in fair values, which vary from period to period based on changes in market interest rates, are recorded in interest

#### Table of Contents

expense. Generally, increases (decreases) in market interest rates will increase (decrease) the fair value of the derivative, which will decrease (increase) current period interest expense for the change in fair value. During the fourth quarter of 2006, the Company terminated several derivative transactions and entered into new agreements with the appropriate hedge documentation in place, which will reduce the variances previously experienced in interest expense. The Company will continue to have interest expense variability for variable rate mortgages that do not have interest rate swap agreements.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

The Company s discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations are based upon the Company s consolidated financial statements and the Company s Predecessor s combined financial statements, which have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with GAAP. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation and combination.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses in the reporting period. The Company s actual results may differ from these estimates. Management has provided a summary of the Company s significant accounting policies in Note 2 to the Company s consolidated and combined financial statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Critical accounting policies are those judged to involve accounting estimates or assumptions that may be material due to the levels of subjectivity and judgment necessary to account for uncertain matters or susceptibility of such matters to change. Other companies in similar businesses may utilize different estimation policies and methodologies, which may impact the comparability of the Company s results of operations and financial condition to those companies.

### Investments in Real Estate

Acquisition of real estate. The price that the Company pays to acquire a property is impacted by many factors, including the condition of the buildings and improvements, the occupancy of the building, the existence of above and below market tenant leases, the creditworthiness of the tenants, favorable or unfavorable financing, above or below market ground leases and numerous other factors. Accordingly, the Company is required to make subjective assessments to allocate the purchase price paid to acquire investments in real estate among the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on the Company s estimate of the fair values of such assets and liabilities. This includes determining the value of the buildings and improvements, land, any ground leases, tenant improvements, in-place tenant leases, tenant relationships, the value (or negative value) of above (or below) market leases and any debt assumed from the seller or loans made by the seller to the Company. Each of these estimates requires significant judgment and some of the estimates involve complex calculations. The Company s calculation methodology is summarized in Note 2 to the Company s audited consolidated and combined financial statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. These allocation assessments have a direct impact on the Company s results of operations because if the Company were to allocate more value to land there would be no depreciation with respect to such amount or if the Company were to allocate more value to the buildings as opposed to allocating to the value of tenant leases, this amount would be recognized as an expense over a much longer period of time, since the amounts allocated to buildings are depreciated over the estimated lives of the buildings whereas amounts allocated to tenant leases are amortized over the terms of the leases. Additionally, the amortization of value (or negative value) assigned to above (or below) market rate leases is recorded as an adjustment to rental revenue as compared to amortization of the value of in-place leases and tenant relationships, which is included in depreciation and amortization in the Company s consolidated and combined statements of operations.

*Useful lives of assets.* The Company is required to make subjective assessments as to the useful lives of the Company s properties for purposes of determining the amount of depreciation to record on an annual basis with respect

to the Company s investments in real estate. These assessments have a direct impact on the Company s net income (loss) because if the Company were to shorten the expected useful lives of the Company s investments in real estate the Company would depreciate such investments over fewer years, resulting in more depreciation expense on an annual basis.

Asset impairment valuation. The Company reviews the carrying value of its properties when circumstances, such as adverse market conditions, indicate a potential impairment may exist. The Company bases its review on an estimate of the future cash flows (excluding interest charges) expected to result from the real estate investment s use and eventual disposition. The Company considers factors such as future operating income, trends and prospects, as well as the effects of leasing demand, competition and other factors. If the Company s evaluation indicates that it may be unable to recover the carrying value of a real estate investment, an impairment loss is recorded to the extent that the carrying value exceeds the estimated fair value of the property. These losses have a direct impact on the Company s net income because recording an impairment loss results in an immediate negative adjustment to operating results. The evaluation of anticipated cash flows is highly subjective and is based in part on assumptions regarding future occupancy, rental rates and capital requirements that could differ materially from actual results in future periods. Since cash flows on properties considered to be long-lived assets to be held and used are considered on an undiscounted basis to determine whether an asset has been impaired, the Company s strategy of holding properties over the long-term directly decreases the likelihood of recording an impairment loss. If the Company s strategy changes or market conditions otherwise dictate an earlier sale date, an impairment loss may be recognized and such loss could be material. If the Company determines that impairment has occurred, the affected assets must be reduced to their fair value. No such impairment losses have been recognized to date. The Company estimates the fair value of rental properties utilizing a discounted cash flow analysis that includes projections of future revenues, expenses and capital improvement costs, similar to the income approach that is commonly utilized by appraisers. The Company reviews the value of Goodwill using an income approach on an annual basis and when circumstances indicate a potential impairment may exist.

## **Revenue Recognition**

Rental income related to non-cancelable operating leases is recognized using the straight line method over the terms of the tenant leases, which is the period from occupancy to lease termination date. Deferred rents included in the Company s consolidated balance sheets represent the aggregate excess of rental revenue recognized on a straight line basis over the rental revenue that would be recognized under the cash flow received, based on the terms of the leases. At times the Company will receive cash payments at the inception of the lease for tenant improvements and these amounts are amortized into rental revenue over the life of the lease. The Company s leases generally contain provisions under which the tenants reimburse the Company for all property operating expenses and real estate taxes incurred by the Company. Such reimbursements are recognized in the period that the expenses are incurred. Lease termination fees are recognized when the related leases are canceled and the Company has no continuing obligation to provide services to such former tenants. As discussed above, the Company recognizes amortization of the value of acquired above or below market tenant leases as a reduction of rental income in the case of above market leases or an increase to rental revenue in the case of below market leases. The Company receives fees for property management and development and consulting services from time to time from third parties which is reflected as fee revenue. Management fees are generally based on a percentage of revenues for the month as defined in the related property management agreements. Development and consulting fees are recorded on a percentage of completion method using management s best estimate of time and costs to complete projects. The Company has a long history of developing reasonable and dependable estimates related to development or consulting contracts with clear requirements and rights of the parties to the contracts. Although not frequent, occasionally revisions to estimates of costs are necessary and are reflected as a change in estimate when known. Due to the amount of control retained by the Company, most joint venture developments will be consolidated, therefore those development fees will be eliminated in consolidation. Other income shown in the statement of operations, generally includes interest income, primarily from the amortization of unearned income on a sales-type capital lease recognized in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 13, and other income incidental to the Company s operations and is recognized when earned.

The Company must make subjective estimates as to when the Company s revenue is earned and the collectibility of the Company s accounts receivable related to minimum rent, deferred rent, expense reimbursements, lease termination fees and other income. The Company specifically analyzes accounts receivable and historical bad debts, tenant concentrations, tenant creditworthiness, and current economic trends when evaluating the adequacy of the allowance for bad debts. These estimates have a direct impact on the Company s net income

#### **Table of Contents**

because a higher bad debt allowance would result in lower net income, and recognizing rental revenue as earned in one period versus another would result in higher or lower net income for a particular period.

### **REIT** Qualification Requirements

The Company is subject to a number of operational and organizational requirements to qualify and then maintain qualification as a REIT. If the Company does not qualify as a REIT, its income would become subject to U.S. federal, state and local income taxes at regular corporate rates that would be substantial and the Company cannot re-elect to qualify as a REIT for five years. The resulting adverse effects on the Company s results of operations, liquidity and amounts distributable to stockholders would be material.

#### **Results of Operations**

The discussion below relates to the financial condition and results of operations for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2005, and 2004. The results of operations for January 1, 2005 through October 31, 2005 and November 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005 have been combined to provide a meaningful comparison to the results of operations for the year ended December 31, 2006.

The Company s income (loss) from operations is generated primarily from operations of its properties and development and property management fee revenue. The changes in operating results from period to period reflect changes in existing property performance and changes in the number of properties due to development, acquisition, or disposition of properties.

#### **Property Summary**

The following is an activity summary of the Company s property portfolio (excluding unconsolidated real estate partnerships) for the year ended December 31, 2006 and 2005:

	Company 2006	Company/ Predecessor 2005
Properties at January 1	44	43
Consolidation of Rocky Mount MOB LLC	1	
Acquisitions	6	
Disposition	(1)	
Development that began rental operations		1
Properties at December 31	50	44

The above table excludes East Jefferson Medical Specialty Building, which is accounted for as a sales-type capital lease and includes Rocky Mount MOB, a consolidated entity owned 34.5% by the Company.

#### Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005

*Revenue*. Total revenue increased \$9.6 million, or 20.9%, for the year ended December 31, 2006 compared to the year ended December 31, 2005.

### Table of Contents

Rental revenue increased 22.9%, from \$42.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2005 to \$52.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2006. Same-property rental revenue increased \$0.9 million, or 2.2%, which is due primarily to general increases in rent related to Consumer Price Index ( CPI ) escalation clauses. Rental revenue from acquisition properties and Rocky Mount MOB was \$8.9 million.

Management fee revenue and expense reimbursement revenue increased \$0.5 million from \$1.6 million in 2005 compared to \$2.1 million in 2006. This increase is mainly due to property management fee revenue generated by Consera Healthcare Real Estate, LLC, which was acquired in September 2006.

#### **Table of Contents**

Development fees earned on third party development contracts decreased \$0.6 million or 79.3% for the year ended December 31, 2006 compared to the year ended December 31, 2005. There were no significant development contracts with third parties for the year ended December 31, 2006 compared to two projects in 2005.

Interest and other income did not change significantly from 2005 to 2006.

*Property Operating and Management Expenses.* Property operating management expenses increased 26.9%, from \$15.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2005 to \$19.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2006. Same-property operating expenses increased approximately \$0.5 million, or 3.1%. Operating expenses from acquisition properties and Rocky Mount MOB and personnel and operating costs of Consera Healthcare Real Estate were \$3.7 million.

*Interest Expense.* Interest expense, excluding changes in fair values of the interest rate swap agreements, for the year ended December 31, 2006 was \$14.3 million compared to \$12.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, an increase of \$2.0 million, or 16.3%. This increase is primarily due to the increased borrowing to fund the acquisitions during 2006 and increased variable interest rates offset by the change in the Company s capital structure as a result of the Offering. Proceeds from the Offering were used in part to reduce debt principal balances which reduced interest expense.

Changes in interest rate swap fair values were recorded as a decrease or increase to interest expense until the swaps were terminated in November 2006. For the year ended December 31, 2006, the interest rate swap agreement fair values increased by approximately \$9,000, which resulted in a reduction of interest expense of the same amount. For the year ended December 31, 2005, the change interest rate swap agreement fair values reduced interest expense by \$2.5 million due to increases in the fair values of the agreements.

*Depreciation and Amortization Expenses.* Depreciation and amortization for the year ended December 31, 2006 was \$30.3 million compared to \$12.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, an increase of \$17.7 million, or 140.85%. Same-property depreciation and amortization expenses increased approximately \$13.0 million, or 103.7%. The increase was primarily due to the increase in the cost basis for the real estate properties and intangible assets as a result of the purchase accounting for the Formation Transactions on November 1, 2005. Depreciation and amortization expenses from acquisition properties and Rocky Mount MOB were \$4.6 million.

*General and Administrative Expenses.* General and administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2006 were \$6.4 million compared to \$12.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, a decrease of \$6.5 million, or (50.4)%. The decrease was due primarily to \$6.4 million related to a non-cash compensation charge incurred in connection with the grant of vested equity incentives to the Company s management team and employees in connection with the completion of the initial public offering. In addition, increased capitalized development personnel compensation decreased general and administrative expenses by \$0.5 million offset by increased professional fees related to public company administrative expenses including increased audit, legal, tax, and Sarbanes-Oxley related compliance fees.

*Minority Interests in Operating Partnership.* The loss allocated to the minority interests in Operating Partnership represents a weighted average 35.6% of the Operating Partnership s net loss for the year ended December 31, 2006. For the period of November 1, 2005 through December 31, 2006, the weighted average was 35.7%.

The above changes contributed to net income for the year ended December 31, 2005 decreasing from a net loss of \$1.8 million to a net loss of \$9.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2006, or a \$7.3 million decrease.

#### Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004

*Revenue*. Total revenue increased \$1.6 million, or 3.7%, for the year ended December 31, 2005 compared to the year ended December 31, 2004.

Rental revenue increased 5.9%, from \$40.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 to \$42.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, due primarily to general increases in rent related to CPI escalation clauses as well as a full year of operations for properties added during 2004 and operations for Copperfield MOB.

#### **Table of Contents**

Development fees earned on third party development contracts decreased 27.3% from \$1.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 to \$0.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2005 due to one development fee recognized in 2004, that accounted for approximately 54.5% of the total 2004 development fees, that was non-recurring in 2005.

Advisory fees decreased 100%, from \$0.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 to zero for the year ended December 31, 2005, due to no advisory projects being performed in 2005.

Management fees earned from management contracts and payable by third parties, expense reimbursements and interest and other income did not change significantly from 2004 to 2005.

*Property Operating and Management Expenses.* Property operating and management expenses increased 5.4%, from \$14.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 to \$15.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, as the result of general expense increases related to inflation as well as experiencing a full year of operations in 2005 for properties added in 2004 and Copperfield MOB added in the first quarter of 2005.

*Interest Expense*. Interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2005 was \$9.7 million compared to \$9.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2004, an increase of \$0.7 million, or 7.8%. This change was primarily due to interest on three new properties, a smaller reduction of interest expense due to changes in the fair value of the Company s interest rate swap agreements, an increase in interest expense on variable rate debt related to an increase in interest rates, offset by a decrease in interest expense due to the repayment of \$71.0 million of debt in November 2005. The Company s interest rate swap agreements are reported at fair value in the Company s balance sheet and changes in fair value are recorded as increase or decrease to interest expense. During the year ended December 31, 2005, interest expense was reduced by \$2.5 million related to increases in the fair value of the interest rate swap agreements. During the year ended December 31, 2004, interest expense was reduced by \$2.9 million related to net increases in the fair value of the interest rate swap agreements.

*Depreciation and Amortization Expenses.* Depreciation and amortization for the year ended December 31, 2005 was \$12.6 million compared to \$9.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2004, an increase of \$3.0 million, or 31.3%. The increase was primarily due to the increase in the cost basis for the real estate properties and intangible assets as a result of the purchase accounting resulting from the Formation Transactions on November 1, 2005.

*General and Administrative Expenses.* General and administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2005 was \$12.9 million compared to \$3.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2004, an increase of \$9.8 million, or 316.1%. The increase was due primarily to \$6.4 million related to a non-cash compensation charge incurred in connection with the grant of vested equity incentives to the Company s management team and employees in connection with the completion of the initial public offering and an increase of \$1.7 million related to legal, tax, accounting and auditing costs associated with preparing for the initial public offering and for the 2005 audit and tax compliance. The remaining increase relates to increased staffing and changed job responsibilities to meet the reporting and operational demands of a publicly registered company, Sarbanes Oxley Section 404 compliance and other consulting costs, travel, and reduction of capitalized development personnel compensation due a decrease in wholly-owned construction projects in 2005.

*Minority Interests.* Loss allocated to the minority interests in Operating Partnership represents a weighted average 35.7% of the Operating Partnership s net loss for the period of November 1, 2005 through December 31, 2006.

The above changes contributed to net income for the year ended December 31, 2004 decreasing from net income of \$8.0 million to a net loss of \$1.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, or a \$9.8 million decrease.

#### Cash Flows

Year Ended December 31, 2006 compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2005

Cash provided by operations was \$15.9 million and \$11.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increase of \$4.0 million was primarily due to (1) a \$3.1 million increase in earnings before non-cash depreciation, amortizations, straight-line rent and change in fair value of interest rate swap agreements,

#### **Table of Contents**

(2) proceeds of \$0.7 million from the termination of interest rate swap agreements, and (3) a \$0.2 million net increase due to changes in operating assets and liabilities primarily resulting from increased collected prepaid rent and increased accruals for interest.

Cash used in investing activities was \$103.7 million and \$33.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increase of \$70.3 million was primarily due an increase to investments in real estate properties and businesses of \$96.5 million offset by the proceeds from the sale of real estate property and partnership interests of \$2.8 million and the cash paid of \$27.0 million in the Formation Transaction in 2005.

Cash provided by financing activities was \$78.9 million and \$29.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Cash provided by financing activities in 2006 was primarily due to net proceeds from debt of \$92.5 million, primarily drawn from the Credit Facility and the new mortgage for Methodist Professional Center One. These net proceeds were used in order to fund the current period acquisitions offset by dividends and distributions of \$13.0 million. Cash provided by financing activities in 2005 was primarily due to the receipt of the net proceeds from the sale of common stock offset by the repayment in full of certain mortgages and notes payables.

### Year Ended December 31, 2005 compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2004

Cash provided by operations was \$11.9 million and \$16.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. The decrease in 2005 was due primarily to an increase in general and administrative costs paid during 2005, a decrease in development and advisory fees received, and an increase in interest payments associated with higher debt balances and increasing interest rates on variable rate debt.

Cash used in investing activities was \$33.4 million and \$13.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. The increase was due to \$36.5 million paid to certain Predecessor members and partners who elected cash as part of the Formation Transactions, offset by \$9.5 million of cash assumed from the Predecessor entities. During 2004, the Predecessor paid \$4.2 million to acquire Rowan OSC Investors, whereas in 2005, except for the Formation Transactions, there were no acquisitions funded using cash proceeds. During 2005, restricted cash decreased \$2.4 million due to the release of restrictions when the associated debt was repaid.

Cash provided by financing activities was \$29.4 million and \$1.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. The change was primarily due to the receipt of the net proceeds from the sale of Common Stock offset by the repayment in full of certain mortgages and notes payables.

### **Construction in Progress**

Construction in progress at December 31, 2006 consisted of four development projects, Carolina Forest Medical Plaza, Lancaster Rehabilitation, Lancaster General Health Campus and Mebane Medical Park for which the Company has acquired the land and has begun construction. The following is a summary of the construction in progress balance (dollars in thousands):

		Estimated					
Property	Location	Completion Date	Net Rentable Square Feet		estment ) Date	Total Investment	
Carolina Forest Medical Plaza	Horry County, SC	2Q 2007	39,000	\$	4,342	\$	7,400

### Table of Contents

Lancaster Rehabilitation					
Hospital	Lancaster, PA	2Q 2007	52,800	5,130	12,300
Lancaster General Health		-			
Campus MOB	Lancaster, PA	4Q 2007	64,070	1,483	15,500
Mebane Medical Office Building	Mebane, NC	1Q 2008	60,000	413	16,200
Land and pre-construction					
developments				1,486	
			215,870	\$ 12,854	\$ 51,400

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

As of December 31, 2006, the Company had \$1.0 million available in cash and cash equivalents. The Company is required to distribute at least 90% of the Company s net taxable income, excluding net capital gains, to the Company s stockholders on an annual basis due to qualification requirements as a REIT. Therefore, as a general matter, it is unlikely that the Company will have any substantial cash balances that could be used to meet the Company s liquidity needs. Instead, these needs must be met from cash generated from operations and external sources of capital.

As a result of the Offering and the Formation Transactions, the Company s debt and liquidity changed significantly. The Company believes that the Offering and the Formation Transactions improves the capital structure and financial flexibility of its business compared to its Predecessor s structure. The Company also expects to access additional funds through secured and unsecured borrowings.

On November 1, 2005, the Company, as guarantor, and the Operating Partnership entered into our \$100.0 million Credit Facility, with a syndicate of financial institutions (including Bank of America, N.A., Citicorp North America, Inc. and Branch Banking & Trust Company) (collectively, the Lenders ), with Bank of America, N.A., as the administrative agent for the Lenders, and Banc of America Securities LLC and Citigroup Global Markets Inc., as joint lead arrangers and joint book managers. The Credit Facility shall be available to fund working capital and other corporate purposes; finance acquisition and development activity; and refinance existing and future indebtedness. In August 2006, the Credit facility capacity was increased from \$100.0 million to \$130.0 million. The Credit Facility permits the Operating Partnership to borrow up to \$130.0 million of revolving loans, with sub-limits of \$25.0 million for swingline loans and \$25.0 million for letters of credit.

The Credit Facility shall terminate and all amounts outstanding thereunder shall be due and payable in full, three years from November 1, 2005, subject to a one-year extension at the Company s option. The Credit Facility also allows for up to \$120.0 million of increased availability (to a total aggregate available amount of \$250.0 million), at the Company s option but subject to each Lender s option to increase its commitment. The interest rate on loans under the Credit Facility equals, at the Company s election, either (1) LIBOR plus a margin of between 100 to 130 basis points based on the Company s leverage ratio or (2) the higher of the federal funds rate plus 50 basis points or Bank of America, N.A. s prime rate.

The Credit Facility contains customary terms and conditions for credit facilities of this type, including: (1) limitations on the Company s ability to (A) incur additional indebtedness, (B) make distributions to the Company s stockholders, subject to complying with REIT requirements, and (C) make certain investments; (2) maintenance of a pool of unencumbered assets subject to certain minimum valuations thereof; and (3) requirements for the Company to maintain certain financial coverage ratios. These customary financial coverage ratios and other conditions include a maximum leverage ratio (65%, with flexibility for one two quarter increase to not more than 75%), minimum fixed charge coverage ratio (150%), maximum combined secured indebtedness (50%), maximum recourse indebtedness (15%), maximum unencumbered interest coverage ratio (175%, with the flexibility for one two quarter decrease to 150%) and minimum combined tangible net worth (\$30 million plus 85% of net proceeds of equity issuances by the Company and its subsidiaries after November 1, 2005).

As of December 31, 2006, there was \$50.1 million available under the Credit Facility. There is \$77.5 million outstanding at December 31, 2006 and \$2.4 million of availability is restricted related to outstanding letters of credit.

Certain of the Company s mortgage notes payable and the Company s Credit Facility require that the Company comply with certain affirmative, negative and financial covenants. The Company was in compliance with the covenants as of December 31, 2006.

For mortgages with maturities during 2007, the Company expects to refinance these mortgages. For purchase commitments related to development projects, the Company expects to fund these projects either from the Credit Facility or from construction notes payable.

Management believes that the Company will have sufficient capital resources as a result of operations and the borrowings in place and availability under the Credit Facility to fund ongoing operations.

## **Long-Term Liquidity Needs**

The Company s principal long-term liquidity needs consist primarily of new property development, property acquisitions, principal payments under various mortgages and other credit facilities and non-recurring capital expenditures. The Company does not expect that its net cash provided by operations will be sufficient to meet all of these long-term liquidity needs. Instead, the Company expects to finance new property developments through modest cash equity capital contributed by the Company together with construction loan proceeds, as well as through cash equity investments by its tenants. The Company expects to fund property acquisitions through a combination of borrowings under its Credit Facility and traditional secured mortgage financing. In addition, the Company expects to use OP units issued by the Operating Partnership to acquire properties from existing owners seeking a tax deferred transaction. The Company expects to meet other long-term liquidity requirements through net cash provided by operations and through additional equity and debt financings, including loans from banks, institutional investors or other lenders, bridge loans, letters of credit, and other lending arrangements, most of which will be secured by mortgages. The Company may also issue unsecured debt in the future. However, in view of the Company s strategy to grow its portfolio over time, the Company does not, in general, expect to meet its long-term liquidity needs through sales of its properties. In the event that, notwithstanding this intent, the Company was in the future to consider sales of its properties from time to time, the proceeds that would be available to the Company from such sales, may be reduced by amounts that the Company may owe under the tax protection agreements entered into in connection with the Formation Transactions or those properties would need to be sold in a tax deferred transaction which would require reinvestment of the proceeds in another property. In addition, the Company s ability to sell certain of its assets could be adversely affected by the general illiquidity of real estate assets and certain additional factors particular to the Company s portfolio such as the specialized nature of its target property type, property use restrictions and the need to obtain consents or waivers of rights of first refusal or rights of first offers from ground lessors in the case of sales of its properties that are subject to ground leases.

The Company intends to repay indebtedness incurred under its Credit Facility from time to time, for acquisitions or otherwise, out of cash flow and from the proceeds of additional debt or equity issuances. In the future, the Company may seek to increase the amount of the Credit Facility, negotiate additional credit facilities or issue corporate debt instruments. Any indebtedness incurred or issued by the Company may be secured or unsecured, short-, medium- or long-term, fixed or variable interest rate and may be subject to other terms and conditions the Company deems acceptable. The Company intends to refinance at maturity the mortgage notes payable that have balloon payments at maturity.

### **Contractual Obligations**

The following table summarizes the Company s contractual obligations as of December 31, 2006, including the maturities and scheduled principal repayments and the commitments due in connection with the Company s ground leases and operating leases for the periods indicated (in thousands):

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Thereafter	Total
<b>Obligation:</b> Long-term debt principal payments and maturities(1) \$	62,002	\$ 105,036 \$	\$ 46,438	\$ 1,456 \$	\$ 3,562	\$ 43,035	\$ 261,529

Standby letters of credit(2)		2,352						• • • • •		• • • •				2,352
Interest payments(3)		13,187		7,464		3,511		2,949		2,684		4,708		34,503
Purchase commitments(4)		22,159		159										22,318
Ground leases(5)		195		195		195		195		195		6,781		7,756
Operating leases(6)		334		403		406		350		354		30		1,877
	<b>.</b>	100.000	<b>.</b>		<b>.</b>		<i>•</i>	4.0.70	<b>_</b>		<b>.</b>		<b>.</b>	
Total	\$	100,229	\$	113,257	\$	50,550	\$	4,950	\$	6,795	\$	54,554	\$	330,335
		&nbs												