

CLEAN HARBORS INC
Form 10-K
March 02, 2015
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____
COMMISSION FILE NO. 001-34223

CLEAN HARBORS, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Massachusetts
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation or organization) 04-2997780
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

42 Longwater Drive, Norwell, MA 02061-9149
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number: (781) 792-5000

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

Title of each class: Name of each exchange on which registered:

Common Stock, \$.01 par value New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

None

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

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Yes No

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

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

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller
reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes
o No

On June 30, 2014 (the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter), the aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common stock of the registrant held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$3.5 billion, based on the closing price of such common stock as of that date on the New York Stock Exchange. Reference is made to Part III of this report for the assumptions on which this calculation is based.

On February 25, 2015, there were outstanding 58,912,124 shares of Common Stock, \$.01 par value.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Certain portions of the registrant's definitive proxy statement for its 2015 annual meeting of stockholders (which will be filed with the Commission not later than April 30, 2015) are incorporated by reference into Part III of this report.

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Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

In addition to historical information, this annual report contains forward-looking statements, which are generally identifiable by use of the words "believes," "expects," "intends," "anticipates," "plans to," "estimates," "projects," or similar expressions. These forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected in these forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause such a difference include, but are not limited to, those discussed in this report under Item 1A, "Risk Factors," and Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis on Financial Condition and Results of Operations." Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect management's opinions only as of the date hereof. We undertake no obligation to revise or publicly release the results of any revision to these forward-looking statements. Readers should also carefully review the risk factors described in other documents which we file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), including the quarterly reports on Form 10-Q to be filed by us during 2015.

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

General

Clean Harbors, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively, "we," "Clean Harbors" or the "Company") is a leading provider of environmental, energy and industrial services throughout North America.

During the second quarter of 2014, we made changes to the manner in which we manage our business, make operating decisions and assess performance. These changes included the reassignment of certain departments among our operating segments in line with management reporting changes as well as the identification of Lodging Services as an additional segment. Under the new structure, our operations are managed in six reportable segments: Technical Services, Industrial and Field Services which consists of the Industrial Services and Field Services operating segments, Oil Re-refining and Recycling, SK Environmental Services, Lodging Services and Oil and Gas Field Services. The amounts presented for all periods in this report have been recast to reflect the impact of such changes. Technical Services — provides a broad range of hazardous material management services including the packaging, collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste at our incineration, landfill, wastewater and other treatment facilities.

Industrial and Field Services — provides industrial and specialty services such as high-pressure and chemical cleaning, catalyst handling, decoking, material processing, and industrial lodging services to refineries, chemical plants, oil sands facilities, pulp and paper mills, and other industrial facilities. Also provides a wide variety of environmental cleanup services on customer sites or other locations on a scheduled or emergency response basis including tank cleaning, decontamination, remediation, and spill cleanup.

Oil Re-refining and Recycling — processes used oil into high quality base and blended lubricating oils which are then sold to third party customers, and provides recycling of oil in excess of our current re-refining capacity into recycled fuel oil which is then sold to third parties. Processing into base and blended lubricating oils takes place in our three owned and operated re-refineries and recycling of oil into recycled fuel oil takes place in one of our used oil terminals.

SK Environmental Services — consists of Safety-Kleen's branches and provides a broad range of environmental services such as parts cleaning, containerized waste services, oil collection, and other complementary products and services, including vacuum services, allied products and other environmental services.

Lodging Services — provides lodges and remote workforce accommodation facilities throughout Western Canada. These include both client and open lodges, operator camps, and drill camps. Also included within the segment are manufacturing of modular units and wastewater processing plants, operating services and parts.

Oil and Gas Field Services — provides fluid handling, fluid hauling, production servicing, surface rentals, seismic services, and directional boring services to the energy sector serving oil and gas exploration and production, and power generation.

Clean Harbors, Inc. was incorporated in Massachusetts in 1980 and our principal office is located in Norwell, Massachusetts. We maintain a website at the following Internet address: <http://www.cleanharbors.com>. Through a link on this website to the SEC website, <http://www.sec.gov>, we provide free access to our annual reports on Form 10-K,

quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15

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(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as soon as reasonably practicable after electronic filing with the SEC. Our guidelines on corporate governance, the charters for our board committees, and our code of ethics for members of the board of directors, our chief executive officer and our other senior officers are also available on our website, and we will post on our website any waivers of, or amendments to, such code of ethics. Our website and the information contained therein or connected thereto are not incorporated by reference into this annual report.

Health and Safety

Health and Safety is our #1 priority—companywide. Employees at all levels of our Company share this philosophy and are committed to ensuring our safety goals are met. Our commitment to health and safety benefits everyone—our employees, our customers, the community, and the environment. In 2014 we continued with our very successful Safety Starts With Me: Live It 3-6-5 program which is a key component in our overall safety program and along with our many other programs has continued to lower our Total Recordable Incident Rate, or "TRIR;" Days Away, Restricted Activity and Transfer Rate, or "DART;" and Experience Modification Rate, or "EMR." For the year ended December 31, 2014, our Company wide TRIR, DART and EMR were 1.57, 1.01 and 0.54, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2013, our Company wide TRIR, DART and EMR were 1.78, 1.11 and 0.60, respectively. In order to protect our employees, continue to lower our incident rates, and satisfy our customers' demands to retain the best service providers with the lowest TRIR, DART and EMR rates, we are fully committed to continuously improving our health and safety performance. All employees recognize the importance of protecting themselves, their fellow employees, their customers, and all those around them from harm. This commitment is supported by the philosophies and Golden Rules of Safety that is the cornerstone of the Safety Starts with Me: Live It 3-6-5 program. Live It 3-6-5 is our dedication to the safety of our workers through each and every employee's commitment to our three Safety philosophies, our six Golden Rules of Safety and each employee's five personal reasons why they choose to be safe both at work, on the road and at home.

Compliance

We regard compliance with applicable environmental regulations as a critical component of our overall operations. We strive to maintain the highest professional standards in our compliance activities. Our internal operating requirements are in many instances more stringent than those imposed by regulation. Our compliance program has been developed for each of our waste management facilities and service centers under the direction of our compliance staff. The compliance staff is responsible for facilities permitting and regulatory compliance, compliance training, transportation compliance, and related record keeping. To ensure the effectiveness of our regulatory compliance program, our compliance staff monitors daily operational activities. We also have an Environmental Health and Safety Compliance Internal Audit Program designed to identify any weaknesses or opportunities for improvement in our ongoing compliance programs. We also perform periodic audits and inspections of the disposal facilities owned by other companies which we utilize.

Our facilities are frequently inspected and audited by regulatory agencies, as well as by customers. Although our facilities have been cited on occasion for regulatory violations, we believe that each of our facilities is currently in substantial compliance with applicable permit requirements.

Strategy

Our strategy is to develop and maintain ongoing relationships with a diversified group of customers that have recurring needs for environmental, energy or industrial services. We strive to be recognized as the premier supplier of a broad range of value-added services based upon quality, responsiveness, customer service, information technologies, breadth of service offerings and cost effectiveness.

The principal elements of our business strategy are to:

Expand Service Offerings and Geographic Coverage—We believe our Technical and Industrial and Field Services segments, as well as our SK Environmental Services branches, have a competitive advantage, particularly in areas where service locations are located at or near a treatment, storage and disposal facility, or "TSDF." By opening additional service locations in close proximity to our TSDFs, we believe that we can, with minimal capital expenditures, increase our market share within the Industrial and Field Services segment. We believe this will drive additional waste to our existing facilities, thereby increasing utilization and enhancing overall profitability.

Cross-Sell Across Segments—We believe the breadth of our service offerings allows us to provide additional services to existing customers. In particular, we believe we can provide industrial and field services to customers that traditionally have only used our technical services and technical services to customers that use our industrial services or oil and gas field services. At the same time, we see a variety of cross-selling opportunities between our Technical, Industrial and Field Services offerings and SK Environmental Services' 200,000 customers. Evidencing this strategy,

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we have been successfully cross selling the services of Safety-Kleen, Inc. ("Safety-Kleen"), since our acquisition of Safety-Kleen in December 2012, such as parts washers, allied products and recycling services, to legacy Clean Harbors customers. We believe leveraging our ability to cross-sell across all of our segments will drive additional revenue for our Company.

Capture Large-Scale Projects—We provide turnkey offsite transportation and landfill or incineration disposal services for soil and other contaminated media generated from remediation activities. We also assist remediation contractors and project managers with support services including groundwater disposal, investigation derived waste disposal, rolloff container management, and many other related services. We believe this will drive incremental waste volume to our existing facilities, thereby increasing utilization and enhancing overall profitability.

Expand Throughput Capacity of Existing Waste Facilities—We operate an extensive network of hazardous waste management facilities and have made substantial investments in these facilities, which provide us with significant operating leverage as volumes increase. In addition, there are opportunities to expand waste handling capacity at these facilities by modifying the terms of the existing permits and by adding equipment and new technology. Through selected permit modifications, we can expand the range of treatment services offered to our customers without the large capital investment necessary to acquire or build new waste management facilities.

Pursue Selective Acquisitions—We actively pursue accretive acquisitions in certain services or market sectors where we believe such acquisitions can enhance and expand our business. We believe that we can expand existing services, especially in our non-disposal services, through strategic acquisitions in order to generate incremental revenues from existing and new customers and to obtain greater market share.

Execute Strategic Divestitures—To complement our acquisition strategy and our focus on internal growth, we regularly review and evaluate our existing operations to determine whether our business model should change through the divestiture of certain businesses. Accordingly, from time to time, we may divest certain non-core businesses and reallocate our resources to businesses that better align with our long-term strategic direction.

Focus on Cost, Pricing and Productivity Initiatives—We continually seek to increase efficiency and to reduce costs in our business through enhanced technology, process efficiencies and stringent expense management. In 2014, we successfully executed a significant cost reduction program that included headcount reductions, branch consolidations, reduction in third-party rentals, greater internalization of maintenance costs, procurement and supply chain improvements and lowering reliance on outside transportation.

Acquisitions and Divestitures

An element of our business strategy involves expansion through the acquisition of businesses that complement our existing company and create multiple opportunities for profitable growth.

On February 4, 2015, we announced in a joint press release that a definitive agreement has been reached whereby we will acquire Thermo Fluids Inc. for a preliminary purchase price of \$85.0 million in cash, subject to customary post-closing adjustments based upon finalized working capital amounts. We expect to complete the acquisition, which is subject to customary closing conditions, including, but not limited to, regulatory approval, in March 2015.

In 2014, we acquired the assets of two privately owned companies for approximately \$16.1 million in cash, net of cash acquired. The purchase price is subject to customary post-closing adjustments based upon finalized working capital amounts. The acquired companies have been integrated into the Technical Services and Lodging Services segments.

On September 13, 2013, we acquired all of the outstanding shares of Evergreen Oil, Inc. ("Evergreen") for approximately \$56.3 million in cash, net of cash acquired. Evergreen, headquartered in Irvine, California, specializes in the recovery and re-refining of used oil. Evergreen owns and operates one of the only oil re-refining operations in the western United States and also offers other ancillary environmental services, including parts cleaning and containerized waste services, vacuum services and hazardous waste management services. The acquisition of Evergreen enables us to further penetrate the small quantity waste generator market and further expand its oil re-refining, oil recycling and waste treatment capabilities. Financial information and results of Evergreen have been recorded in our consolidated financial statements since acquisition and are primarily included in the Oil Re-refining and Recycling segment.

On January 20, 2015, we announced, as a result of our strategic review, plans to carve out primarily our Oil and Gas Field Services segment into a new standalone public Company. Due to the synergies related to drilling activity, we may also include our lodging drill camps business from our Lodging Services segment as part of that new Company. Timing could take more than 12 months and completion of the carve-out is subject to certain conditions including, but not limited to, market conditions, determination of the most advantageous structure from a financial and tax standpoint, overall costs to our Company, receipt of regulatory approvals, compliance with our debt covenants, the effectiveness of securities laws filings and final approval by our

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board of directors. There can be no assurance regarding the ultimate structure and timing of the proposed transaction or whether the transaction will be completed.

For additional information relating to our acquisition activities during fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, see Note 3, "Business Combinations," to our consolidated financial statements included in Item 8 of this report.

Protecting the Environment and Corporate Sustainability

Our core business is to provide industry, government and the public a wide range of environmental, energy and industrial services that protect and restore North America's natural environment.

As North America's premier provider of environmental as well as energy and industrial services, our first goal is to help our customers prevent the release of hazardous wastes into the environment. We also are the leading service provider in the recovery and decontamination of pollutants that have been released to the environment. This includes the safe destruction or disposal of hazardous materials in a manner that ensures these materials are no longer a danger to the environment. When providing these services, we are committed to the recycling, reuse and reclamation of these wastes whenever possible using a variety of methods more fully explained below in the sections describing our general operations. Our Safety-Kleen branded services exemplify our commitment to sustainability and providing environmental solutions to the marketplace. Where possible, liquids such as solvents, chemicals and used oil are recycled to our high-quality standards and made into useful products. Tolling programs provide a closed-loop cycle in which the customer's spent solvents are recycled to their precise specifications and returned directly to them.

As the largest re-refiner and recycler of used oil in the world, we returned more than 160 million gallons of new re-refined oil, lubricants and byproducts back into the marketplace. In 2014, our re-refining process eliminated over one million metric tons of greenhouse gas ("GHG"), which is the equivalent of growing more than 29 million trees for 10 years in an urban environment, or taking over 200,000 passenger cars off the road for one year.

We have also become the leading North American provider of services to protect the ozone layer from the destructive effects of chlorofluorocarbons, or "CFCs," which are ozone layer depleting substances and global warming compounds that have global warming potentials up to 10,000 times more powerful than carbon dioxide.

Global-warming potential is a relative measure of how much heat a green house gas traps in the atmosphere.

We have the most U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or "EPA," approved CFC disposal capacity regulated under the Montreal Protocol, and we destroyed approximately 203,000 pounds of CFCs in 2014 at our El Dorado, Arkansas facility. The destruction of this volume of CFCs led to the creation of approximately 625,000 metric tons of avoided carbon dioxide emissions, which is the equivalent of taking over approximately 132,000 passenger cars off the road for one year.

One of our most highly visible public programs for various governmental and community entities involves the removal of thousands of tons of hazardous wastes, from households throughout the United States and Canada, that might otherwise be improperly disposed of or become dangerous to the communities where they are stored.

As we provide these wide-ranging services throughout North America, we are committed to ensuring that our own operations are environmentally responsible. Our sustainability efforts are guided by a formal policy, strategy and plan and we continue to build on our past efforts, such as implementing numerous energy efficiency improvements and various transportation initiatives. Our 1.5 Mw solar array at a closed and capped landfill in New Jersey continues to provide virtually all of the power for the ongoing operation of the onsite ground water decontamination pump and treatment system.

Competitive Strengths

Leading Provider of Environmental, Energy and Industrial Services—We are one of the largest providers of environmental, energy and industrial services and the largest operator of non-nuclear hazardous waste treatment facilities in North America. We provide multi-faceted and low cost services to a broad mix of customers. We attract and better serve our customers because of our capabilities and the size, scale and geographic location of our assets, which allow us to serve multiple locations. Based on latest industry data, we service approximately 65% of North America's commercial hazardous incineration volume and 24% of North America's hazardous landfill volume.

Large and Diversified Customer Base—Our customers range from Fortune 500 companies to midsize and small public and private entities that span multiple industries and business types, including governmental entities. This diversification limits our credit exposure to any one customer and potential cyclicity to any one industry. As a

percentage of our 2014 revenues, the top 100 customers we serviced totaled 38% and the top ten industries we serviced totaled approximately 74% and included refineries and oil sands (12%), base oil, blenders and packagers(11%), chemical (11%), general manufacturing (10%), oil and gas production (7%), automotive (7%), energy and consulting (5%), terminals and pipelines (4%), utilities (4%) and government (3%).

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Stable and Recurring Revenue Base—We have long-standing relationships with our customers. Our diversified customer base also provides stable and recurring revenues as a majority of our revenues are derived from previously served customers with recurring needs for our services. In addition, switching costs for many of our customers are high. This is due to many customers' desire to audit disposal facilities prior to their qualification as approved sites and to limit the number of facilities to which their hazardous wastes are shipped in order to reduce their potential liability under United States and Canadian environmental regulations. We have been selected as an approved vendor by large and small generators of waste because we possess comprehensive collection, recycling, treatment, transportation, disposal, and waste tracking capabilities and have the expertise necessary to comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations. Those customers that have selected us as an approved vendor typically continue to use our services on a recurring basis.

Comprehensive Service Capabilities—Our comprehensive service offerings allow us to act as a full-service provider to our customers. Our full-service orientation creates incremental revenue growth as customers seek to minimize the number of outside vendors and demand "one-stop shop" service providers.

Integrated Network of Assets—We believe we operate, in the aggregate, the largest number of hazardous waste incinerators, landfills, treatment facilities and TSDFs in North America. Our broad service network enables us to effectively handle a waste stream from origin through disposal and to efficiently direct and internalize our waste streams to reduce costs. As our processing of wastes increases, our size allows us to increase our profit margins as we can internalize a greater volume of waste in our incinerators and landfills.

Regulatory Compliance—We continue to make capital investments in our facilities to ensure that they are in compliance with current federal, state, provincial and local regulations. Companies that rely on in-house disposal may find the current regulatory requirements to be too capital intensive or complicated, and may choose to outsource many of their hazardous waste disposal needs.

Effective Cost Management—Our significant scale allows us to maintain low costs through standardized compliance procedures, significant purchasing power, research and development capabilities and our ability to efficiently utilize logistics and transportation to economically direct waste streams to the most efficient facility. We also have the ability to transport and process with internal resources the substantial majority of all hazardous waste that we manage for our customers.

Proven and Experienced Management Team—Our executive management team provides depth and continuity. Our 13 executive officers collectively have approximately 240 years of experience in the environmental, energy and industrial services industries. Our chief executive officer founded our Company in 1980, and the average experience of the 12 other members of the executive management team is approximately 17 years.

Operations

General

Seasonality and Cyclical Nature of Business. Our operations may be affected by seasonal fluctuations due to weather and budgetary cycles influencing the timing of customers' spending for remedial activities. Typically during the first quarter of each year there is less demand for environmental services due to the cold weather, particularly in the Northern and Midwestern United States and Canada. Accordingly, reduced volumes of waste are received at our facilities and higher operating costs are associated with operating in sub-freezing weather and high levels of snowfall. In addition, factory closings for the year-end holidays reduce the volume of industrial waste generated, which results in lower volumes of waste handled by us during the first quarter of the following year.

Conversely, typically during the first quarter of each year there is more demand for our Industrial and Field Services and Oil and Gas Field Services segments due to the cold weather, particularly in Alberta, Canada, and less demand during the warmer months. The main reason for this is that the areas we service in Alberta are easier to access when the cold conditions make the terrain more suitable for companies to deploy their equipment. During the warmer months, thawing and muddy conditions may impede deployment of equipment.

Geographical Information. For the year ended December 31, 2014, we generated \$2,414.6 million or 71.0% of revenues in the United States and Puerto Rico, \$982.1 million or 28.9% of revenues in Canada, and less than 1% of revenues in other international locations. For the year ended December 31, 2013, we generated \$2,376.2 million or 67.7% of revenues in the United States and Puerto Rico, \$1,125.0 million or 32.1% of revenues in Canada, and less

than 1% of revenues in other international locations. For additional information about the geographical areas from which our revenues are derived and in which our assets are located, see Note 17, "Segment Reporting," to our consolidated financial statements included in Item 8 of this report.

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Technical Services

These services involve the collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, and include resource recovery, physical treatment, fuels blending, incineration, landfill disposal, wastewater treatment, lab chemical disposal, explosives management, and CleanPack® services. Our CleanPack services include the collection, identification and categorization, specialized packaging, transportation and disposal of laboratory chemicals and household hazardous wastes. Our technical services are provided through a network of service centers from which a fleet of trucks are dispatched to pick up customers' wastes either on a predetermined schedule or on-demand, and to deliver the wastes to permitted facilities, which are usually Company-owned. Our service centers also can dispatch chemists to a customer location for the collection of chemical and laboratory waste for disposal. **Collection, Transportation and Logistics Management.** As an integral part of our services, we collect industrial wastes from customers and transport such wastes to and between our facilities for treatment or bulking for shipment to final disposal locations. Customers typically accumulate wastes in containers, such as 55-gallon drums, bulk storage tanks or 20-cubic-yard roll-off containers. In providing this service, we utilize a variety of specially designed and constructed tank trucks and semi-trailers as well as third-party transporters, including railroads.

Treatment and Disposal. We recycle, treat and dispose of hazardous and non-hazardous industrial wastes. The wastes handled include substances which are classified as "hazardous" because of their corrosive, ignitable, infectious, reactive or toxic properties, and other substances subject to federal, state and provincial environmental regulation. We provide final treatment and disposal services designed to manage wastes which cannot be otherwise economically recycled or reused. The wastes we handle come in solid, sludge, liquid and gas form.

We operate a network of TSDFs that collect, temporarily store and/or consolidate compatible waste streams for more efficient transportation to final recycling, treatment or disposal destinations. These facilities hold special permits, such as Part B permits under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, or "RCRA," in the United States, which allow them to process waste through various technologies including recycling, incineration, and landfill and wastewater treatment.

Resource Recovery and Fuels Blending. We operate recycling systems for the reclamation and reuse of certain wastes, particularly solvent-based wastes generated by industrial cleaning operations, metal finishing and other manufacturing processes. Resource recovery involves the treatment of wastes using various methods, which effectively remove contaminants from the original material to restore its fitness for its intended purpose and to reduce the volume of waste requiring disposal.

We also operate a recycling facility that recycles refinery waste and spent catalyst. The recycled oil and recycled catalyst are sold to third parties.

Incineration. Incineration is the preferred method for the treatment of organic hazardous waste, because it effectively destroys the contaminants at high temperatures. High temperature incineration effectively eliminates organic wastes such as herbicides, halogenated solvents, pesticides, and pharmaceutical and refinery wastes, regardless of whether they are gases, liquids, sludge or solids. Federal and state incineration regulations require a destruction and removal efficiency of 99.99% for most organic wastes and 99.9999% for polychlorinated biphenyls, or "PCB," and dioxins. As of December 31, 2014, we had eight active incinerators operating in five incineration facilities that offer a wide range of technological capabilities to customers through this network. In the United States, we operate a fluidized bed thermal oxidation unit for maximum destruction efficiency of hazardous waste with an estimated annual capacity of 58,808 tons and three solids and liquids capable incineration facilities with a combined estimated annual capacity of 327,387 tons. We also operate one hazardous waste liquid injection incinerator in Canada with total annual capacity of 105,526 tons. We are now constructing a new incinerator at our El Dorado, Arkansas facility with completion projected late 2016. We expect this new incinerator to add approximately 70,000 tons of additional capacity. Our incineration facilities in Kimball, Nebraska, Deer Park, Texas, El Dorado, Arkansas and Aragonite, Utah, are designed to process liquid organic wastes, sludge, solids, soil and debris. Our Deer Park facility has two kilns and a rotary reactor. Our El Dorado incineration facility specializes in the treatment of bulk and containerized hazardous liquids, solids and sludge through two rotary kilns. Our incineration facilities in Kimball and Deer Park have on-site landfills for the disposal of ash produced as a result of the incineration process.

Our incineration facilities in Lambton, Ontario are liquid injection incinerators, designed primarily for the destruction of liquid organic wastes. Typical waste streams include wastewater with low levels of organics and other higher concentration organic liquid wastes not amenable to conventional physical or chemical waste treatment.

Landfills. Landfills are primarily used for the disposal of inorganic wastes. In the United States and Canada, we operate nine commercial landfills. Seven of our commercial landfills are designed and permitted for the disposal of hazardous wastes

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and two of our landfills are operated for non-hazardous industrial waste disposal and, to a lesser extent, municipal solid waste. In addition to our commercial landfills, we also own and operate two non-commercial landfills that only accept waste from our on-site incinerators.

Of our seven commercial landfills used for disposal of hazardous waste, five are located in the United States and two are located in Canada. As of December 31, 2014, the useful economic lives of these landfills include approximately 25.4 million cubic yards of remaining capacity. This estimate of the useful economic lives of these landfills includes permitted airspace and unpermitted airspace that our management believes to be probable of being permitted based on our analysis of various factors. In addition to the capacity included in the useful economic lives of these landfills, there are approximately 31.9 million cubic yards of additional unpermitted airspace capacity included in the footprints of these landfills that may ultimately be permitted, although there can be no assurance that this unpermitted additional capacity will be permitted. In addition to the hazardous waste landfills, we operate two non-hazardous industrial landfills with 4.6 million cubic yards of remaining permitted capacity. These two facilities are located in the United States and have been issued operating permits under the authority of Subtitle D of RCRA. Our non-hazardous landfill facilities are permitted to accept commercial industrial waste, including wastes from foundries, demolition and construction, machine shops, automobile manufacturing, printing, metal fabrications and recycling.

Wastewater Treatment. We operate seven wastewater treatment facilities that offer a range of wastewater treatment technologies. These wastewater treatment operations involve processing hazardous and non-hazardous wastes through the use of physical and chemical treatment methods. These facilities treat a broad range of industrial liquid and semi-liquid wastes containing heavy metals, organics and suspended solids.

Industrial and Field Services

Industrial services include a wide range of industrial maintenance services and specialty industrial services provided at refineries, mines, upgraders, chemical plants, pulp and paper mills, manufacturing, and power generation facilities.

We provide these services throughout North America, including a presence in the oil sands region in Alberta, Canada. Our crews handle as-needed in-plant services to support ongoing in-plant cleaning and maintenance services, including liquid/dry vacuum, hydro-blasting, steam cleaning and chemical hauling. We provide a variety of specialized industrial services including plant outage and turnaround services, decoking and pigging, catalyst handling, chemical cleaning, high and ultra-high pressure water cleaning, and large tank and surface impoundment cleaning.

Field services provide customers with highly skilled experts who utilize specialty equipment and resources to perform services at any chosen location. Our field service crews and equipment are dispatched on a planned or emergency basis, and perform services such as confined space entry for tank cleaning, site decontamination, large remediation projects, demolition, spill cleanup, railcar cleaning, product recovery and transfer, scarifying and media blasting and vacuum services. Additional services include used oil and oil products recycling. Other services include filtration and water treatment services.

We are a leader in providing response services for environmental emergencies of any scale from man-made disasters, such as oil spills, and natural disasters such as hurricanes.

Oil Re-refining and Recycling

The used oil collected by our SK Environmental Services branch network is processed or re-refined to convert into a variety of products, mostly base lubricating oils, and much smaller quantities of asphalt-like material, glycols and fuels. As the largest re-refiner of used oil in the world, we process the used oil we collect through our three re-refineries located in East Chicago, Indiana, Newark, California and Breslau, Ontario. Our primary goal is to produce and sell high-quality blended oils, which are created by combining our re-refined base oils with performance additives in accordance with our proprietary formulations and American Petroleum Institute licenses. Our “green” proprietary brands, EcoPower and Performance Plus, are sold to on and off-road corporate fleets, government entities, automotive service shops and industrial plants, which are serviced through our extensive U.S. and Canada-wide distributor network. We also sell unbranded blended oils to distributors that resell them under their private label brands. The base oil we do not blend and sell ourselves is sold to independent blenders/packagegers that use it to blend their own branded or private label oils. With more than 200 million gallons of used oil processed annually, we were able to return in 2014 more than 160 million gallons of new re-refined oil, lubricants and byproducts back into the

marketplace.

SK Environmental Services

Our Safety-Kleen service brand offers an array of environmental services and complementary products to a diverse range of customers including automobile repair shops, car and truck dealers, metal fabricators, machine manufacturers, fleet maintenance shops and other automotive, industrial and retail customers.

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As the largest provider of parts cleaning services in North America, our Safety-Kleen operation offers a complete line of specially designed parts washers to customer locations and then delivers recurring service that includes machine cleaning and maintenance and the disposal and replacement of clean solvent or aqueous fluids. We performed more than 900,000 parts washer services in 2014. We also sell allied products including degreasers, glass and floor cleaners, hand cleaners, absorbents, antifreeze, windshield washer fluid, mats and spill kits.

Utilizing our collection network, we provide the pickup and transportation of hazardous and non-hazardous containerized waste for recycling or disposal, primarily through the Clean Harbors network of recycling and waste treatment and disposal facilities. Some of the collected waste consists of used oil which serves as feedstock for our oil re-refineries, although a portion of the used oil brought to the re-refineries is either not suitable for re-refining or cannot be re-refined because we do not have sufficient re-refining capacity at a specific point in time. That oil is processed into recycled fuel oil, or "RFO." The RFO is then sold to various customers, such as asphalt plants, industrial plants, pulp and paper companies, and vacuum gas oil and marine diesel oil producers.

Our vacuum services provide the removal of solids, residual oily water and sludge and other fluids from customers' oil/water separators, sumps and collection tanks. We also remove and collect waste fluids found at large and small industrial locations, including metal fabricators, auto maintenance providers, and general manufacturers.

We provide total project management services in areas such as chemical packing, on-site waste management, remediation, compliance training and emergency spill response, while leveraging the Clean Harbors network of Technical, Industrial and Field Services centers and capabilities.

Lodging Services

Lodging Services consists of four lines of businesses; Lodge Operations, Mobile Camp Operations, Hospitality Operations, and Manufacturing. Synergy is created amongst all the lines of businesses within Lodging Services itself, as well with other Clean Harbors divisions by providing turnkey remote accommodations and manufacturing support. Lodge Operations operates fixed lodges, ranging in size from 300 to 600 beds throughout Northern Alberta, including the Fort McMurray area. These include both client and open lodges, with amenities that include superior catering and housekeeping services, fully equipped common areas, fitness rooms and computer rooms, wireless internet and public phones, powered parking stalls, laundry facilities and cleaning supplies, and daily towel service.

Mobile Camp Operations include remote workforce accommodation facilities throughout Western Canada, currently in British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, with multiple accommodation types. These include both client and open camps, operator camps, and drill camps. Hospitality services are provided internally to the majority of the Lodges and Camps being operated, and include food services prepared by Red Seal Chefs, hospitality services, camp and lodge managers, and housekeeping. Furthermore, Hospitality services are available as a standalone service to clients who have other accommodation arrangements.

Manufacturing is provided through BCT Structures Inc. and Sanitherm Inc. BCT is a premier custom manufacturer of modular buildings specializing in providing workforce housing, office complexes, schools, lavatories, multi story buildings, affordable housing, kitchen facilities and other customized modular solutions for various industries.

Sanitherm manufactures and operates water and wastewater treatment equipment and processes.

Oil and Gas Field Services

These services support exploration, drilling and production programs for oil and gas companies.

Seismic and Right-of-Way: On the exploration side, we provide integrated seismic and right-of-way services for efficient resource discovery and site preparation. These services include: (i) seismic surveying that minimizes costs, environmental impact, and time in field; (ii) mulching/line clearing that expedites additional geophysical activities and minimizes environmental impact; (iii) shot-hole drilling that provides safe and efficient operations in every terrain, including hostile and inaccessible regions; and (iv) borehole directional services that improve the efficient installation of pipeline, fiberoptic, cable, gas, water and sewer lines.

Surface Rentals: These services support oil and gas companies' drilling and well completion programs. Key to our services is our ability to provide solids control to support the drilling process. Our technologies help manage liquids, solids and semi-solid material during the drilling operation, and include centrifuges, tanks, and drilling fluid recovery. We also can provide container rentals for the safe collection of drill cuttings and other wastes, as well as manage disposal for drilling fluids and solids. We also supply surface rental equipment to support drill sites by providing

wellsite trailers, wastewater treatment systems and holding tanks, light towers, and generators and handling tools.

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Oilfield Transport and Production: These services support oil and gas companies drilling, completions and production programs. On the drilling and completions side, we provide vehicles and services for fluid hauling and disposal for ad hoc and turnkey operations. We also provide services and equipment for drilling site cleanups and support. On the production side, we provide complete turnarounds and tank cleaning services. Our downhole well equipment helps maintain and increase well productivity. Our other services include special chemical hauling, hydro-excavation, pressure/hydro testing equipment that tests pipelines and facilities, wellheads before operations startups, and rental production equipment for oil and gas well production.

Competition

The hazardous waste management industry in which we compete is highly competitive. The sources of competition vary by locality and by type of service rendered, with competition coming from national and regional waste services companies and hundreds of privately-owned firms. Veolia Environmental Services, or "Veolia," Waste Management, Inc., or "WM," and U.S. Ecology are the principal national firms with which we compete. Each of these competitors is able to provide one or more of the environmental services offered by us.

Under federal and state environmental laws in the United States, generators of hazardous wastes remain liable for improper disposal of such wastes. Although generators may hire various companies that have the proper permits and licenses, because of the generators' potential liability, they are very interested in the reputation and financial strength of the companies they use for the management of their hazardous wastes. We believe that our technical proficiency and reputation are important considerations to our customers in selecting and continuing to utilize our services.

We believe that the depth of our recycling, treatment and disposal capabilities and our ability to collect and transport waste products efficiently, quality of service, safety, and pricing are the most significant factors in the market for treatment and disposal services.

For our Technical Services segment, competitors include several major national and regional environmental services firms, as well as numerous smaller local firms. We believe the availability of skilled technical professional personnel, quality of performance, diversity of services and price are the key competitive factors in this service industry.

For our Oil Re-refining and Recycling and SK Environmental Services segments, competitors vary by locality and by type of service rendered, with competition coming from Heritage Crystal Clean, and Veolia, along with several regional and local firms.