

SABINE ROYALTY TRUST

Form 10-K

March 02, 2009

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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

**Form 10-K**

(Mark One)

- ☒ **ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
**For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008**
- ☐ **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
**For the transition period from            to**

**Commission File Number: 1-8424**

**Sabine Royalty Trust**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Texas**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or organization)

**75-6297143**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**Trust Division**  
**U.S. Trust, Bank of America**  
**Private Wealth Management**  
**Bank of America Plaza**  
**17th Floor**  
**901 Main Street**  
**Dallas, Texas**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**75202**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(214) 209-2400**

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

<b>Title of Each Class</b>	<b>Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered</b>
Units of Beneficial Interest	New York Stock Exchange

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

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

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

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ 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 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 ☐

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

The aggregate market value of units of beneficial interest of the registrant (based on the closing sale price on the New York Stock Exchange as of the last business day of its most recently completed second fiscal quarter) held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$994 million.

At March 2, 2009, there were 14,579,345 units of beneficial interest outstanding.

### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

None

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**PART I**

**Item 1. *Business.***

**DESCRIPTION OF THE TRUST**

Sabine Royalty Trust (the "Trust") is an express trust formed under the laws of the State of Texas by the Sabine Corporation Royalty Trust Agreement (the "Trust Agreement") made and entered into effective as of December 31, 1982, between Sabine Corporation, as trustor, and InterFirst Bank Dallas, N.A. ("InterFirst"), as trustee. The current trustee of the Trust is Bank of America, N.A. (as successor to NationsBank, N.A.) ("Bank of America"). In accordance with the successor trustee provisions of the Trust Agreement, Bank of America, as trustee of the Trust (the "Trustee"), is subject to all the terms and conditions of the Trust Agreement. In 2007 the Bank of America private wealth management group officially became known as U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management. The legal entity that serves as Trustee of the Trust did not change, and references in this Form 10-K to U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management shall describe the legal entity Bank of America, N.A. The principal office of the Trust (sometimes referred to herein as the "Registrant") is located at Bank of America Plaza, 17th Floor, 901 Main Street, Dallas, Texas 75202. The telephone number of the Trust is (214) 209-2400.

The Trust maintains an Internet website, and as a result, reports such as its annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to such reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, will now be made available at <http://www.sbr-sabineroyalty.com> as soon as reasonably practicable after such information is electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC.

On November 12, 1982, the shareholders of Sabine Corporation approved and authorized Sabine Corporation's transfer of royalty and mineral interests, including landowner's royalties, overriding royalty interests, minerals (other than executive rights, bonuses and delay rentals), production payments and any other similar, nonparticipatory interests, in certain producing and proved undeveloped oil and gas properties located in Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas (the "Royalty Properties") to the Trust. The conveyances of the Royalty Properties to the Trust were effective with respect to production as of 7:00 a.m. (local time) on January 1, 1983.

In order to avoid uncertainty under Louisiana law as to the legality of the Trustee's holding record title to the Royalty Properties located in that state, title to such properties has historically been held by a separate trust formed under the laws of Louisiana, the sole beneficiary of which was the Trust. Sabine Louisiana Royalty Trust was a passive entity, with the trustee thereof, Hibernia National Bank in New Orleans, having only such powers as were necessary for the collection of and distribution of revenues from and the protection of the Royalty Properties located in Louisiana and the payment of liabilities of Sabine Louisiana Royalty Trust. On December 31, 2001, Bank of America, N.A. assumed the duties as Trustee of the Sabine Louisiana Royalty Trust, since Louisiana law now permits an out-of-state bank to act in this capacity. A separate trust also was established to hold record title to the Royalty Properties located in Florida. Legislation was adopted in Florida in 1992 that eliminated the provision of Florida law that prohibited the Trustee from holding record title to the Royalty Properties located in that state. In November 1993, record title to the Royalty Properties held by the trustee of Sabine Florida Land Trust was transferred to the Trustee. As used herein, the term "Royalty Properties" includes the Royalty Properties held directly by the Trust and the Royalty Properties located in Louisiana and Florida that were held indirectly through the Trust's ownership of 100 percent beneficial interest of Sabine Louisiana Royalty Trust and Sabine Florida Land Trust. In discussing the Trust, this report disregards the technical ownership formalities described in this paragraph, which have no effect on the tax or accounting treatment of the Royalty Properties, since the observance thereof would significantly complicate the information presented herein.

without any corresponding benefit to Unit holders.

Certificates evidencing units of beneficial interest (the Units ) in the Trust were mailed on December 31, 1982 to the shareholders of Sabine Corporation of record on December 23, 1982, on the basis of one

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Unit for each outstanding share of common stock of Sabine Corporation. The Units are listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SBR.

In May 1988, Sabine Corporation was acquired by Pacific Enterprises, a California corporation. Through a series of mergers, Sabine Corporation was merged into Pacific Enterprises Oil Company (USA) ( Pacific (USA) ), a California corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of Pacific Enterprises, effective January 1, 1990. This acquisition and the subsequent mergers had no effect on the Units. Pacific (USA), as successor to Sabine Corporation, assumed by operation of law all of Sabine Corporation's rights and obligations with respect to the Trust. References herein to Pacific (USA) shall be deemed to include Sabine Corporation where appropriate.

In connection with the transfer of the Royalty Properties to the Trust upon its formation, Sabine Corporation had reserved to itself all executive rights, including rights to execute leases and to receive bonuses and delay rentals. In January 1993, Pacific (USA) completed the sale of substantially all of Pacific (USA)'s producing oil and gas assets to Hunt Oil Company. The sale did not include the executive rights relating to the Royalty Properties, and Pacific (USA)'s ownership of such rights was not affected by the sale.

The following summaries of certain provisions of the Trust Agreement are qualified in their entirety by reference to the Trust Agreement itself, which is an exhibit to the Form 10-K and available upon request from the Trustee. The definitions, formulas, accounting procedures and other terms governing the Trust are complex and extensive and no attempt has been made below to describe all such provisions. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein are used with the meanings ascribed to them in the Trust Agreement.

### **Assets of the Trust**

The Royalty Properties are the only assets of the Trust, other than cash being held for the payment of expenses and liabilities and for distribution to the Unit holders. Pending such payment of expenses and distribution to Unit holders, cash may be invested by the Trustee only in certificates of deposit, United States government securities or repurchase agreements secured by United States government securities. See Duties and Limited Powers of Trustee below.

### **Liabilities of the Trust**

Because of the passive nature of the Trust's assets and the restrictions on the power of the Trustee to incur obligations, it is anticipated that the only liabilities the Trust will incur are those for routine administrative expenses, such as insurance and trustee's fees, accounting, engineering, legal and other professional fees. The total general and administrative expenses of the Trust for 2008 were \$2,171,049 of which, pursuant to the terms of the Trust Agreement, \$331,898 was paid to U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management, as Trustee, and \$995,680 was paid to U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management, as escrow agent.

### **Duties and Limited Powers of Trustee**

The duties of the Trustee are specified in the Trust Agreement and by the laws of the State of Texas. The basic function of the Trustee is to collect income from the Trust properties, to pay out of the Trust's income and assets all expenses, charges and obligations, and to pay available income to Unit holders. Since Pacific (USA) has retained the executive rights with respect to the minerals included in the Royalty Properties and the right to receive any future bonus payments or delay rentals resulting from leases with respect to such minerals, the Trustee is not required to make any investment or operating decision with respect to the Royalty Properties.

The Trust has no employees. Administrative functions of the Trust are performed by the Trustee.



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The Trustee has the discretion to establish a cash reserve for the payment of any liability that is contingent or uncertain in amount or that otherwise is not currently due and payable. The Trustee has the power to borrow funds required to pay liabilities of the Trust as they become due and pledge or otherwise encumber the

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Trust's properties if it determines that the cash on hand is insufficient to pay such liabilities. Borrowings must be repaid in full before any further distributions are made to Unit holders. All distributable income of the Trust is distributed on a monthly basis. The Trustee is required to invest any cash being held by it for distribution on the next Distribution Date or as a reserve for liabilities in certificates of deposit, United States government securities or repurchase agreements secured by United States government securities. The Trustee furnishes Unit holders with periodic reports. See Item 1 Description of Units Reports to Unit Holders.

The Trust Agreement grants the Trustee only such rights and powers as are necessary to achieve the purposes of the Trust. The Trust Agreement prohibits the Trustee from engaging in any business, commercial or, with certain exceptions, investment activity of any kind and from using any portion of the assets of the Trust to acquire any oil and gas lease, royalty or other mineral interest other than the Royalty Properties. The Trustee may sell Trust properties only as authorized by a vote of the Unit holders, or when necessary to provide for the payment of specific liabilities of the Trust then due or upon termination of the Trust. Pledges or other encumbrances to secure borrowings are permitted without the authorization of Unit holders if the Trustee determines such action is advisable. Any sale of Trust properties must be for cash unless otherwise authorized by the Unit holders or unless the properties are being sold to provide for the payment of specific liabilities of the Trust then due, and the Trustee is obligated to distribute the available net proceeds of any such sale to the Unit holders.

## **Liabilities of Trustee**

The Trustee is to be indemnified out of the assets of the Trust for any liability, expense, claim, damage or other loss incurred by it in the performance of its duties unless such loss results from its negligence, bad faith or fraud or from its expenses in carrying out such duties exceeding the compensation and reimbursement it is entitled to under the Trust Agreement. The Trustee can be reimbursed out of the Trust assets for any liability imposed upon the Trustee for its failure to ensure that the Trust's liabilities are satisfiable only out of Trust assets. In no event will the Trustee be deemed to have acted negligently, fraudulently or in bad faith if it takes or suffers action in good faith in reliance upon and in accordance with the advice of parties considered to be qualified as experts on the matters submitted to them. The Trustee is not entitled to indemnification from Unit holders except in certain limited circumstances related to the replacement of mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen certificates. See Item 1 Description of Units Liability of Unit Holders.

## **Duration of Trust**

The Trust is irrevocable and Pacific (USA) has no power to terminate the Trust or, except with respect to certain corrective amendments, to alter or amend the terms of the Trust Agreement. The Trust will exist until it is terminated by (i) two successive fiscal years in which the Trust's gross revenues from the Royalty Properties are less than \$2,000,000 per year, (ii) a vote of Unit holders as described below under Voting Rights of Unit Holders or (iii) operation of provisions of the Trust Agreement intended to permit compliance by the Trust with the rule against perpetuities.

Upon the termination of the Trust, the Trustee will continue to act in such capacity until all the assets of the Trust are distributed. The Trustee will sell all Trust properties for cash (unless the Unit holders authorize the sale for a specified non-cash consideration, in which event the Trustee may, but is not obligated to, consummate such non-cash sale) in one or more sales and, after satisfying all existing liabilities and establishing adequate reserves for the payment of contingent liabilities, will distribute all available proceeds to the Unit holders.

## **Voting Rights of Unit Holders**

Although Unit holders possess certain voting rights, their voting rights are not comparable to those of shareholders of a corporation. For example, there is no requirement for annual meetings of Unit holders or for annual or other periodic re-election of the Trustee.

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The Trust Agreement may be amended by the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding Units at any duly called meeting of Unit holders. However, no such amendment may alter the relative rights of Unit holders unless approved by the affirmative vote of 100 percent of the Unit holders and by the Trustee. In addition, certain special voting requirements can be amended only if such amendment is approved by the holders of at least 80 percent of the outstanding Units and by the Trustee.

Removal of the Trustee requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the Units represented at a duly called meeting of Unit holders. In the event of a vacancy in the position of Trustee or if the Trustee has given notice of its intention to resign, a successor trustee of the Trust may be appointed by similar voting approval of the Unit holders.

The sale of all or any part of the assets of the Trust must be authorized by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding Units. However, the Trustee may, without a vote of the Unit holders, sell all or any part of the Trust assets upon termination of the Trust or otherwise if necessary to provide for the payment of specific liabilities of the Trust then due. The Trust can be terminated by the Unit holders only if the termination is approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding Units.

Meetings of Unit holders may be called by the Trustee at any time at its discretion and must be called by the Trustee at the written request of holders of not less than 10 percent of the then outstanding Units. The presence of a majority of the outstanding Units is necessary to constitute a quorum and Unit holders may vote in person or by proxy.

Notice of any meeting of Unit holders must be given not more than 60 nor less than 20 days prior to the date of such meeting. The notice must state the purposes of the meeting and no other matter may be presented or acted upon at the meeting.

## **DESCRIPTION OF UNITS**

Each Unit represents an equal undivided share of beneficial interest in the Trust and is evidenced by a transferable certificate issued by the Trustee. Each Unit entitles its holder to the same rights as the holder of any other Unit, and the Trust has no other authorized or outstanding class of equity security. At March 2, 2009, there were 14,579,345 Units outstanding.

The Trust may not issue additional Units unless such issuance is approved by the holders of at least 80 percent of the outstanding Units and by the Trustee. Under limited circumstances, Units may be redeemed by the Trust and canceled. See Possible Divestiture of Units below.

## **Distributions of Net Income**

The identity of Unit holders entitled to receive distributions of Trust income and the amounts thereof are determined as of each Monthly Record Date. Unit holders of record as of the Monthly Record Date (the 15th day of each calendar month except in limited circumstances) are entitled to have distributed to them the calculated Monthly Income Amount for the related Monthly Period no later than 10 business days after the Monthly Record Date. The Monthly Income Amount is the excess of (i) revenues from the Trust properties plus any decrease in cash reserves previously established for contingent liabilities and any other cash receipts of the Trust over (ii) the expenses and payments of liabilities of the Trust plus any increase in cash reserves for contingent liabilities.

## **Transfer**

Units are transferable on the records of the Trustee upon surrender of any certificate in proper form for transfer and compliance with such reasonable regulations as the Trustee may prescribe. No service charge is made to the transferor or transferee for any transfer of a Unit, but the Trustee may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or governmental charge that may be imposed in relation to such transfer. Until any such transfer, the Trustee may conclusively treat the holder of a Unit shown by its records as the owner of that

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Unit for all purposes. Any such transfer of a Unit will, as to the Trustee, vest in the transferee all rights of the transferor at the date of transfer, except that the transfer of a Unit after the Monthly Record Date for a distribution will not transfer the right of the transferor to such distribution.

The transfer of Units by gift and the transfer of Units held by a decedent's estate, and distributions from the Trust in respect thereof, may be restricted under applicable state law. See Item 1 State Law and Tax Considerations.

BNY Mellon Shareowner Services serves as transfer agent and registrar for the Units.

## **Reports to Unit Holders**

As promptly as practicable following the end of each fiscal year, the Trustee mails to each person who was a Unit holder on any Monthly Record Date during such fiscal year, a report showing in reasonable detail on a cash basis the receipts and disbursements and income and expenses of the Trust for federal and state tax purposes for each Monthly Period during such fiscal year and containing sufficient information to enable Unit holders to make all calculations necessary for federal and state tax purposes. As promptly as practicable following the end of each of the first three fiscal quarters of each year, the Trustee mails a report for such fiscal quarter showing in reasonable detail on a cash basis the assets and liabilities, receipts and disbursements, and income and expenses of the Trust for such fiscal quarter to Unit holders of record on the last Monthly Record Date immediately preceding the mailing thereof. Within 120 days following the end of each fiscal year, or such shorter period as may be required by the New York Stock Exchange, the Trustee mails to Unit holders of record on the last Monthly Record Date immediately preceding the mailing thereof, an annual report containing audited financial statements of the Trust and an audited statement of fees and expenses paid by the Trust to Bank of America, as Trustee and escrow agent. See Federal Taxation below.

Each Unit holder and his or her duly authorized agent has the right, during reasonable business hours at his or her own expense, to examine and make audits of the Trust and the records of the Trustee, including lists of Unit holders, for any proper purpose in reference thereto.

## **Widely Held Fixed Investment Trust Reporting Information**

Some Trust Units are held by middlemen, as such term is broadly defined in U.S. Treasury Regulations (and includes custodians, nominees, certain joint owners, and brokers holding an interest for a custodian in street name, referred to here in collectively as middlemen). Therefore, the Trustee considers the Trust to be a non-mortgage widely held fixed investment trust (WHFIT) for U.S. federal income tax purposes. U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management, 901 Main Street, 17th Floor, Dallas, Texas 75202, telephone number (214) 209-2400, is the representative of the Trust that will provide tax information in accordance with applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations governing the information reporting requirements of the Trust as a WHFIT. Tax information is also posted by the Trustee at [www.sbr-sabineroyalty.com](http://www.sbr-sabineroyalty.com). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the middlemen holding Trust Units on behalf of Unit holders, and not the Trustee of the Trust, are solely responsible for complying with the information reporting requirements under the U.S. Treasury Regulations with respect to such Trust Units, including the issuance of IRS Forms 1099 and certain written tax statements. Unit holders whose Trust Units are held by middlemen should consult with such middlemen regarding the information that will be reported to them by the middlemen with respect to the Trust Units.

## **Liability of Unit Holders**

As regards the Unit holders, the Trustee, in engaging in any activity or transaction that results or could result in any kind of liability, will be fully liable if the Trustee fails to take reasonable steps necessary to ensure that such liability is satisfiable only out of the Trust assets (even if the assets are inadequate to satisfy the liability) and in no event out of

amounts distributed to, or other assets owned by, Unit holders. However, the Trust might be held to constitute a joint stock company under Texas law, which is unsettled on this point, and therefore a Unit holder may be jointly and severally liable for any liability of the Trust if the satisfaction of

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such liability was not contractually limited to the assets of the Trust and the assets of both the Trust and the Trustee are not adequate to satisfy such liability. In view of the substantial value and passive nature of the Trust assets, the restrictions on the power of the Trustee to incur liabilities and the required financial net worth of any trustee of the Trust, the imposition of any liability on a Unit holder is believed to be extremely unlikely.

### **Possible Divestiture of Units**

The Trust Agreement imposes no restrictions based on nationality or other status of the persons or entities which are eligible to hold Units. However, the Trust Agreement provides that if at any time the Trust or the Trustee is named a party in any judicial or administrative proceeding seeking the cancellation or forfeiture of any property in which the Trust has an interest because of the nationality, or any other status, of any one or more Unit holders, the following procedure will be applicable:

1. The Trustee will give written notice to each holder whose nationality or other status is an issue in the proceeding of the existence of such controversy. The notice will contain a reasonable summary of such controversy and will constitute a demand to each such holder that he or she dispose of his or her Units within 30 days to a party not of the nationality or other status at issue in the proceeding described in the notice.
2. If any holder fails to dispose of his or her Units in accordance with such notice, the Trustee shall have the preemptive right to redeem and shall redeem, at any time during the 90-day period following the termination of the 30-day period specified in the notice, any Unit not so transferred for a cash price equal to the closing price of the Units on the stock exchange on which the Units are then listed or, in the absence of any such listing, the mean between the closing bid and asked prices for the Units in the over-the-counter market, as of the last business day prior to the expiration of the 30-day period stated in the notice.
3. The Trustee shall cancel any Unit acquired in accordance with the foregoing procedures.
4. The Trustee may, in its sole discretion, cause the Trust to borrow any amount required to redeem Units.

## **FEDERAL TAXATION**

**THE TAX CONSEQUENCES TO A UNIT HOLDER OF THE OWNERSHIP AND SALE OF UNITS WILL DEPEND IN PART ON THE UNIT HOLDER'S TAX CIRCUMSTANCES. EACH UNIT HOLDER SHOULD THEREFORE CONSULT THE UNIT HOLDER'S TAX ADVISOR ABOUT THE FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THE UNIT HOLDER OF THE OWNERSHIP OF UNITS.**

In May 1983, the Internal Revenue Service (the "Service") ruled that the Trust would be classified as a grantor trust for federal income tax purposes and not as an association taxable as a corporation. Accordingly, the income and deductions of the Trust are reportable directly by Unit holders for federal income tax purposes. The Service also ruled that Unit holders would be entitled to deduct cost depletion with respect to their investment in the Trust and that the transfer of a Unit in the Trust would be considered to be a transfer of a proportionate part of the properties held by the Trust.

Transferees of Units transferred after October 11, 1990, may be eligible to use the percentage depletion deduction on oil and gas income thereafter attributable to such Units, if the percentage depletion deduction would exceed cost depletion. Unlike cost depletion, percentage depletion is not limited to a Unit holder's depletable tax basis in the Units. Rather, a Unit holder is entitled to a percentage depletion deduction as long as the applicable Royalty Properties generate gross income.



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If a taxpayer disposes of any section 1254 property (certain oil, gas, geothermal or other mineral property), and if the adjusted basis of such property includes adjustments for deductions for depletion under section 611 of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code) (discussed above), the taxpayer generally must

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recapture the amount deducted for depletion in ordinary income (to the extent of gain realized on the disposition of the property). This depletion recapture rule applies to any disposition of property that was placed in service by the taxpayer after December 31, 1986. Detailed rules set forth in Sections 1.1254-1 through 1.1254-6 of the U.S. Treasury Regulations govern dispositions of property after March 13, 1995. The Service will likely take the position that a Unit holder who purchases a Unit subsequent to December 31, 1986, must recapture depletion upon the disposition of that Unit.

In order to facilitate creation of the Trust and to avoid the administrative expense and inconvenience of daily reporting to Unit holders by the Trustee, the conveyances by Sabine Corporation of the Royalty Properties located in five of the six states (Florida, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) provided for the execution of an escrow agreement by Sabine Corporation and InterFirst (the initial trustee of the Trust), in its capacities as trustee of the Trust and as escrow agent. The conveyances by Sabine Corporation of the Royalty Properties located in Louisiana provided for the execution of a substantially identical escrow agreement by Sabine Corporation and Hibernia National Bank in New Orleans, in the capacities of escrow agent and of trustee of Sabine Louisiana Royalty Trust. The Trust now only has one escrow agent, which is the Trustee, and a single escrow agreement.

Pursuant to the terms of the escrow agreement and the conveyances of the Royalty Properties, the proceeds of production from the Royalty Properties for each calendar month, and interest thereon, are collected by the escrow agent and are paid to and received by the Trust only on the next Monthly Record Date. The escrow agent has agreed to endeavor to assure that it incurs and pays expenses and fees for each calendar month only on the next Monthly Record Date. The Trust Agreement also provides that the Trustee is to endeavor to assure that income of the Trust will be accrued and received and expenses of the Trust will be incurred and paid only on each Monthly Record Date.

Assuming that the escrow arrangement is recognized for federal income tax purposes and that the Trustee, as escrow agent, is able to control the timing of income and expenses, as stated above, cash and accrual basis Unit holders should be treated as realizing income only on each Monthly Record Date. The Trustee, as escrow agent, may not be able to cause third party expenses to be incurred on each Monthly Record Date in all instances. Cash basis Unit holders, however, should be treated as having paid all expenses and fees only when such expenses and fees are actually paid. Even if the escrow arrangement is recognized for federal income tax purposes, however, accrual basis Unit holders might be considered to have accrued expenses when such expenses are incurred rather than on each Monthly Record Date when paid.

No ruling was requested from the Service with respect to the effect of the escrow arrangements when established. Due to the absence of direct authority and the factual nature of the characterization of the relationship among the escrow agents, Pacific (USA) and the Trust, no opinion was expressed by legal counsel with respect to the tax consequences of the escrow arrangements. If the escrow arrangement is recognized, the income from the Royalty Properties for a calendar month and interest income thereon will be taxed to the holder of the Unit on the next Monthly Record Date without regard to the ownership of the Unit prior to that date. The Trustee is treating the escrow arrangement as effective for tax purposes and furnishes tax information to Unit holders on that basis.

The Service might take the position that the escrow arrangement should be ignored for federal tax purposes. In such case, the Trustee could be required to report the proceeds from production and interest income thereon to the Unit holders on a daily basis, in accordance with their method of accounting, as the proceeds from production and interest thereon were received or accrued by the escrow agent. Such reporting could impact who is taxed on the production and interest income and result in a substantial increase in the administrative expenses of the Trust. In the event of a transfer of a Unit, the income and the depletion deduction attributable to the Royalty Properties for the period up to the date of transfer would be allocated to the transferor, and the income and depletion deduction attributable to the Royalty Properties on and after the date of transfer would be allocated to the transferee. Such allocation would be required even though the transferee was the holder of the Unit on the next Monthly Record Date and, therefore, would

be entitled to the monthly income distribution. Thus, if the escrow arrangement is not recognized, a mismatching of the

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monthly income distribution and the Unit holder's taxable income and deductions could occur between a transferor and a transferee upon the transfer of a Unit.

Unit holders of record on each Monthly Record Date are entitled to receive monthly distributions. See "Description of Units" "Distributions of Net Income" above. The terms of the escrow agreement and the Trust Agreement, as described above, seek to assure that taxable income attributable to such distributions will be reported by the Unit holder who receives such distributions, assuming that such holder is the holder of record on the Monthly Record Date. In certain circumstances, however, a Unit holder may be required to report taxable income attributable to his or her Units but the Unit holder will not receive the distribution attributable to such income. For example, if the Trustee establishes a reserve or borrows money to satisfy debts and liabilities of the Trust, income used to establish such reserve or to repay such loan will be reported by the Unit holder, even though such income is not distributed to the Unit holder.

Interest and royalty income attributable to ownership of Units and any gain on the sale thereof are considered portfolio income, and not income from a passive activity, to the extent a Unit holder acquires and holds Units as an investment and did not acquire them in the ordinary course of a trade or business. Therefore, interest and royalty income attributable to ownership of Units generally may not be offset by losses from any passive activities.

Individuals may deduct miscellaneous itemized deductions (including, in general, investment expenses) only to the extent that such expenses exceed 2 percent of the individual's adjusted gross income. Although there are exceptions to the 2 percent limitation, authority suggests that no exceptions apply to expenses passed through from a grantor trust, like the Trust. Unit holders itemizing deductions will also be subject to limitations on taking such deductions if the Unit holder's adjusted gross income exceeds a threshold amount, which is \$159,950 for 2008 and \$166,800 for 2009 (if married, filing jointly).

The foregoing summary is not exhaustive and does not purport to be complete. Many other provisions of the federal tax laws may affect individual Unit holders. Each Unit holder should consult his or her personal tax adviser with respect to the effects of his or her ownership of Units on his or her personal tax situation.

**STATE TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

**THE FOLLOWING IS INTENDED AS A BRIEF SUMMARY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING STATE INCOME TAXES AND OTHER STATE TAX MATTERS AFFECTING THE TRUST AND THE UNIT HOLDERS. UNIT HOLDERS SHOULD CONSULT THE UNIT HOLDER'S TAX ADVISOR REGARDING STATE INCOME TAX FILING AND COMPLIANCE MATTERS.**

*Texas.* Texas does not impose an income tax. Therefore, no part of the income produced by the Trust is subject to an income tax in Texas. However, effective January 1, 2008, Texas imposes a margin tax at a rate of 1% on gross revenues less certain deductions, as specifically set forth in the Texas margin tax statute. The Texas margin tax is a significant change in Texas tax law. The tax generally will be imposed on gross revenues generated in 2007 and thereafter. Entities subject to tax generally include trusts unless otherwise exempt, and most other types of entities having limited liability protection. Trusts that receive at least 90% of their federal gross income from designated passive sources, including royalties from mineral properties and other non-operated mineral interest income, and do not receive more than 10% of their income from operating an active trade or business, are generally exempt from the Texas margin tax as passive entities. The Trust should be exempt from Texas margin tax as a passive entity. Since the Trust should be exempt from Texas margin tax at the Trust level as a passive entity, each Unit holder that is considered a taxable entity under the Texas margin tax would generally be required to include its Texas portion of Trust revenues in its own Texas margin tax computation. This revenue would be sourced to Texas under Texas Comptroller guidance that provides such income is sourced according to the location of the day-to-day operations of the Trust, which is Texas. Under certain circumstances, Texas inheritance tax may be applicable to property in Texas

(including intangible personal property such as the Units) of both resident and nonresident decedents.

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*Louisiana.* The Trustee is required to file with Louisiana a return reflecting the income of the Trust attributable to mineral interests located in Louisiana. Both Louisiana resident and non-resident Unit holders may be subject to the Louisiana personal, corporate and/or franchise tax as certain income and expenses from the Trust are from sources within Louisiana. Units held by residents of Louisiana, to the extent that they represent a proportionate share of mineral royalties from mineral interests located in Louisiana, are subject to Louisiana probate, community property, forced heirship and other rules. Units held of record by a person who was not domiciled in Louisiana at the date of death generally are not subject to Louisiana probate, community property or forced heirship rules, and Units transferred inter vivos by non-domiciliaries of Louisiana generally are not subject to Louisiana gift tax. Effective January 1, 2008, no Louisiana inheritance tax is due for decedents' deaths occurring after June 30, 2004, regardless of the date on which the succession of the decedent's estate is opened. Additionally, on and after January 1, 2008, inheritance tax returns are not required and other succession-related documents are not required to be filed with the Louisiana Department of Revenue for deaths occurring after June 30, 2004. Persons who paid Louisiana inheritance taxes based on deaths occurring after June 30, 2004 can file a refund for those taxes with the Louisiana Department of Revenue between August 1, 2008 and December 31, 2009. The Louisiana Department of Revenue will not process these refund claims before August 1, 2008.

*Florida, Mississippi, New Mexico and Oklahoma.* Florida does not have a personal income tax. Florida imposes an income tax on resident and nonresident corporations (except for S corporations not subject to the built-in gains tax or passive investment income tax), which will be applicable to royalty income allocable to a corporate Unit holder from properties located within Florida. Mississippi, New Mexico and Oklahoma each impose an income tax applicable to both resident and nonresident individuals and/or corporations (subject to certain exceptions for S corporations and limited liability companies, depending on their treatment for federal tax purposes), which will be applicable to royalty income allocable to a Unit holder from properties located within these states. Although the Trust may be required to file information returns with taxing authorities in those states and provide copies of such returns to the Unit holders, the Trust should be considered a grantor trust for state income tax purposes and the Royalty Properties that are located in such states should be considered economic interests in minerals for state income tax purposes.

Generally, the state income tax due by nonresidents in all of the aforementioned states is computed as a percentage of taxable income attributable to the particular state. By contrast, residents are taxed on their taxable income from all sources, wherever earned. Furthermore, even though state laws vary, taxable income for state purposes is often computed in a manner similar to the computation of taxable income for federal income tax purposes. Some of these states give credit for taxes paid to other states by their residents on income from sources in those other states. In certain of these states, a Unit holder is required to file a state income tax return if income is attributable to the Unit holder even though no tax is owed.

Both New Mexico and Oklahoma impose a withholding tax on payments of oil and gas proceeds derived from royalty interests. To reduce the administrative burden imposed by these rules, the Trustee has opted to allow the payors of oil and gas proceeds to withhold on royalty payments made to the Trust. The Trust will then file New Mexico and Oklahoma tax returns, obtain a refund, and distribute that refund to Unit holders.

Withholding at the Trust level reduces the amount of cash available for distribution to Unit holders. Unit holders who transfer their Units before either the New Mexico or Oklahoma tax refunds are received by the Trust or after the refunds are received but before the next Monthly Record Date will not receive any portion of the refund. As a result, such Unit holders may incur a double tax—first through the reduced distribution received from the Trust and second by the tax payment made directly to New Mexico or Oklahoma with the filing of their New Mexico or Oklahoma income tax returns.

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**REGULATION AND PRICES**

**Regulation**

*General*

Exploration for and production and sale of oil and gas are extensively regulated at the national, state and local levels. Oil and gas development and production activities are subject to state law, regulation and orders of regulatory bodies pursuant thereto. These laws may govern a wide variety of matters, including allowable rates of production, transportation, marketing, pricing, prevention of waste, and pollution and protection of the environment. These laws, regulations and orders have in the past and may again restrict the rate of oil and gas production below the rate that would otherwise exist in the absence of such laws, regulations and orders.

Laws affecting the oil and gas industry and the distribution of its products are under constant review for amendment or expansion, frequently increasing the regulatory burden. Numerous governmental departments and agencies are authorized by statute to issue and have issued rules and regulations binding on the oil and gas industry which often are difficult and costly to comply with and which carry substantial penalties for the failure to comply.

*Natural Gas*

Prices for the sale of natural gas, like the sale of other commodities, are governed by the marketplace and the provisions of applicable gas sales contracts. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ( FERC ), which principally is responsible for regulating interstate transportation and the sale of natural gas, has taken significant steps in the implementation of a policy to restructure the natural gas pipeline industry to promote full competition in the sales of natural gas, so that all natural gas suppliers, including pipelines, can compete equally for sales customers. This policy has been implemented largely through restructuring proceedings and is subject to continuing refinement. The effects of this policy are now presumably fully reflected in the natural gas markets. The current policy of FERC continues to promote increased competition among gas industry participants. Accordingly, various regulations and orders have been proposed and implemented to encourage nondiscriminatory open-access transportation by interstate pipelines and to provide for the unbundling of pipeline services so that such services may also be furnished by nonpipeline suppliers on a competitive basis.

There are many other statutes, rules, regulations and orders that affect the pricing or transportation of natural gas. Some of the provisions are and will be subject to court or administrative review. Consequently, uncertainty as to the ultimate impact of these regulatory provisions on the prices and production of natural gas from the Royalty Properties is expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

**Prices**

*Oil*

The Trust's average per barrel oil price increased from \$58.35 in 2007 to \$97.32 in 2008. The Trustee believes that the international instability all year coupled with increasing global demand and supply shortage concerns early in the year along with inadequate sour crude refining capacity led to the increase in the price of oil. At times in 2008 oil prices soared to above \$147 per barrel. By the fall of 2008, oil prices began to fall sharply as concerns about the recession and tighter credit markets caused demand to decline significantly.

*Natural Gas*

Natural gas prices, which once were determined largely by governmental regulations, are now being governed by the marketplace. Substantial competition in the natural gas marketplace continues. In addition, competition with alternative fuels persists. The average price received by the Trust in 2008 on natural gas volumes sold of \$8.45 per Mcf represented a significant increase from the \$6.34 per Mcf received in 2007, due largely to an absence of hurricane activity in the Gulf of Mexico in 2007. Gas prices began to rebound in late 2007. Due to tighter storage levels and higher oil prices in the first part of 2008, gas prices increased to record



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levels of over \$12 per Mcf. Gas prices began to decline in the fall of 2008 due to concerns of oversupply and falling demand because of the deepening recession.

### *Environmental Regulation*

*General.* Activities on the Royalty Properties are subject to existing federal, state and local laws (including case law), rules and regulations governing health, safety, environmental quality and pollution control. It is anticipated that, absent the occurrence of an extraordinary event, compliance with existing federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations regulating health, safety, the release of materials into the environment or otherwise relating to the protection of the environment will not have a material adverse effect upon the Trust or Unit holders. The Trustee cannot predict what effect additional regulation or legislation, enforcement policies thereunder, and claims for damages to property, employees, other persons and the environment resulting from operations on the Royalty Properties could have on the Trust or Unit holders. Even if the Trust were not directly liable for costs or expenses related to these matters, increased costs of compliance could result in wells being plugged and abandoned earlier in their productive lives, with a resulting loss of reserves and revenues to the Trust.

*Superfund.* The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ( CERCLA ), also known as the superfund law, imposes liability, regardless of fault or the legality of the original conduct, on certain classes of persons that contributed to the release of a hazardous substance into the environment. These persons include the current or previous owner and operator of a site and companies that disposed, or arranged for the disposal, of the hazardous substance found at a site. CERCLA also authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency and, in some cases, private parties to take actions in response to threats to the public health or the environment and to seek recovery from such responsible classes of persons of the costs of such action. In the course of operations, the working interest owner and/or the operator of Royalty Properties may have generated and may generate wastes that may fall within CERCLA's definition of hazardous substances. The operator of the Royalty Properties or the working interest owners may be responsible under CERCLA for all or part of the costs to clean up sites at which such substances have been disposed. Although the Trust is not the operator of any Royalty Properties, or the owner of any working interest, its ownership of royalty interests could cause it to be responsible for all or part of such costs to the extent CERCLA imposes responsibility on parties as owners.

*Solid and Hazardous Waste.* The Royalty Properties have produced oil and/or gas for many years, and, although the Trust has no knowledge of the procedures followed by the operators of the Royalty Properties in this regard, hydrocarbons or other solid or hazardous wastes may have been disposed or released on or under the Royalty Properties by the current or previous operators. Federal, state and local laws applicable to oil- and gas-related wastes and properties have become increasingly more stringent. Under these laws, removal or remediation of previously disposed wastes or property contamination could be required.

### **Item 1A. Risk Factors**

**Crude oil and natural gas prices are volatile and fluctuate in response to a number of factors; Lower prices could reduce the net proceeds payable to the Trust and Trust distributions.**

The Trust's monthly distributions are highly dependent upon the prices realized from the sale of crude oil and natural gas and a material decrease in such prices could reduce the amount of cash distributions paid to Unit holders. Crude oil and natural gas prices can fluctuate widely on a month-to-month basis in response to a variety of factors that are beyond the control of the Trust. Factors that contribute to price fluctuation include, among others:

political conditions in major oil producing regions, especially in the Middle East;

worldwide economic conditions;

weather conditions;

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the supply and price of domestic and foreign crude oil or natural gas;

the level of consumer demand;

the price and availability of alternative fuels;

the proximity to, and capacity of, transportation facilities;

the effect of worldwide energy conservation measures; and

the nature and extent of governmental regulation and taxation.

When crude oil and natural gas prices decline, the Trust is affected in two ways. First, net income from the Royalty Properties is reduced. Second, exploration and development activity by operators on the Royalty Properties may decline as some projects may become uneconomic and are either delayed or eliminated. It is impossible to predict future crude oil and natural gas price movements, and this reduces the predictability of future cash distributions to Unit holders.

**Trust reserve estimates depend on many assumptions that may prove to be inaccurate, which could cause both estimated reserves and estimated future net revenues to be too high, leading to write-downs of estimated reserves.**

The value of the Units will depend upon, among other things, the reserves attributable to the Royalty Properties. The calculations of proved reserves and estimating reserves is inherently uncertain. In addition, the estimates of future net revenues are based upon various assumptions regarding future production levels, prices and costs that may prove to be incorrect over time.

The accuracy of any reserve estimate is a function of the quality of available data, engineering interpretation and judgment, and the assumptions used regarding the quantities of recoverable crude oil and natural gas and the future prices of crude oil and natural gas. Petroleum engineers consider many factors and make many assumptions in estimating reserves. Those factors and assumptions include:

historical production from the area compared with production rates from similar producing areas;

the effects of governmental regulation;

assumptions about future commodity prices, production and taxes;

the availability of enhanced recovery techniques; and

relationships with landowners, working interest partners, pipeline companies and others.

Changes in any of these factors and assumptions can materially change reserve and future net revenue estimates. The Trust's estimate of reserves and future net revenues is further complicated because the Trust holds an interest in net royalties and overriding royalties and does not own a specific percentage of the crude oil or natural gas reserves. Ultimately, actual production, revenues and expenditures for the Royalty Properties, and therefore actual net proceeds payable to the Trust, will vary from estimates and those variations could be material. Results of drilling, testing and production after the date of those estimates may require substantial downward revisions or write-downs of reserves.

**The assets of the Trust are depleting assets and, if the operators developing the Royalty Properties do not perform additional development projects, the assets may deplete faster than expected. Eventually, the assets of the Trust will cease to produce in commercial quantities and the Trust will cease to receive proceeds from such assets. In addition, a reduction in depletion tax benefits may reduce the market value of the Units.**

The net proceeds payable to the Trust are derived from the sale of depleting assets. The reduction in proved reserve quantities is a common measure of depletion. Projects, which are determined solely by the operator, on the Royalty Properties will affect the quantity of proved reserves and can offset the reduction in

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proved reserves. If the operators developing the Royalty Properties do not implement additional maintenance and development projects, the future rate of production decline of proved reserves may be higher than the rate currently expected by the Trust.

Because the net proceeds payable to the Trust are derived from the sale of depleting assets, the portion of distributions to Unit holders attributable to depletion may be considered a return of capital as opposed to a return on investment. Distributions that are a return of capital will ultimately diminish the depletion tax benefits available to the Unit holders, which could reduce the market value of the Units over time. Eventually, the Royalty Properties will cease to produce in commercial quantities and the Trust will, therefore, cease to receive any distributions of net proceeds therefrom.

**The market price for the Units may not reflect the value of the royalty interests held by the Trust.**

The public trading price for the Units tends to be tied to the recent and expected levels of cash distribution on the Units. The amounts available for distribution by the Trust vary in response to numerous factors outside the control of the Trust, including prevailing prices for crude oil and natural gas produced from the Royalty Properties. The market price is not necessarily indicative of the value that the Trust would realize if it sold those Royalty Properties to a third party buyer. In addition, such market price is not necessarily reflective of the fact that since the assets of the Trust are depleting assets, a portion of each cash distribution paid on the Units should be considered by investors as a return of capital, with the remainder being considered as a return on investment. There is no guarantee that distributions made to a Unit holder over the life of these depleting assets will equal or exceed the purchase price paid by the Unit holder.

**Terrorism and continued hostilities in the Middle East could decrease Trust distributions or the market price of the Units.**

Terrorist attacks and the threat of terrorist attacks, whether domestic or foreign, as well as the military or other actions taken in response, cause instability in the global financial and energy markets. Terrorism, the war in Iraq and other sustained military campaigns could adversely affect Trust distributions or the market price of the Units in unpredictable ways, including through the disruption of fuel supplies and markets, increased volatility in crude oil and natural gas prices, or the possibility that the infrastructure on which the operators developing the Royalty Properties rely could be a direct target or an indirect casualty of an act of terror.

**Cash held by the Trustee is not fully insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and future royalty income may be subject to risks related to the creditworthiness of third parties.**

Currently, cash held by the Trustee as a reserve for liabilities and for the payment of expenses and distributions to Unit holders is invested in Bank of America certificates of deposit which are backed by the good faith of Bank of America, N.A., but are only insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000. The Trust does not lend money and has limited ability to borrow money, which the Trustee believes limits the Trust's risk from the current tightening of credit markets. The Trust's future royalty income, however, may be subject to risks relating to the creditworthiness of the operators of the underlying properties and other purchasers of the crude oil and natural gas produced from the underlying properties, as well as risks associated with fluctuations in the price of crude oil and natural gas.

**Unit holders and the Trustee have no influence over the operations on, or future development of, the Royalty Properties.**

Neither the Trustee nor the Unit holders can influence or control the operations on, or future development of, the Royalty Properties. The failure of an operator to conduct its operations, discharge its obligations, deal with regulatory

agencies or comply with laws, rules and regulations, including environmental laws and regulations, in a proper manner could have an adverse effect on the net proceeds payable to the Trust. The current operators developing the Royalty Properties are under no obligation to continue operations on the Royalty Properties. Neither the Trustee nor the Unit holders have the right to replace an operator.

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**The operator developing any Royalty Property may abandon the property, thereby terminating the royalties payable to the Trust.**

The operators developing the Royalty Properties, or any transferee thereof, may abandon any well or property without the consent of the Trust or the Unit holders if they reasonably believe that the well or property can no longer produce in commercially economic quantities. This could result in the termination of the royalties relating to the abandoned well or property.

**The Royalty Properties can be sold and the Trust would be terminated.**

The Trustee must sell the Royalty Properties if Unit holders approve the sale or vote to terminate the Trust as described under Item 1 Description of the Trust Voting Rights of Unit Holders above. The Trustee must also sell the Royalty Properties if they fail to generate net revenue for the Trust of at least \$2,000,000 per year over any consecutive two-year period. Sale of all of the Royalty Properties will terminate the Trust. The net proceeds of any sale will be distributed to the Unit holders.

**Unit holders have limited voting rights and have limited ability to enforce the Trust's rights against the current or future operators developing the Royalty Properties.**

The voting rights of a Unit holder are more limited than those of stockholders of most public corporations. For example, there is no requirement for annual meetings of Unit holders or for an annual or other periodic re-election of the Trustee.

The Trust Agreement and related trust law permit the Trustee and the Trust to take appropriate action against the operators developing the Royalty Properties to compel them to fulfill the terms of the conveyance of the Royalty Properties. If the Trustee does not take appropriate action to enforce provisions of the conveyance, the recourse of the Unit holders would likely be limited to bringing a lawsuit against the Trustee to compel the Trustee to take specified actions. Unit holders probably would not be able to sue any of the operators developing the Royalty Properties.

**Financial information of the Trust is not prepared in accordance with GAAP.**

The financial statements of the Trust are prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, or GAAP. Although this basis of accounting is permitted for royalty trusts by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the financial statements of the Trust differ from GAAP financial statements because revenues are not accrued in the month of production and cash reserves may be established for specified contingencies and deducted which could not be accrued in GAAP financial statements.

**The limited liability of the Unit holders is uncertain.**

The Unit holders are not protected from the liabilities of the Trust to the same extent that a shareholder would be protected from a corporation's liabilities. The structure of the Trust does not include the interposition of a limited liability entity such as a corporation or limited partnership which would provide further limited liability protection to Unit holders. While the Trustee is liable for any excess liabilities incurred if the Trustee fails to insure that such liabilities are to be satisfied only out of Trust assets, under the laws of Texas, which are unsettled on this point, a holder of Units may be jointly and severally liable for any liability of the Trust if the satisfaction of such liability was not contractually limited to the assets of the Trust and the assets of the Trust and the Trustee are not adequate to satisfy such liability. As a result, Unit holders may be exposed to personal liability.

**Item 1B. *Unresolved Staff Comments***

The Trust has not received any written comments from the Securities and Exchange Commission staff regarding its periodic or current reports under the Act within the 180 days preceding December 31, 2008.



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The assets of the Registrant consist principally of the Royalty Properties, which constitute interests in gross production of oil, gas and other minerals free of the costs of production. The Royalty Properties consist of royalty and mineral interests, including landowner's royalties, overriding royalty interests, minerals (other than executive rights, bonuses and delay rentals), production payments and any other similar, nonparticipatory interest, in certain producing and proved undeveloped oil and gas properties located in Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. These properties are represented by approximately 5,400 tracts of land. Approximately 2,950 of the tracts are in Oklahoma, 1,750 in Texas, 330 in Louisiana, 200 in New Mexico, 150 in Mississippi and 12 in Florida.

The following table summarizes total developed and proved undeveloped acreage represented by the Royalty Properties at December 31, 2008.

State	Mineral and Royalty	
	Gross Acres	Net Acres
Florida	5,448	697
Louisiana	244,391	23,682
Mississippi	75,489	9,713
New Mexico	112,294	9,141
Oklahoma	381,538	67,558
Texas	1,273,132	105,760
Total	2,092,292	216,551

Detailed information concerning the number of wells on royalty properties is not generally available to the owner of royalty interests. Consequently, the Registrant does not have information that would be disclosed by a company with oil and gas operations, such as an accurate count of the number of wells located on the Royalty Properties, the number of exploratory or development wells drilled on the Royalty Properties during the periods presented by this report, or the number of wells in process or other present activities on the Royalty Properties, and the Registrant cannot readily obtain such information.

**Title**

The conveyances of the Royalty Properties to the Trust covered the royalty and mineral properties located in the six states that were vested in Sabine Corporation on the effective date of the conveyances and that were subject to existing oil, gas and other mineral leases other than properties specifically excluded in the conveyances. Since Sabine Corporation may not have had available to it as a royalty owner information as to whether specific lands in which it owned a royalty interest were subject to an existing lease, minimal amounts of nonproducing royalty properties may also have been conveyed to the Trust. Sabine Corporation did not warrant title to the Royalty Properties either expressly or by implication.

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**Reserves**

The Registrant has obtained from DeGolyer and MacNaughton, independent petroleum engineering consultants, a study of the proved oil and gas reserves attributable as of January 1, 2009 to the Royalty Properties. The following letter report summarizes such reserve study and sets forth information as to the assumptions, qualifications, procedures and other matters relating to such reserve study. Because the only assets of the Trust are the Royalty Properties, the Trustee believes the reserve study provides useful information for Unit holders. There are many uncertainties inherent in estimating quantities and values of proved reserves and in projecting future rates of production. The reserve data set forth herein, although prepared by independent petroleum engineers in a manner customary in the industry, are estimates only, and actual quantities and values of oil and gas are likely to differ from the estimated amounts set forth herein. In addition, the reserve estimates for the Royalty Properties will be affected by future changes in sales prices for oil and gas produced. See Note 8 of the Notes to Financial Statements in Item 8 hereof for additional information regarding the proved oil and gas reserves of the Trust. Other than those filed with the SEC, our estimated reserves have not been filed with or included in any reports to any federal agency.

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**DeGolyer and MacNaughton**

5001 Spring Valley Road

Suite 800 East

Dallas, Texas 75244

February 18, 2009

Bank of America N.A.  
P. O. Box 830650  
Dallas, Texas 75283-0650

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your request, we have prepared estimates of the extent and value of the proved crude oil, condensate, natural gas liquids (NGL), and natural gas reserves, as of January 1, 2009, of certain royalty interests owned by Sabine Royalty Trust (the Trust). The properties appraised consist of royalties located in Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. Bank of America N.A. (Bank of America) acts as trustee of the Trust.

Information used in the preparation of this report was obtained from Bank of America, from records on file with the appropriate regulatory agencies, and from public sources. Additionally, this information includes data supplied by Petroleum Information/Dwights LLC; Copyright 2008 Petroleum Information/Dwights LLC. During this investigation, we consulted freely with officers and employees of Bank of America and were given access to such accounts, records, geological and engineering reports, and other data as were desired for examination. In the preparation of this report we have relied, without independent verification, upon information furnished by Bank of America with respect to property interests owned by the Trust, production from such properties, current prices for production, agreements relating to current and future operations and sale of production, and various other information and data that were accepted as represented. It was not considered necessary to make a field examination of the physical condition and operation of the properties in which the Trust owns interests.

Our reserves estimates are based on a detailed study of the properties and were prepared in accordance with standard geological and engineering methods generally accepted by the petroleum industry. The method or combination of methods used in the analysis of each reservoir was tempered by experience with similar reservoirs, consideration of the stage of development, and the quality and completeness of basic data. The Trust owns several thousand royalty interests. In view of the limited information available to a royalty owner and the small reserves volumes attributable to many of these interests, certain of the reserves representing approximately 38 percent of the total net reserves of the properties included herein were summarized by state or field and estimated in the aggregate rather than on a property-by-property basis. Historical records of net production and revenue and experience with similar properties were used in evaluating these properties.

Reserves estimated in this report are expressed as gross and net reserves. Gross reserves are defined as the total estimated petroleum to be produced from these properties after December 31, 2008. Net reserves are defined as that portion of the gross reserves attributable to the interests owned by the Trust after deducting royalties and other interests held by others. Gas volumes shown herein are sales-gas volumes and are expressed at a temperature base of 60 degrees Fahrenheit and at the legal pressure base of the state in which the interest is located. Sales gas is defined as the total gas to be produced from the reservoirs, measured at the point of delivery, after reduction for fuel usage, flare, and shrinkage resulting from field separation and processing. Condensate reserves estimated herein are those to be recovered by normal field separation. NGL reserves are those attributed to the leasehold interests according to processing agreements.

Petroleum reserves included in this report are classified by degree of proof as proved and are judged to be economically producible in future years from known reservoirs under existing economic and operating conditions and assuming continuation of current regulatory practices using conventional production methods and equipment. In the analyses of production-decline curves, reserves were estimated only to the limit of economic rates of production under existing economic and operating conditions using prices and expenses as

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of the date the estimate is made, including consideration of changes in existing prices provided only by contractual arrangements but not including escalations based upon future conditions. Proved reserves classifications used in this report are in accordance with the reserves definitions of Rules 4-10(a) (1)-(13) of Regulation S-X of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) of the United States. The petroleum reserves are classified as follows:

*Proved oil and gas reserves* Proved oil and gas reserves are the estimated quantities of crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids which geological and engineering data demonstrate with reasonable certainty to be recoverable in future years from known reservoirs under existing economic and operating conditions, i.e., prices and expenses as of the date the estimate is made. Prices include consideration of changes in existing prices provided only by contractual arrangements, but not on escalations based upon future conditions.

(i) Reservoirs are considered proved if economic producibility is supported by either actual production or conclusive formation test. The area of a reservoir considered proved includes (A) that portion delineated by drilling and defined by gas-oil and/or oil-water contacts, if any; and (B) the immediately adjoining portions not yet drilled, but which can be reasonably judged as economically productive on the basis of available geological and engineering data. In the absence of information on fluid contacts, the lowest known structural occurrence of hydrocarbons controls the lower proved limit of the reservoir.

(ii) Reserves which can be produced economically through application of improved recovery techniques (such as fluid injection) are included in the proved classification when successful testing by a pilot project, or the operation of an installed program in the reservoir, provides support for the engineering analysis on which the project or program was based.

(iii) Estimates of proved reserves do not include the following: (A) oil that may become available from known reservoirs but is classified separately as indicated additional reserves ; (B) crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids, the recovery of which is subject to reasonable doubt because of uncertainty as to geology, reservoir characteristics, or economic factors; (C) crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids, that may occur in undrilled prospects; and (D) crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids, that may be recovered from oil shales, coal, gilsonite, and other such sources.

*Proved developed oil and gas reserves* Proved developed oil and gas reserves are reserves that can be expected to be recovered through existing wells with existing equipment and operating methods. Additional oil and gas expected to be obtained through the application of fluid injection or other improved recovery techniques for supplementing the natural forces and mechanisms of primary recovery should be included as proved developed reserves only after testing by a pilot project or after the operation of an installed program has confirmed through production response that increased recovery will be achieved.

*Proved undeveloped reserves* Proved undeveloped oil and gas reserves are reserves that are expected to be recovered from new wells on undrilled acreage, or from existing wells where a relatively major expenditure is required for recompletion. Reserves on undrilled acreage shall be limited to those drilling units offsetting productive units that are reasonably certain of production when drilled. Proved reserves for other undrilled units can be claimed only where it can be demonstrated with certainty that there is continuity of production from the existing productive formation. Under no circumstances should estimates for proved undeveloped reserves be attributable to any acreage for which an application of fluid injection or other improved recovery technique is contemplated, unless such techniques have been proved effective by actual tests in the area and in the same reservoir.

The development status shown herein represents the status applicable on January 1, 2009. In the preparation of this study, data available from wells drilled on the appraised properties through October 31, 2008, were used in estimating gross ultimate recovery. When applicable, gross production estimated to January 1, 2009, was deducted from gross

ultimate recovery to arrive at the estimates of gross reserves as of

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January 1, 2009. In some fields, this required that the production rates be estimated for up to 4 months, since production data were available only through August 2008.

Estimated net proved reserves, as of January 1, 2009, attributable to the Trust from the properties appraised are summarized in thousands of barrels (Mbbl) or millions of cubic feet (MMcf) as follows:

State	Proved Developed Reserves		Proved Undeveloped Reserves	
	Oil, Condensate, and NGL (Mbbl)	Sales Gas (MMcf)	Oil, Condensate, and NGL (Mbbl)	Sales Gas (MMcf)
Florida	79	3	0	0
Louisiana	49	453	0	0
Mississippi	121	1,787	26	350
New Mexico	394	2,744	0	0
Oklahoma	502	9,884	0	0
Texas	4,135	20,700	565	1,298
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,280</b>	<b>35,571</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>1,648</b>

Revenue values in this report are expressed in terms of estimated future net revenue and present worth of future net revenue. These values are based on the continuation of prices in effect on January 1, 2009. Future gross revenue is defined as that revenue to be realized from the production and sale of the estimated net reserves. Future net revenue is calculated by deducting estimated severance and ad valorem taxes from the future gross revenue. Present worth of future net revenue is calculated by discounting the future net revenue at the arbitrary rate of 10 percent per year compounded monthly over the expected period of realization.

Revenue values in this report were estimated using the initial prices and expenses provided by Bank of America. Future prices were estimated using guidelines established by the SEC and the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB). The initial and future prices used in this report are adjusted to prices on January 1, 2009, based on receipts by the Trust in November 2008. The assumptions used for estimating future prices and expenses are as follows:

**Oil, Condensate, NGL, and Natural Gas Prices**

Oil, condensate, NGL, and natural gas prices, based on receipts by the Trust in November 2008, were furnished by Bank of America. These prices were adjusted to the NYMEX posted prices for oil of \$44.60 per barrel and for gas of \$5.63 per million British thermal units and were held constant for the lives of the properties.

Various oil, condensate, NGL, and natural gas price differentials based on product quality and property location were then applied to the above prices, respectively, to reflect the net wellhead prices anticipated to be received by each property. The weighted average prices over the lives of the properties were \$42.67 per barrel of oil and \$5.099 per thousand cubic feet of gas.

**Expenses**

The properties appraised are royalties. Therefore, no operating expenses or capital costs are incurred. The expenses reported are primarily severance taxes and ad valorem taxes, which are based on historical tax rates furnished by Bank of America. Several properties incur additional expenses related to transportation, marketing, and/or other expenses that are charged to the royalty interests. These expenses are reported as transportation expenses. No escalation has been applied to the expenses.



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A projection of the estimated future net revenue from the properties appraised, as of January 1, 2009, based on the aforementioned assumptions concerning prices and expenses is summarized as follows, expressed in thousands of dollars (M\$):

<b>Year Ending December 31</b>	<b>Future Net Revenue (M\$)</b>
2009	36,793
2010	32,277
2011	28,780
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>97,850</b>
<b>Remaining</b>	<b>288,500</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>386,350</b>

The present worth, at a discount rate of 10 percent, of future net revenue, as of January 1, 2009, is estimated to be M\$189,200.

Estimates of oil, condensate, NGL, and gas reserves and future net revenue should be regarded only as estimates that may change as further production history and additional information become available. Not only are such reserves and revenue estimates based on that information which is currently available, but such estimates are also subject to the uncertainties inherent in the application of judgmental factors in interpreting such information.

In our opinion, the information relating to estimated proved reserves, estimated future net revenue from proved reserves, and present worth of estimated future net revenue from proved reserves of oil, condensate, NGL, and gas contained in this report has been prepared in accordance with Paragraphs 10-13, 15 and 30(a)-(b) of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 69 (November 1982) of the FASB and Rules 4-10(a) (1)-(13) of Regulation S-X and Rule 302(b) of Regulation S-K of the SEC; provided, however, that (i) certain estimated data have not been provided with respect to changes in reserves information, (ii) future income tax expenses have not been taken into account in estimating the future net revenue and present worth values set forth herein, and (iii) at the request of Bank of America and because of the limited availability of data, proved reserves, future net revenue therefrom, and the present worth thereof for certain royalty interests accounting for approximately 38 percent of the Trust's total proved net reserves have been estimated in the aggregate by state or field rather than on a property-by-property basis using net production and revenue data and our general knowledge of producing characteristics in the geographic areas in which such interests are located.

To the extent that the above-enumerated rules, regulations, and statements require determinations of an accounting or legal nature or information beyond the scope of our report, we are necessarily unable to express an opinion as to whether the above-described information is in accordance therewith or sufficient therefor.

Submitted,

DeGOLYER and MacNAUGHTON

/s/ Paul J. Szatkowski, P.E.

Paul J. Szatkowski, P.E.  
*Senior Vice President*  
 DeGolyer and MacNaughton



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There are numerous uncertainties inherent in estimating quantities of proved reserves and in projecting the future rates of production and timing of development. The preceding reserve data in the letter regarding the study represent estimates only and should not be construed to be exact. The estimated present worth of future net revenue amounts shown by the study should not be construed as the current fair market value of the estimated oil and gas reserves since a market value determination would include many additional factors.

Reserve estimates may be adjusted from time to time as more accurate information on the volume or recoverability of existing reserves becomes available. Actual reserve quantities do not change, however, except through production. The Trust continues to own only the Royalty Properties that were initially transferred to the Trust at the time of its creation and is prohibited by the Trust Agreement from acquiring additional oil and gas interests.

The future net revenue shown by the study has not been reduced for administrative costs and expenses of the Trust in future years. The costs and expenses of the Trust may increase in future years, depending on the amount of income from the Royalty Properties, increases in the Trustee's fees (including escrow agent fees) and expenses, accounting, engineering, legal and other professional fees, and other factors. It is expected that the costs and expenses of the Trust in 2009 will be approximately \$2,450,000.

The present value of future net revenue of the Trust's proved developed reserves decreased from \$305,590,383 at January 1, 2008 to \$178,799,307 at January 1, 2009. This decrease resulted primarily from the gas prices used in the calculation of such amount, from \$6.27 per Mcf of gas at January 1, 2008 to \$5.10 per Mcf of gas at January 1, 2009, along with a decrease in the price of oil from \$88.49 per barrel of oil at January 1, 2008 to \$42.67 per barrel of oil at January 1, 2009.

Subsequent to year end, the price of both oil and gas continued to fluctuate, giving rise to a correlating adjustment of the respective standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows. As of February 17, 2009, NYMEX posted oil prices were approximately \$34.93 per barrel, which compared to the posted price of \$44.60 per barrel, used to calculate the worth of future net revenue of the Trust's proved developed reserves, would result in a lower standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows for oil. As of February 17, 2009, NYMEX posted gas prices were \$4.20 per million British thermal units. The use of such price, as compared to the posted price of \$5.63 per million British thermal units, used to calculate the future net revenue to the Trust's proved developed reserves would result in a lower standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows for gas.

The volatile nature of the world energy markets makes it difficult to estimate future prices of oil and gas. The prices obtained for oil and gas depend upon numerous factors, none of which is within the Trustee's control, including the domestic and foreign supply of oil and gas and the price of foreign imports, market demand, the price and availability of alternative fuels, the availability of pipeline capacity, instability in oil-producing regions and the effect of governmental regulations.

***Item 3. Legal Proceedings.***

There are no material pending legal proceedings to which the Registrant is a party or of which any of its property is the subject.

***Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.***

Not applicable.

**Table of Contents****PART II****Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.**

The Units are listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SBR. The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices for the Units and the aggregate amount of cash distributions paid by the Trust during the periods indicated.

<b>2008</b>	<b>Sales Price</b>		<b>Distributions per Unit</b>
	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	
First Quarter	\$ 53.25	\$ 38.50	\$ 1.18703
Second Quarter	70.75	48.65	1.40332
Third Quarter	70.28	50.75	1.89550
Fourth Quarter	57.73	35.34	1.55033

<b>2007</b>	<b>Sales Price</b>		<b>Distributions per Unit</b>
	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	
First Quarter	\$ 43.50	\$ 38.69	\$ 0.81313
Second Quarter	44.63	40.81	0.93571
Third Quarter	44.25	38.78	1.03131
Fourth Quarter	52.04	42.23	1.07033

At February 18, 2009, there were 14,579,345 Units outstanding and approximately 1,727 Unit holders of record.

The Trust does not maintain any equity compensation plans.

The Trust did not repurchase any Units during the period covered by this report.

**Item 6. Selected Financial Data.**

<b>Years Ended December 31</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
Royalty Income	\$ 90,886,060	\$ 58,910,367	\$ 61,608,030	\$ 54,594,978	\$ 42,338,724
Distributable Income	89,008,982	57,059,819	59,830,843	52,680,811	40,587,685
Distributable Income per Unit	6.11	3.91	4.10	3.61	2.78
Total Assets at Year End	7,118,136	6,624,000	5,370,010	7,371,124	4,912,815
Distributions per Unit	6.04	3.85	4.24	3.43	2.79

**Item 7. Trustee's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.****Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Sabine Royalty Trust (the Trust) makes monthly distributions to its Unit holders of the excess of the preceding month's revenues received over expenses incurred. Upon receipt, royalty income is invested in short-term investments until its subsequent distribution. In accordance with the Trust Agreement, the Trust's only long-term assets consist of royalty interests in producing oil and gas properties. Although the Trust is permitted to borrow funds if necessary to continue its operations, borrowings are not anticipated in the foreseeable future. Accordingly the Trust is dependent on its operations to generate excess cash flows utilized in making distributions. These operating cash flows are largely dependent on such factors as oil and gas prices and production volumes, which are influenced by many factors beyond the control of the Trust. As a royalty owner, the Trust does not have access to certain types of information that would be disclosed by a company

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with oil and gas operations. See Item 2. Properties for a discussion of the types of information not available to the Trust.

The amount to be distributed to Unit holders ( Monthly Income Amount ) is determined on a monthly basis. The Monthly Income Amount is an amount equal to the sum of cash received by the Trust during a monthly period (the period commencing on the day after a monthly record date and continuing through and including the next succeeding monthly record date) attributable to the Royalty Properties, any reduction in cash reserves and any other cash receipts of the Trust, including interest, reduced by the sum of liabilities paid and any increase in cash reserves. Unit holders of record as of the monthly record date (the 15th day of each calendar month, except in limited circumstances) are entitled to have distributed to them the calculated Monthly Income Amount for such month on or before 10 business days after the monthly record date. The Monthly Income Amount per Unit is declared by the Trust no later than 10 days prior to the monthly record date. The cash received by the Trust is primarily from purchasers of the Trust's oil and gas production and consists of gross sales of production less applicable severance taxes.

## **Results of Operations**

Distributable income consists of royalty income plus interest income plus any decrease in cash reserves established by the Trustee less general and administrative expenses of the Trust less any increase in cash reserves established by the Trustee. The Trust's royalty income represents payments received during a particular time period for oil and gas production from the Trust's properties. Because of various factors which influence the timing of the Trust's receipt of payments, royalty income for any particular time period will usually include payments for oil and gas produced in prior periods. The price and volume figures that follow represent the volumes and prices for which the Trust received payment during 2007 and 2008.

Net royalty income during 2008 increased approximately \$31,976,000, or 54.3 percent, compared to 2007 net royalty income, which had decreased approximately \$2,698,000, or 4.4 percent, from 2006 net royalty income.

Revenues generated by sales of oil and gas increased in 2008 from 2007 as a result of higher gas and oil prices and increased gas volumes. Oil volumes were essentially flat between 2008 and 2007, down less than one percent.

Gas volumes increased from 6,004,149 thousand cubic feet ( Mcf ) in 2007 to 6,372,568 Mcf in 2008 after increasing from 5,501,450 Mcf in 2006. The average price per Mcf of gas received by the Trust increased from \$6.34 in 2007 to \$8.45 in 2008 after decreasing from \$7.19 per Mcf in 2006. The Trustee believes that normal market forces and international instability aided in the rebound of prices late in 2007 following a period of lower prices earlier in 2007 due largely to an absence of hurricane activity in the Gulf of Mexico in 2007. Due to tighter storage levels and higher oil prices in the first part of 2008, gas prices increased to record levels of over \$12 per Mcf. Gas prices began to decline in the fall of 2008 due to concerns of oversupply and falling demand because of the deepening recession.

Oil volumes sold decreased to 465,310 barrels in 2008 from 469,083 barrels in 2007, having decreased from 503,048 barrels in 2006. The effect of this volume decrease was offset by an increase in the average price per barrel received by the Trust to \$97.32 in 2008 from \$58.35 in 2007, which was an increase from \$54.71 in 2006. The Trustee believes that the international instability all year coupled with increasing global demand, and supply shortage concerns along with inadequate sour crude refining capacity led to the increase in the price of oil. At times in 2008 oil prices soared to above \$147 per barrel. By the fall of 2008, oil prices began to fall sharply as concerns about the recession and tighter credit markets caused demand to decline significantly.

Interest income decreased to \$294,000 in 2008 from \$347,000 in 2007, which decreased from \$350,000 in 2006. Changes in interest income are the result of changes in interest rates and funds available for investment. General and administrative expenses decreased to \$2,171,000 in 2008 from \$2,198,000 in 2007 due mainly to decreases in Unit

holder information services, printing fees, professional services and escrow agent/trustee fees of approximately \$85,000, \$15,000, \$6,000 and \$4,000, respectively. These

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decreases were offset somewhat by increases in legal services, transfer agent fees, tax reporting services and audit fees of \$61,000, \$10,000, \$8,000 and \$2,000, respectively. General and administrative expenses increased to \$2,198,000 in 2007 compared to \$2,127,000 in 2006 due mainly to increases in the escrow agent/trustee fees, printing fees, and Unit holder information services of approximately \$63,000, \$24,000, and \$43,000, respectively. These increases were tempered by decreases in legal services, and the timing of audit fees of approximately \$29,000 and \$20,000, respectively.

In October 2006, the Trust received refunds from the States of Oklahoma and New Mexico in the amounts of \$719,701 and \$266,543, respectively. In December 2007, the Trust received a refund of \$255,426 from the State of New Mexico. In August 2008, the Trust received a refund from the State of New Mexico in the amount of \$163,260. These refunds represented taxes that were withheld from the proceeds of production from the Royalty Properties and remitted to the States of Oklahoma and New Mexico by purchasers. Income taxes are not payable by the Trust, but are the responsibility of the individual Unit holders. Therefore the States of Oklahoma and New Mexico refunded the withheld taxes, and the refunds were included as royalty income in the Trust's October 2006, December 2007, and September 2008 distributions.

The Trust received a cash settlement of approximately \$595,000 in October 2006. This settlement resulted from two separate class action civil actions filed in the Second District Court in Washita County, Oklahoma in 1997 and subsequently consolidated in 1999. The lawsuits alleged that El Paso Natural Gas Company and Burlington Resources Oil and Gas Company failed to pay or significantly underpaid royalties for various reasons including, but not limited to, failure to pay for certain periods, underreporting natural gas volumes, using artificial pool or index prices, and improper and undisclosed deductions on certain wells in various counties in Oklahoma. The settlement was included in the Trust's October 2006 distribution.

**Contractual Obligations**

		Less than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More than 5 Years
<b>Contractual Obligations</b>	<b>Total</b>				
Long-Term Debt Obligations	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Lease Obligations	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Lease Obligations	0	0	0	0	0
Purchase Obligations	0	0	0	0	0
Other Long-Term Liabilities Reflected on the Trusts Balance Sheet	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0

**Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The Trust's financial statements reflect the selection and application of accounting policies that require the Trust to make significant estimates and assumptions. The following are some of the more critical judgement areas in the application of accounting policies that currently affect the Trust's financial condition and results of operations.

**1. Basis of Accounting**



## Edgar Filing: SABINE ROYALTY TRUST - Form 10-K

The financial statements of the Trust are prepared on the following basis and are not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America:

Royalty income, net of severance and ad valorem taxes, and interest income are recognized in the month in which amounts are received by either the escrow agent or the Trust.

Trust expenses, consisting principally of routine general and administrative costs, include payments made during the accounting period. Expenses are accrued to the extent of amounts that become

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payable on the next monthly record date following the end of the accounting period. Reserves for liabilities that are contingent or uncertain in amount may also be established if considered necessary.

Royalties that are producing properties are amortized using the unit-of-production method. This amortization is shown as a reduction of Trust corpus.

Distributions to Unit holders are recognized when declared by the Trustee.

The financial statements of the Trust differ from financial statements prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America because of the following:

Royalty income is recognized in the month received rather than in the month of production.

Expenses other than those expected to be paid on the following monthly record date are not accrued.

Amortization of the royalties is shown as a reduction to Trust corpus and not as a charge to operating results.

Reserves may be established for contingencies that would not be recorded under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

This comprehensive basis of accounting other than GAAP corresponds to the accounting permitted for royalty trusts by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, as specified by Staff Accounting Bulletin Topic 12:E, Financial Statements of Royalty Trusts.

**2. Revenue Recognition**

Revenues from royalty interests are recognized in the period in which amounts are received by the Trust or escrow agent. Royalty income received by the Trust or escrow agent in a given calendar year will generally reflect the proceeds, on an entitlements basis, from natural gas produced for the twelve-month period ended September 30th in that calendar year and from oil produced for the twelve-month period ended October 31st in the same calendar year.

**3. Reserve Disclosure**

Independent petroleum engineers estimate the net proved reserves attributable to the royalty interests. In accordance with Statement of Financial Standards No. 69, "Disclosures About Oil and Gas Producing Activities," estimates of future net revenues from proved reserves have been prepared using year-end contractual gas prices and related costs. Numerous uncertainties are inherent in estimating volumes and the value of proved reserves and in projecting future production rates and the timing of development of non-producing reserves. Such reserve estimates are subject to change as additional information becomes available. The reserves actually recovered and the timing of production may be substantially different from the reserve estimates. See Note 8 of the Notes to Financial Statements in Item 8 hereof for additional information regarding the proved oil and gas reserves of the Trust. Other than those filed with the SEC, our estimated reserves have not been filed with or included in any reports to any federal agency.

**4. Contingencies**

Contingencies related to the Royalty Properties that are unfavorably resolved would generally be reflected by the Trust as reductions to future royalty income payments to the Trust with corresponding reductions to cash distributions to Unit holders. The Trustee is aware of no such items as of December 31, 2008.

## **New Accounting Pronouncements**

### ***New Accounting Standards***

In July 2006, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 48 ( FIN 48 ), *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*, which clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in the financial statements in accordance with SFAS No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes*. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The adoption of this statement did not have an effect on the Trust's financial statements.

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In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements*. This statement defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The adoption of this statement did not have an effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities-Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115*. This statement permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. This statement is effective as of the beginning of an entity's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. The adoption of this statement did not have an effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In December 2007 the FASB issued SFAS No. 141(R), *Business Combinations*. This statement requires the acquiring entity in a business combination to recognize the full fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed in the transaction (whether a full or partial acquisition); establishes the acquisition-date fair value as the measurement objective for all assets acquired and liabilities assumed; requires expensing of most transaction and restructuring costs; and requires the acquirer to disclose to investors and other users all of the information needed to evaluate and understand the nature and financial effect of the business combination. This statement applies prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after January 1, 2009. The Trustee does not believe that the adoption of this statement will have a material effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, *Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements an amendment of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51*. This statement requires reporting entities to present noncontrolling (minority) interests as equity (as opposed to as a liability or mezzanine equity) and provides guidance on the accounting for transactions between an entity and noncontrolling interests. This statement applies prospectively as of January 1, 2009, except for the presentation and disclosure requirements which will be applied retrospectively for all periods presented. The Trustee does not believe that the adoption of this statement will have a material effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In March 2008, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 161, *Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133 (SFAS No. 161)*, effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008, with early adoption allowed. SFAS No. 161 amends and expands the disclosure requirements of SFAS No. 133 with the intent to provide users of financial statements with an enhanced understanding of an entity's use of derivative instruments and the effect of those derivative instruments on an entity's financial statements. The Trustee does not believe that the adoption of this statement will have a material effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In May 2008, the FASB issued Statement No. 162, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles*. This statement identifies the sources of accounting principles and the framework for selecting the principles used in the preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP, and is effective 60 days following the SEC's approval of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Auditing amendments to AU Section 411, *The Meaning of Present Fairly in Conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles*. The Trustee does not believe that the adoption of this statement will have a material effect on the Trust's financial statements.

## **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

As stipulated in the Trust Agreement, the Trust is intended to be passive in nature and the Trustee does not have any control over or any responsibility relating to the operation of the Royalty Properties. The Trustee has powers to collect and distribute proceeds received by the Trust and to pay Trust liabilities and expenses, and its actions have been

limited to those activities. Therefore, the Trust has not engaged in any off-balance sheet arrangements.

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Prices obtained for oil and gas production depend upon numerous factors that are beyond the control of the Trust, including the extent of domestic and foreign production, imports of foreign oil, market demand, domestic and worldwide economic and political conditions, storage capacity and government regulations and tax laws. Prices for both oil and gas have fluctuated between 2006 and 2008. The following table presents the weighted average prices received per year by the Trust:

	<b>Oil Per BBL</b>	<b>Gas Per Mcf</b>
2008	\$ 97.32	\$ 8.45
2007	58.35	6.34
2006	54.71	7.19

**Forward-Looking Statements**

This Annual Report includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which are intended to be covered by the safe harbor created thereby. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this Annual Report are forward-looking statements. Such statements include, without limitation, factors affecting the price of oil and natural gas contained in Item 1, Business, certain reserve information and other statements contained in Item 2, Properties, and certain statements regarding the Trust's financial position, industry conditions and other matters contained in this Item 7. Although the Trustee believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, such expectations are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties and the Trustee can give no assurance that they will prove correct. There are many factors, none of which is within the Trustee's control, that may cause such expectations not to be realized, including, among other things, factors identified in this Annual Report affecting oil and gas prices (including, without limitation, the domestic and foreign supply of oil and gas and the price of foreign imports, market demand, the price and availability of alternative fuels, the availability of pipeline capacity, instability in oil-producing regions and the effect of governmental regulations), the recoverability of reserves, general economic conditions, actions and policies of petroleum-producing nations and other changes in the domestic and international energy markets and the factors identified in Item 1A, Risk Factors.

**Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.**

The Trust is a passive entity, and other than the Trust's ability to periodically borrow money as necessary to pay expenses, liabilities and obligations of the Trust that cannot be paid out of cash held by the Trust, the Trust is prohibited from engaging in borrowing transactions. The amount of any such borrowings is unlikely to be material to the Trust. The Trust periodically holds short term investments acquired with funds held by the Trust pending distribution to Unit holders and funds held in reserve for the payment of Trust expenses and liabilities. Because of the short-term nature of these borrowings and investments and certain limitations upon the types of such investments which may be held by the Trust, the Trustee believes that the Trust is not subject to any material interest rate risk. The Trust does not engage in transactions in foreign currencies which could expose the Trust or Unit holders to any foreign currency related market risk. The Trust invests in no derivative financial instruments and has no foreign operations or long-term debt instruments.

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**Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.**

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

Unit Holders of Sabine Royalty Trust and  
Bank of America, N.A, Trustee:

We have audited the accompanying statements of assets, liabilities, and trust corpus of Sabine Royalty Trust (the Trust ) as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the related statements of distributable income and changes in trust corpus for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2008. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trustee. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 2 to the financial statements, these financial statements have been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and trust corpus of the Trust at December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the distributable income and changes in trust corpus for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2008, on the basis of accounting described in Note 2.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Trust's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated February 25, 2009 expressed an unqualified opinion on the Trust's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Dallas, TX  
February 25, 2009

Table of Contents**SABINE ROYALTY TRUST****FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Trust Corpus**

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 6,383,892	\$ 5,796,869
Royalty interests in oil and gas properties less accumulated amortization of \$21,660,941(2008) and \$21,568,054 (2007)	734,244	827,131
Total	\$ 7,118,136	\$ 6,624,000
<b>Liabilities and Trust Corpus</b>		
Trust expenses payable	\$ 143,197	\$ 183,748
Other payables (Note 4)	239,674	617,597
Total liabilities	382,871	801,345
Trust Corpus (14,579,345 units of beneficial interest authorized and outstanding)	6,735,265	5,822,655
Total	\$ 7,118,136	\$ 6,624,000

**Statements of Distributable Income**

	<b>Year Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Royalty Income	\$ 90,886,060	\$ 58,910,367	\$ 61,608,030
Interest Income	293,971	347,199	349,941
Total	91,180,031	59,257,566	61,957,970
General and administrative expenses (Note 6)	2,171,049	2,197,747	2,127,128
Distributable income	\$ 89,008,982	\$ 57,059,819	\$ 59,830,843
Distributable income per unit (Basic and Assuming Dilution) (14,579,345 units) (Notes 1)	\$ 6.11	\$ 3.91	\$ 4.10
Distributions per unit (Note 3)	\$ 6.04	\$ 3.85	\$ 4.24

**Statements of Changes in Trust Corpus**



	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Trust corpus, beginning of year	\$ 5,822,655	\$ 4,998,409	\$ 7,046,252
Amortization of royalty interests	(92,887)	(98,090)	(110,081)
Distributable income	89,008,982	57,059,819	59,830,843
Distributions to unit holders (Note 3)	(88,003,485)	(56,137,483)	(61,768,605)
Trust corpus, end of year	\$ 6,735,265	\$ 5,822,655	\$ 4,998,409

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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**SABINE ROYALTY TRUST  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. Trust Organization and Provisions**

Sabine Royalty Trust (the "Trust") was established by the Sabine Corporation Royalty Trust Agreement (the "Trust Agreement"), made and entered into effective as of December 31, 1982, to receive a distribution from Sabine Corporation ("Sabine") of royalty and mineral interests, including landowner's royalties, overriding royalty interests, minerals (other than executive rights, bonuses and delay rentals), production payments and any other similar, nonparticipatory interest, in certain producing and proved undeveloped oil and gas properties located in Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas (the "Royalty Properties").

Certificates evidencing units of beneficial interest (the "Units") in the Trust were mailed on December 31, 1982 to Sabine's shareholders of record on December 23, 1982, on the basis of one Unit for each share of Sabine's outstanding common stock. In May 1988, Sabine was acquired by Pacific Enterprises, a California corporation. Through a series of mergers, Sabine was merged into Pacific Enterprises Oil Company (USA) ("Pacific (USA)"), a California corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of Pacific Enterprises, effective January 1, 1990. This acquisition and the subsequent mergers had no effect on the Units. Pacific (USA), as successor to Sabine, has assumed by operation of law all of Sabine's rights and obligations with respect to the Trust. The Units are listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

In connection with the transfer of the Royalty Properties to the Trust upon its formation, Sabine had reserved to itself all executive rights, including rights to execute leases and to receive bonuses and delay rentals. In January 1993, Pacific (USA) completed the sale of substantially all its producing oil and gas assets to a third party. The sale did not include executive rights relating to the Royalty Properties, and Pacific (USA)'s ownership of such rights was not affected by the sale.

The wells on the properties conveyed to the Trust are operated by many companies including large, established companies such as BP Amoco, Chevron, ConocoPhillips and Exxon Mobil. The Trustee believes these operators utilize the recovery methods best suited for the particular formations on which the properties are located.

Bank of America, N.A. (the "Trustee"), acts as trustee of the Trust. The terms of the Trust Agreement provide, among other things, that:

The Trust shall not engage in any business or commercial activity of any kind or acquire assets other than those initially transferred to the Trust.

The Trustee may not sell all or any part of its assets unless approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding Units in which case the sale must be for cash and the proceeds, after satisfying all existing liabilities, promptly distributed to Unit holders.

The Trustee may establish a cash reserve for the payment of any liability that is contingent or uncertain in amount or that otherwise is not currently due and payable.

The Trustee will use reasonable efforts to cause the Trust and the Unit holders to recognize income and expenses on monthly record dates.

The Trustee is authorized to borrow funds to pay liabilities of the Trust provided that such borrowings are repaid in full before any further distributions are made to Unit holders.

The Trustee will make monthly cash distributions to Unit holders of record on the monthly record date (see Note 3).

Because of the passive nature of the Trust and the restrictions and limitations on the powers and activities of the Trustee contained in the Trust Agreement, the Trustee does not consider any of the officers and employees of the Trustee to be officers or executive officers of the Trust as such terms are defined under applicable rules and regulations adopted under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

The proceeds of production from the Royalty Properties are receivable from hundreds of separate payors. In order to facilitate creation of the Trust and to avoid the administrative expense and inconvenience of daily

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**SABINE ROYALTY TRUST  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

reporting to Unit holders, the conveyances by Sabine of the Royalty Properties located in five of the six states (Florida, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) provided for the execution of an escrow agreement by Sabine and the initial trustee of the Trust, in its capacities as trustee of the Trust and as escrow agent. The conveyances by Sabine of the Royalty Properties located in Louisiana provided for the execution of a substantially identical escrow agreement by Sabine and a Louisiana bank in the capacities of escrow agent and of trustee under the name of Sabine Louisiana Royalty Trust. Sabine Louisiana Royalty Trust, the sole beneficiary of which is the Trust, was established in order to avoid uncertainty under Louisiana law as to the legality of the Trustee's holding record title to the Royalty Properties located in Louisiana. On December 31, 2001, Bank of America, N.A. assumed the duties as Trustee of the Sabine Louisiana Royalty Trust, since Louisiana law now permits an out-of-state bank to act in this capacity. Therefore, the trust now only has one escrow agent, which is the Trustee, and a single escrow agreement.

Pursuant to the terms of the escrow agreement and the conveyances of the properties by Sabine, the proceeds of production from the Royalty Properties for each calendar month, and interest thereon, are collected by the escrow agent and are paid to and received by the Trust only on the next monthly record date. The escrow agent has agreed to endeavor to assure that it incurs and pays expenses and fees for each calendar month only on the next monthly record date. The Trust Agreement also provides that the Trustee is to endeavor to assure that income of the Trust will be accrued and received and expenses of the Trust will be incurred and paid only on each monthly record date. Assuming that the escrow agreement is recognized for Federal income tax purposes and that the Trustee, as escrow agent is able to control the timing of income and expenses, as stated above, cash and accrual basis Unit holders should be treated as realizing income only on each monthly record date. The Trustee is treating the escrow agreement as effective for tax purposes. However, for financial reporting purposes, royalty and interest income are recorded in the calendar month in which the amounts are received by either the escrow agent or the Trust.

Distributable income as determined for financial reporting purposes for a given quarter will not usually equal the sum of distributions made during that quarter. Rather, distributable income for a given quarter will approximate the sum of the distributions made during the last two months of such quarter and the first month of the next quarter.

**2. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements of the Trust are prepared on the following basis and are not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America:

Royalty income, net of severance and ad valorem taxes, and interest income are recognized in the month in which amounts are received by either the escrow agent or the Trust (see Note 1).

Trust expenses, consisting principally of routine general and administrative costs, include payments made during the accounting period. Expenses are accrued to the extent of amounts that become payable on the next monthly record date following the end of the accounting period. Reserves for liabilities that are contingent or uncertain in amount may also be established if considered necessary.

Royalties that are producing properties are amortized using the unit-of-production method. This amortization is shown as a reduction of Trust corpus.

Distributions to Unit holders are recognized when declared by the Trustee (see Note 3).

The financial statements of the Trust differ from financial statements prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America because of the following:

Royalty income is recognized in the month received rather than in the month of production.

Expenses other than those expected to be paid on the following monthly record date are not accrued.

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**SABINE ROYALTY TRUST  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

Amortization of the royalties is shown as a reduction to Trust corpus and not as a charge to operating results.

Reserves may be established for contingencies that would not be recorded under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

This comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America corresponds to the accounting permitted for royalty trusts by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, as specified by Staff Accounting Bulletin Topic 12:E, Financial Statements of Royalty Trusts.

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the basis of accounting described above requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of certain assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses as of and for the reporting periods. Actual results may differ from such estimates.

**Impairment**

The Trustee routinely reviews its royalty interests in oil and gas properties for impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. If an impairment event occurs and it is determined that the carrying value of the Trust's royalty interests may not be recoverable, an impairment will be recognized as measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the royalty interests exceeds the fair value of these assets, which would likely be measured by discounting projected cash flows.

**New Accounting Standards**

***New Accounting Standards***

In July 2006, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 48 (FIN 48), Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, which clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in the financial statements in accordance with SFAS No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The adoption of this statement did not have an effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements*. This statement defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The adoption of this statement did not have an effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities-Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115*. This statement permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. This statement is effective as of the beginning of an entity's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. The adoption of this statement did not have an effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In December 2007 the FASB issued SFAS No. 141(R), *Business Combinations*. This statement requires the acquiring entity in a business combination to recognize the full fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed in the transaction (whether a full or partial acquisition); establishes the acquisition-date fair value as the measurement objective for all assets acquired and liabilities assumed; requires expensing of most transaction and restructuring costs; and requires the acquirer to disclose to investors and other users all

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**SABINE ROYALTY TRUST  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

of the information needed to evaluate and understand the nature and financial effect of the business combination. This statement applies prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after January 1, 2009. The adoption of this statement did not have an effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, *Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements: an amendment of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51*. This statement requires reporting entities to present noncontrolling (minority) interests as equity (as opposed to as a liability or mezzanine equity) and provides guidance on the accounting for transactions between an entity and noncontrolling interests. This statement applies prospectively as of January 1, 2009, except for the presentation and disclosure requirements which will be applied retrospectively for all periods presented. The Trustee does not believe that the adoption of this statement will have a material effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In March 2008, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 161, *Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133 (SFAS No. 161)*, effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008, with early adoption allowed. SFAS No. 161 amends and expands the disclosure requirements of SFAS No. 133 with the intent to provide users of financial statements with an enhanced understanding of an entity's use of derivative instruments and the effect of those derivative instruments on an entity's financial statements. The Trustee does not believe that the adoption of this statement will have a material effect on the Trust's financial statements.

In May 2008, the FASB issued Statement No. 162, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles*. This statement identifies the sources of accounting principles and the framework for selecting the principles used in the preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP, and is effective 60 days following the SEC's approval of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Auditing amendments to AU Section 411, *The Meaning of Present Fairly in Conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles*. The Trustee does not believe that the adoption of this statement will have a material effect on the Trust's financial statements.

**Distributable Income Per Unit**

Basic distributable income per Unit is computed by dividing distributable income by the weighted average Units outstanding. Distributable income per Unit assuming dilution is computed by dividing distributable income by the weighted average number of Units and equivalent Units outstanding. The Trust had no equivalent Units outstanding for any period presented. Therefore, basic distributable income per Unit and distributable income per Unit assuming dilution are the same.

**Federal Income Taxes**

The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that the Trust is classified as a grantor trust for Federal income tax purposes and therefore is not subject to taxation at the trust level. The Unit holders are considered, for Federal income tax purposes, to own the Trust's income and principal as though no trust were in existence. Accordingly, no provision for Federal income tax expense has been made in these financial statements. The income of the Trust will be deemed to have been received or accrued by each Unit holder at the time such income is received or accrued by the Trust, which is on the record date following the end of each month, as discussed above in Note 1.



Some Trust Units are held by middlemen, as such term is broadly defined in U.S. Treasury Regulations (and includes custodians, nominees, certain joint owners, and brokers holding an interest for a custodian in street name, referred to herein collectively as middlemen ). Therefore, the Trustee considers the Trust to be

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**SABINE ROYALTY TRUST  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

a non-mortgage widely held fixed investment trust ( WHFIT ) for U.S. Federal income tax purposes. U.S. Trust, Bank of America, Private Wealth Management, 901 Main Street, 17th Floor, Dallas, Texas 75202, telephone number (214) 209-2400, is the representative of the Trust that will provide tax information in accordance with applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations governing the information reporting requirements of the Trust as a WHFIT. Tax information is also posted by the Trustee at [www.sbr-sabineroyalty.com](http://www.sbr-sabineroyalty.com). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the middlemen holding Trust Units on behalf of Unit holders, and not the Trustee of the Trust, are solely responsible for complying with the information reporting requirements under the U.S. Treasury Regulations with respect to such Trust Units, including the issuance of IRS Forms 1099 and certain written tax statements. Unit holders whose Trust Units are held by middlemen should consult with such middlemen regarding the information that will be reported to them by the middlemen with respect to the Trust Units.

**3. Distributions to Unit Holders**

The amount to be distributed to Unit holders ( Monthly Income Amount ) is determined on a monthly basis. The Monthly Income Amount is an amount equal to the sum of cash received by the Trust during a monthly period (the period commencing on the day after a monthly record date and continuing through and including the next succeeding monthly record date) attributable to the Royalty Properties, any reduction in cash reserves and any other cash receipts of the Trust, including interest, reduced by the sum of liabilities paid and any increase in cash reserves. Unit holders of record as of the monthly record date (the 15th day of each calendar month except in limited circumstances) are entitled to have distributed to them the calculated Monthly Income Amount for such month on or before 10 business days after the monthly record date. The Monthly Income Amount per Unit is declared by the Trust no later than 10 days prior to the monthly record date.

The cash received by the Trust is primarily from purchasers of the Trust's oil and gas production and consists of gross sales of production less applicable severance taxes. In October 2006, the Trust received refunds from the States of Oklahoma and New Mexico in the amounts of \$719,701 and \$266,543, respectively. In December 2007, the Trust received a refund of \$255,426 from the State of New Mexico. In August 2008, the Trust received a refund from the State of New Mexico in the amount of \$163,260. These refunds represented taxes that were withheld from the proceeds of production from the Royalty Properties and remitted to the States of Oklahoma and New Mexico by purchasers. Income taxes are not payable by the Trust, but are the responsibility of the individual Unit holders. Therefore the States of Oklahoma and New Mexico refunded the withheld taxes, and the refunds were included as royalty income in the Trust's October 2006, December 2007, and September 2008 distributions.

The Trust received a cash settlement of approximately \$595,000 in October 2006. This settlement resulted from two separate class action civil actions filed in the Second District Court in Washita County, Oklahoma in 1997 and subsequently consolidated in 1999. The lawsuits alleged that El Paso Natural Gas Company and Burlington Resources Oil and Gas Company failed to pay or significantly underpaid royalties for various reasons including, but not limited to, failure to pay for certain periods, underreporting natural gas volumes, using artificial pool or index prices, and improper and undisclosed deductions on certain wells in various counties in Oklahoma. The settlement was included in the Trust's October 2006 distribution.

**4. Other Payables**

Other payables consist of the following:

<b>December 31,</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Royalty receipts in suspense pending verification of ownership interest or title	\$ 239,674	\$ 617,597
Total	\$ 239,674	\$ 617,597

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**SABINE ROYALTY TRUST**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The Trustee believes that these amounts represent an ordinary operating condition of the Trust and that they will be paid or released in the normal course of business.

**5. Subsequent Events***Distributions*

Subsequent to December 31, 2008, the Trust declared the following distributions:

<b>Notification Date</b>	<b>Monthly Record Date</b>	<b>Payment Date</b>	<b>Distribution per Unit</b>
January 5, 2009	January 15, 2009	January 29, 2009	\$ .41550
February 5, 2009	February 17, 2009	February 27, 2009	\$ .25441

**6. General and Administrative Expenses**

General and administrative expenses for the years ended December 31, were as follows:

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Trustee's fee	\$ 331,898	\$ 332,928	\$ 317,251
Escrow agent's fee	995,680	998,758	951,740
Professional fees	385,595	318,231	371,752
Unit holders' services fees	326,439	416,354	355,154
Other	131,437	131,476	131,231
<b>Total General and Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>2,171,049</b>	<b>2,197,747</b>	<b>2,127,128</b>

**7. Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)**

The following table sets forth the royalty income, distributable income and distributable income per Unit of the Trust for each quarter in the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 (in thousands, except per Unit amounts):

	<b>Royalty Income</b>	<b>Distributable Income</b>	<b>Distributable Income per Unit</b>
<b>2008</b>			
First Quarter	\$ 18,856	\$ 18,382	\$ 1.26
Second Quarter	23,055	22,446	1.54
Third Quarter	28,421	28,025	1.92
Fourth Quarter	20,554	20,156	1.39

\$ 90,886      \$ 89,009      \$ 6.11

	<b>Royalty</b>	<b>Distributable</b>	<b>Distributable</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Income per</b>
			<b>Unit</b>
First Quarter	\$ 12,802	\$ 12,314	\$ 0.84
Second Quarter	14,569	13,977	0.96
Third Quarter	16,711	16,364	1.12
Fourth Quarter	14,828	14,405	0.99
	\$ 58,910	\$ 57,060	\$ 3.91

## 8. Supplemental Oil and Gas Information (Unaudited)

### Reserve Quantities

Information regarding estimates of the proved oil and gas reserves attributable to the Trust are based on reports prepared by DeGolyer and MacNaughton, independent petroleum engineering consultants.

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**SABINE ROYALTY TRUST**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

Estimates were prepared in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 69 ( SFAS 69 ) and the guidelines established by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Certain information required by SFAS 69 is not presented because that information is not applicable to the Trust due to its passive nature.

Oil and gas reserve quantities (all located in the United States) are estimates based on information available at the time of their preparation. Such estimates are subject to change as additional information becomes available. Reserves actually recovered, and the timing of the production of those reserves, may differ substantially from original estimates. The following schedule presents changes in the Trust's total proved reserves (in thousands):

	<b>Oil (Barrels)</b>	<b>Gas (Mcf)</b>
January 1, 2006	6,268	36,402
Revisions of previous statements	86	4,450
Production	(464)	(4,584)
December 31, 2006	5,890	36,268
Revisions of previous statements	959	4,447
Production	(424)	(4,900)
December 31, 2007	6,425	35,815
Revisions of previous statements	(168)	6,261
Production	(387)	(4,856)
December 31, 2008	5,870	37,220

Estimated quantities of proved developed reserves of oil and gas as of the dates indicated were as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Oil (Barrels)</b>	<b>Gas (Mcf)</b>
Proved developed reserves:		
January 1, 2006	6,197	36,172
December 31, 2006	5,787	35,333
December 31, 2007	5,820	34,437
December 31, 2008	5,279	35,572

**Disclosure of a Standardized Measure of Discounted Future Net Cash Flows**

The following is a summary of a standardized measure (in thousands) of discounted future net cash flows related to the Trust's total proved oil and gas reserve quantities. Information presented is based upon a valuation of proved reserves by using discounted cash flows based upon current (at year end) oil and gas prices (\$42.67 per bbl and \$5.10

per Mcf, respectively) and severance and ad valorem taxes, if any, and economic conditions, discounted at the required rate of 10 percent. As the Trust is not subject to taxation at the trust level, no provision for income taxes has been made in the following disclosure. Trust prices may differ from posted NYMEX prices due to differences in product quality and property location. The impact of changes in current prices on reserves could vary significantly from year to year. Accordingly, the information presented

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below should not be viewed as an estimate of the fair market value of the Trust's oil and gas properties nor should it be viewed as indicative of any trends.

<b>December 31,</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Future net cash inflows	\$ 386,350	\$ 675,878	\$ 426,723
Discount of future net cash flows @ 10%	(197,150)	(353,400)	(214,561)
Standardized measure of discounted future net cash inflows	\$ 189,200	\$ 322,478	\$ 212,162

The change in the standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006 is as follows (in thousands):

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows, January 1,	\$ 322,478	\$ 212,162	\$ 287,777
Royalty income, net of severance and ad valorem taxes	(90,886)	(58,910)	(61,608)
Changes in prices, net of related costs	(103,460)	90,510	(52,702)
Revisions of previous estimates and other	28,820	57,500	9,917
Accretion of discount	32,248	21,216	28,778
Standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows, December 31,	\$ 189,200	\$ 322,478	\$ 212,162

Subsequent to year end, the price of both oil and gas continued to fluctuate, giving rise to a correlating adjustment of the respective standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows. As of February 17, 2009, the NYMEX posted oil price was approximately \$34.93 per barrel, which compared to the December 2008 posted price of \$44.60 per barrel, used to calculate the worth of future net revenue of the Trust's proved developed reserves, would result in a lower standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows for oil. As of February 17, 2009, the NYMEX posted gas price was \$4.20 per million British thermal units. The use of such price, as compared to the December 2008 posted price of \$5.63 per million British thermal units, used to calculate the future net revenue of the Trust's proved developed reserves would result in a lower standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows for gas.

**9. Texas Margin Tax**

Effective January 1, 2008, Texas imposes a margin tax at a rate of 1% on gross revenues less certain deductions, as specifically set forth in the Texas margin tax statute. The tax generally will be imposed on gross revenues generated in 2007 and thereafter. Entities subject to tax generally include trusts unless otherwise exempt, and most other types of entities having limited liability protection. Trusts that meet certain statutory requirements are generally exempt from the margin tax as passive entities. The Trust should be exempt from Texas margin tax as a passive entity. Since the Trust is exempt from the Texas margin tax at the Trust level as a passive entity, each Unit holder that is a business entity subject to the Texas margin tax would generally include its share of the Trust's revenue in its margin tax computation. The source of such income to a Unit holder would be Texas since the Trust's day-to-day operations are conducted in Texas.



## Edgar Filing: SABINE ROYALTY TRUST - Form 10-K

In addition to Texas, Unit holders may also have a state tax filing responsibility in Louisiana, Florida, Mississippi, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. Unit holders should consult their own tax advisors concerning the Texas margin tax and other state tax returns that may be required to be filed by Unit holders and their applicable due dates.

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**Item 9. *Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.***

None.

**Item 9A. *Controls and Procedures.***

*Conclusion Regarding the Effectiveness of Disclosure Controls and Procedures*

The Trustee conducted an evaluation of the Trust's disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Based on this evaluation, the Trustee has concluded that the Trust's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this annual report.

*Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*

There has not been any change in the Trust's internal control over financial reporting during the fourth quarter of 2008 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Trust's internal control over financial reporting.

*Trustee's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*

The Trustee is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(f) promulgated under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The Trustee conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control over financial reporting—modified cash basis (internal control over financial reporting)—based on the criteria established in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on the Trustee's evaluation under the framework in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework*, the Trustee concluded that the Trust's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2008. The independent registered public accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche LLP, as auditors of the statements of assets, liabilities, and trust corpus, and the related statements of distributable income and changes in trust corpus for the period ended December 31, 2008, has issued an attestation report on the Trust's internal control over financial reporting, which is included herein.

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**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

UNIT HOLDERS OF SABINE ROYALTY TRUST AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., TRUSTEE

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Sabine Royalty Trust (the Trust ) as of December 31, 2008, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Trustee is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Trustee's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Trust's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A trust's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the Trustee, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the Trustee, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and is described in Note 2 to the Trust's financial statements. A trust's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the trust; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting discussed above, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations the Trustee; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the trust's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the Trust maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

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We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the statements of assets, liabilities and trust corpus of the Trust as of December 31, 2008 and the related statements of distributable income and changes in trust corpus for the year ended December 31, 2008, which financial statements have been prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note 2 to such financial statements, and our report dated February 25, 2009 expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements

DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Dallas, TX  
February 25, 2009

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**Item 9B. *Other Information.***

None.

**PART III**

**Item 10. *Directors and Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.***

*Directors and Executive Officers.* The Registrant has no directors or executive officers. The Trustee is a corporate trustee which may be removed, with or without cause, by the affirmative vote at a meeting duly called and held of the holders of a majority of the Units represented at the meeting.

*Compliance with Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act.* The Trust has no directors and officers and knows of no Unit holder that is a beneficial owner of more than ten percent of the outstanding Units, and is therefore unaware of any person that failed to report on a timely basis reports required by Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

*Code of Ethics.* Because the Trust has no employees, it does not have a code of ethics. Employees of the Trustee, U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management, must comply with the bank's code of ethics, a copy of which will be made available to Unit holders without charge, upon request by appointment at Bank of America Plaza, 17th Floor, 901 Main Street, Dallas, Texas, 75202.

*Audit Committee.* The Trust has no directors and therefore has no audit committee or audit committee financial expert.

*Nominating Committee.* The Trust has no directors and therefore has no nominating committee.

**Item 11. *Executive Compensation.***

Not applicable.

**Item 12. *Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters.***

(a) *Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners.* As of February 18, 2009 there were no Unit holders known to the Trustee to be beneficial owners of more than 5% of the outstanding Units.

(b) *Security Ownership of Management.* The Trust has no directors or executive officers. Bank of America, N.A., the Trustee, held as of February 10, 2009 an aggregate of 246,432 Units in various fiduciary capacities, and it had shared voting and investment power with respect to 204,465 of such Units.

(c) *Changes in Control.* The Trustee knows of no arrangements the operation of which may at a subsequent date result in a change in control of the Registrant.

(d) *Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans.* The Trust has no equity compensation plans.

**Item 13. *Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence.***

Not applicable.



**Table of Contents****Item 14. *Principal Accounting Fees and Services.***

Fees for services performed by Deloitte & Touche LLP for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 are:

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Audit fees	\$ 139,000	\$ 137,000
Audit-related fees	\$ 0	\$ 0
Tax fees	\$ 40,786	\$ 32,843
All other fees	\$ 0	\$ 0

As referenced in Item 10, above, the Trust has no audit committee, and as a result, has no audit committee pre-approval policy with respect to fees paid to Deloitte & Touche LLP.

**PART IV****Item 15. *Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules.***

(a) The following documents are filed as a part of this report:

1. *Financial Statements (included in Item 8 of this report)*

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Trust Corpus at December 31, 2008 and 2007

Statements of Distributable Income for Each of the Three Years in the Period Ended December 31, 2008

Statements of Changes in Trust Corpus for Each of the Three Years in the Period Ended December 31, 2008

Notes to Financial Statements

2. *Financial Statement Schedules*

Financial statement schedules are omitted because of the absence of conditions under which they are required or because the required information is included in the financial statements and notes thereto.

3. *Exhibits*

- (4)(a)\* Sabine Corporation Royalty Trust Agreement effective as of December 31, 1982, by and between Sabine Corporation and InterFirst Bank Dallas, N.A., as trustee.
- (b)\* Sabine Corporation Louisiana Royalty Trust Agreement effective as of December 31, 1982, by and between Sabine Corporation and Hibernia National Bank in New Orleans, as trustee, and joined in by InterFirst Bank Dallas, N.A., as trustee.
- (23) Consent of DeGolyer and MacNaughton.
- (31) Rule 13a-14(a)(15d-14(a)) Certification.
- (32)

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Certification by Bank of America, Trustee of Sabine Royalty Trust, dated March 2, 2009 and submitted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (18 U.S.C. Section 1350).

- (99.1) Report dated February 17, 2009 of the Trustee containing interim tax information for each of the 12 months in the year ending December 31, 2008.
- (99.2) Report dated February 27, 2009 of the Statement of Fees and Expenses paid by Sabine Royalty Trust to Bank of America, N.A., as Trustee and Escrow Agent.

\* Exhibits 4(a) and 4(b) are incorporated herein by reference to Exhibits 4(a) and 4(b), respectively, of the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1993.



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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

SABINE ROYALTY TRUST

BY: BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Trustee

By:

/s/ RON E. HOOPER

Ron E. Hooper  
Senior Vice-President

Date: March 2, 2009

**(The Registrant has no directors or executive officers.)**

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**INDEX TO EXHIBITS**

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