

Matador Resources Co  
Form 424B3  
April 26, 2017  
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**Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)  
Registration File No. 333-216549**

**PROSPECTUS**

**Matador Resources Company**

**Offer to Exchange**

**up to**

**\$175,000,000 of 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023**

**that have been registered under the Securities Act of 1933**

**for any and all outstanding**

**\$175,000,000 of 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023**

**that have not been registered under the Securities Act of 1933**

The exchange offer and withdrawal rights will expire at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on May 23, 2017 unless extended.

We are offering to exchange up to \$175,000,000 aggregate principal amount of our outstanding 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023, or the 2016 senior notes, for new notes with substantially identical terms that have been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and are freely transferable, which we refer to herein as the exchange notes. On April 14, 2015, we issued \$400,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023, all of which were exchanged in October 2015 for substantially identical notes registered under the Securities Act, which we refer to as the initial notes. We refer to the 2016 senior notes, the exchange notes and the initial notes collectively in this prospectus as the notes. We refer to this exchange as the exchange offer. We are offering you exchange notes in exchange for 2016 senior notes in order to satisfy our registration obligations from the offering of the 2016 senior notes.

The terms of the exchange notes are substantially identical to the 2016 senior notes, except that the transfer restrictions, registration rights and provisions for additional interest applicable to the 2016 senior notes do not apply to the exchange notes. The exchange notes will represent the same principal amount of debt as the 2016 senior notes, and we will issue the exchange notes under the same indenture as the initial notes and 2016 senior notes. The exchange notes will be substantially identical to, and are expected to bear the same CUSIP and ISIN numbers as, the initial notes, but will bear different CUSIP and ISIN numbers from any unexchanged 2016 senior notes. The notes will be treated as a single class under the indenture governing them.

**Please read Risk Factors on page 9 of this prospectus for a discussion of factors you should consider before participating in the exchange offer.**

We will exchange for an equal principal amount of exchange notes all 2016 senior notes that you validly tender and do not validly withdraw before the exchange offer expires. You may withdraw tenders of 2016 senior notes at any time prior to the expiration of the exchange offer. The exchange procedure is more fully described in The Exchange Offer Procedures for Tendering. If you fail to tender your 2016 senior notes, you will continue to hold unregistered notes that you will not be able to transfer freely.

Please read Description of the Exchange Notes for more details on the terms of the exchange notes. We will not receive any cash proceeds from the issuance of the exchange notes in the exchange offer.

Each broker-dealer that receives exchange notes for its own account pursuant to the exchange offer must acknowledge that it will deliver a prospectus in connection with any resale of such exchange notes. The Letter of Transmittal states that by so acknowledging and by delivering a prospectus, a broker-dealer will not be deemed to admit that it is an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act. This prospectus, as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, may be used by a broker-dealer in connection with resales of exchange notes received in exchange for 2016 senior notes where such 2016 senior notes were acquired by such broker-dealer as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities. We have agreed that, for a period of 180 days after the consummation of the exchange offer, we will make this prospectus available to any broker-dealer for use in connection with any such resale. See Plan of Distribution.

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

**The date of this prospectus is April 26, 2017.**

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This prospectus incorporates by reference business and financial information about us that is not included in or delivered with this prospectus. We will provide to each person, including any beneficial owner to whom a prospectus is delivered, a copy of these filings, other than an exhibit to these filings unless we have specifically incorporated that exhibit by reference into the filing, upon written or oral request and at no cost. Requests should be made by writing or telephoning us at the following address: Matador Resources Company, 5400 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1500, Dallas, Texas 75240, Attn: Investor Relations, telephone number: (972) 371-5200, Internet website: [www.matadorresources.com](http://www.matadorresources.com). To obtain timely delivery, you must request the information no later than May 16, 2017, or the date which is five business days before the expiration date of this offer.

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**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. We may add, update or change in a prospectus supplement any information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, as well as any post-effective amendments to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, together with the additional information described under **Where You Can Find More Information** before you make any investment decision.

We have not authorized any person to provide you with any information or represent anything about us other than what is contained in this prospectus. We do not take any responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any information that others may provide to you. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date on its front cover. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since the date indicated on the front cover of such documents. This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the securities offered hereunder, nor does this prospectus constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy securities in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction.

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**PROSPECTUS SUMMARY**

*This summary highlights information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. It may not contain all of the information that is important to you. This prospectus includes information about the exchange offer and the exchange notes and includes or incorporates by reference information about our business and our financial and operating data. Before deciding to participate in the exchange offer, you should read this entire prospectus carefully, including the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the Risk Factors section beginning on page 9 of this prospectus. In addition, certain statements include forward-looking information that involves known and unknown risks and uncertainties. See Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.*

*In this prospectus, references to we, our or the Company refer to Matador Resources Company and its subsidiaries as a whole (unless the context indicates otherwise) and references to Matador refer solely to Matador Resources Company.*

**Our Company**

We are an independent energy company engaged in the exploration, development, production and acquisition of oil and natural gas resources in the United States, with an emphasis on oil and natural gas shale and other unconventional plays. Our current operations are focused primarily on the oil and liquids-rich portion of the Wolfcamp and Bone Spring plays in the Delaware Basin in Southeast New Mexico and West Texas. We also operate in the Eagle Ford shale play in South Texas and the Haynesville shale and Cotton Valley plays in Northwest Louisiana and East Texas. Additionally, we conduct midstream operations primarily, as of February 17, 2017, through our midstream joint venture, San Mateo Midstream, LLC ( San Mateo or the Joint Venture ), in support of our exploration, development and production operations and provide natural gas processing, natural gas, oil and salt water gathering services and salt water disposal services to third parties on a limited basis.

**Corporate Information**

We were incorporated in 2003 as a Texas corporation. Our corporate headquarters are located at 5400 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1500, Dallas, Texas 75240, and our telephone number is (972) 371-5200. Our website is located at <http://www.matadorresources.com>. We have not incorporated by reference into this prospectus the information included on, or linked from, our website, and you should not consider it to be part of this prospectus.

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**EXCHANGE OFFER**

*On December 9, 2016, we completed a private offering of \$175 million aggregate principal amount of 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023. As part of that offering, we entered into a registration rights agreement with the initial purchasers of the 2016 senior notes in which we agreed, among other things, to deliver this prospectus to you and to complete an exchange offer for the 2016 senior notes. Below is a summary of the exchange offer.*

***2016 Senior Notes***

On December 9, 2016, we completed a private placement of \$175 million aggregate principal amount of 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023, or the 2016 senior notes. The 2016 senior notes were issued as additional securities under an indenture dated April 14, 2015, among us, our subsidiary guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as the trustee, as supplemented on October 1, 2015, November 4, 2015, June 8, 2016 and February 17, 2017.

On April 14, 2015, we issued \$400 million aggregate principal amount of 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023, or the initial notes, pursuant to the indenture governing the notes, all of which were exchanged for substantially identical notes registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, in October 2015.

***Exchange Notes***

The exchange notes will be notes of the same series as the 2016 senior notes, the issuance of which has been registered under the Securities Act. The terms of the exchange notes are identical in all material respects to those of the 2016 senior notes, except that the transfer restrictions, registration rights and provisions for additional interest applicable to the 2016 senior notes do not apply to the exchange notes. The exchange notes will represent the same principal amount of debt and interest as the 2016 senior notes. The exchange notes will be substantially identical to, and are expected to bear the same CUSIP and ISIN numbers as, the initial notes, but will bear different CUSIP and ISIN numbers from any unexchanged 2016 senior notes.

***Terms of the Exchange Offer***

We are offering to exchange up to \$175 million of exchange notes for a like amount of our 2016 senior notes in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. In order to be exchanged, a 2016 senior note must be properly tendered and accepted. All 2016 senior notes that are validly tendered and not withdrawn will be exchanged. As of the date of this prospectus, there is \$175 million aggregate principal amount of 2016 senior notes outstanding. We will issue exchange notes promptly after the expiration of the exchange offer.

***Expiration Time***

The exchange offer will expire at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on May 23, 2017, unless extended.



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***Procedures for Tendering 2016 Senior Notes***

All of the 2016 senior notes are held in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company, or DTC. To participate in the exchange offer, you must follow the automatic tender offer program, or ATOP, procedures established by DTC for tendering notes held in book-entry form. The ATOP procedures require that the exchange agent receive, prior to the expiration time of the exchange offer, a computer-generated message known as an agent's message that is transmitted through ATOP and that DTC confirm that:

DTC has received instructions to exchange your notes; and

you agree to be bound by the terms of the letter of transmittal in Annex A hereto.

For more details, please read *The Exchange Offer Terms of the Exchange Offer* and *The Exchange Offer Procedures for Tendering*.

Letters of transmittal should not be sent to us. Such letters should only be sent to the exchange agent. Questions regarding how to tender 2016 senior notes and requests for information should be directed to the exchange agent. See *The Exchange Offer Exchange Agent*.

***Guaranteed Delivery Procedures***

None.

***Acceptance of 2016 Senior Notes for Exchange; Issuance of Exchange Notes***

Subject to the conditions stated in *The Exchange Offer Conditions to the Exchange Offer*, we will accept for exchange any and all 2016 senior notes which are properly tendered in the exchange offer before the expiration time. The exchange notes will be delivered promptly after the expiration time.

***Interest Payments on the Exchange Notes***

The exchange notes will bear interest from April 15, 2017. If your 2016 senior notes are accepted for exchange, then you will receive interest on the exchange notes (including any accrued but unpaid additional interest on the 2016 senior notes) and not on the 2016 senior notes.

***Withdrawal of Tenders***

You may withdraw your tender of 2016 senior notes at any time prior to the expiration time. To withdraw, you must submit a notice of withdrawal to the exchange agent using ATOP procedures before 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date of the exchange offer. Please read *The Exchange Offer Withdrawal of Tenders*.

***Conditions to the Exchange Offer***

The registration rights agreement does not require us to accept 2016 senior notes for exchange if the exchange offer or the making of any exchange by a holder of the 2016 senior notes would violate any applicable law or SEC policy. A minimum aggregate principal amount of 2016 senior notes being

tendered is not a condition to the exchange offer. Please read [The Exchange Offer Conditions to the Exchange Offer](#) for more information about the conditions to the exchange offer.

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***Resales of Exchange Notes***

Based on interpretations by the staff of the SEC in no-action letters issued to third parties, we believe that you may transfer exchange notes issued under the exchange offer in exchange for the 2016 senior notes if:

you acquire the exchange notes in the ordinary course of your business;  
and

you are not engaged in, and do not intend to engage in, and have no arrangement or understanding with any person to participate in, a distribution of such exchange notes.

You may not participate in the exchange offer if you are:

an affiliate within the meaning of Rule 405 under the Securities Act of Matador Resources Company; or

a broker-dealer that acquired 2016 senior notes directly from us.

If you fail to satisfy any of the foregoing conditions, you will not be permitted to tender your 2016 senior notes in the exchange offer and you must comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any sale or other transfer of your 2016 senior notes unless such sale is made pursuant to an exemption from such requirements.

Each broker or dealer that receives exchange notes for its own account in exchange for 2016 senior notes that were acquired as a result of market-making or other trading activities must acknowledge that it will comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any offer to resell, resale or other transfer of the exchange notes issued in the exchange offer, including the delivery of a prospectus that contains information with respect to any selling holder required by the Securities Act in connection with any resale of the exchange notes. See *The Exchange Offer Resales of Exchange Notes*.

***Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations***

The exchange of the 2016 senior notes for the exchange notes will not be a taxable event for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Please read *Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations*.

***Exchange Agent***

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association is serving as the exchange agent in connection with the exchange offer. The address and telephone and facsimile numbers of the exchange agent are listed under the heading *The Exchange Offer Exchange Agent*.

***Use of Proceeds***

We will not receive any proceeds from the issuance of exchange notes in the exchange offer. We are making this exchange offer solely to satisfy our obligations under our registration rights agreement. We will pay all expenses incident to the exchange offer. See *Use of Proceeds* and *The Exchange Offer Fees and Expenses*.

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The exchange notes will be substantially identical to the 2016 senior notes, except that the exchange notes will be registered under the Securities Act, and the transfer restrictions and registration rights and provisions for additional interest applicable to the 2016 senior notes will not apply to the exchange notes. The exchange notes will represent the same principal amount of debt and interest as the 2016 senior notes, and we will issue the exchange notes under the same indenture used in issuing the initial notes and 2016 senior notes.

The summary below describes the principal terms of the exchange notes. The terms and conditions described below are subject to important limitations and exceptions. The Description of the Exchange Notes section of this prospectus contains a more detailed description of the terms and conditions of the exchange notes.

<b><i>Issuer</i></b>	Matador Resources Company.
<b><i>Notes Offered</i></b>	\$175,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023. The terms of the exchange notes are identical in all material respects to those of the 2016 senior notes, except that the transfer restrictions, registration rights and provisions for additional interest applicable to the 2016 senior notes do not apply to the exchange notes.
<b><i>Maturity Date</i></b>	April 15, 2023.
<b><i>Relationship with 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023 issued April 14, 2015</i></b>	The exchange notes offered hereby will have substantially identical terms, other than with respect to transfer restrictions, registration rights and provisions for additional interest, as our 2016 senior notes, and will have substantially identical terms as our initial notes other than with respect to the date of issuance and issue price. The exchange notes will bear different CUSIP and ISIN numbers than any unexchanged 2016 senior notes. The exchange notes are expected to bear the same CUSIP and ISIN numbers as, and be fungible with, our initial notes. The exchange notes will be treated as a single series of debt securities with our initial notes.
<b><i>Interest Rate</i></b>	6.875% per year (calculated using a 360-day year).
<b><i>Interest Payment Dates</i></b>	April 15 and October 15 of each year, with the next payment due on October 15, 2017. Interest on the exchange notes will accrue from April 15, 2017.
<b><i>Ranking</i></b>	The exchange notes will be our general unsecured senior obligations. Accordingly, they will rank:

equal in right of payment to all of our existing and future senior indebtedness (including our initial notes and 2016 senior notes);

effectively subordinate in right of payment to all of our existing and future

secured indebtedness, including indebtedness under our revolving credit facility, to the extent of the value of the collateral securing such indebtedness;

structurally subordinate in right of payment to all existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities, including trade payables, of our existing subsidiaries that do not guarantee the notes, consisting of San Mateo and its subsidiaries, and any future subsidiaries that do not guarantee the notes (in each case, other than indebtedness and other liabilities owed to us); and

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senior in right of payment to all of our future subordinated indebtedness.

As of the date of this prospectus, San Mateo and its subsidiaries have no outstanding indebtedness.

***Subsidiary Guarantees***

The exchange notes will be jointly and severally guaranteed by all of our existing subsidiaries that are the borrower or are guarantors under our revolving credit facility and may be guaranteed by certain of our future restricted subsidiaries. In the future, the guarantees may be released or terminated under certain circumstances. See Description of the Exchange Notes Subsidiary Guarantees and Description of the Exchange Notes Certain Covenants Additional Subsidiary Guarantees.

Each subsidiary guarantee will rank:

equal in right of payment to all existing and future senior indebtedness of the guarantor subsidiary;

effectively subordinate in right of payment to all existing and future secured indebtedness of the guarantor subsidiary, including its guarantee of indebtedness under our revolving credit facility, to the extent of the value of the collateral securing such indebtedness; and

senior in right of payment to any future subordinated indebtedness of the guarantor subsidiary.

***Optional Redemption***

At any time prior to April 15, 2018, we may, from time to time, redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of the notes with an amount of cash not greater than the net cash proceeds of certain equity offerings at the redemption price set forth under Description of the Exchange Notes Optional Redemption, if at least 65% of the aggregate principal amount of the notes issued under the indenture remains outstanding immediately after such redemption and the redemption occurs within 180 days of the closing date of such equity offering.

At any time prior to April 15, 2018, we may, on any one or more occasions, redeem all or part of the notes at a redemption price equal to 100% of the

principal amount of the notes redeemed, plus the make whole premium as of, and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, the date of redemption. See Description of the Exchange Notes Optional Redemption.

On and after April 15, 2018, we may redeem all or part of the notes at the redemption prices set forth under Description of the Exchange Notes Optional Redemption.

***Change of Control***

If we experience certain kinds of changes of control, each holder of the notes may require us to repurchase all or a portion of its notes for cash at a price equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount of such notes, plus any accrued and unpaid interest to the date of repurchase. See Description of the Exchange Notes Repurchase at the Option of the Holders Change of Control.

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***Certain Covenants***

The indenture governing the notes contains covenants that, among other things, limit the ability of our restricted subsidiaries to:

incur or guarantee additional indebtedness or issue certain types of preferred stock;

pay dividends on capital stock or redeem, repurchase or retire our capital stock or subordinated indebtedness;

transfer or sell assets;

make investments;

create certain liens;

enter into agreements that restrict dividends or other payments from our restricted subsidiaries to us;

consolidate, merge or transfer all or substantially all of our assets;

engage in transactions with affiliates; and

create unrestricted subsidiaries.

The covenants set forth in the indenture are subject to important exceptions and qualifications that are described under *Description of the Exchange Notes* *Certain Covenants*. If the notes achieve an investment grade rating

from each of Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and Standard & Poor's Ratings, many of these covenants will terminate.

***Trustee***

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association.

***Governing Law***

The notes and the indenture are governed by New York law.

***Transfer Restrictions; Absence of a Public Market for the Notes***

The exchange notes generally will be freely transferable. However, although a limited market exists for the initial notes, an active trading market for the exchange notes may not develop and, if one develops, it may not be liquid. We do not intend to make a trading market in the exchange notes after the exchange offer. Therefore, we cannot assure you as to the development of an active market for the exchange notes or as to the liquidity of any such market.

***Form of Exchange Notes***

The exchange notes will be represented initially by one or more global notes. The global exchange notes will be deposited with the trustee, as custodian for DTC.

***Risk Factors***

You should consider carefully the information set forth in the section entitled "Risk Factors" and all other information contained in this prospectus before deciding to invest in the exchange notes.

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**RISK FACTORS**

*Before deciding to participate in the exchange offer, you should consider carefully the risks and uncertainties described below and in Item 1A Risk Factors in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, as updated by annual, quarterly and other reports and documents we file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus, together with all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. If any of the described risks actually were to occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows could be materially adversely affected.*

*The risks described below are not the only ones facing the Company. Additional risks not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial individually or in the aggregate may also impair our business operations.*

*This prospectus and documents incorporated by reference herein also contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, some of which are described in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including the risks and uncertainties faced by us described below or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. See Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.*

**Risks Related to the Exchange Offer**

***If you fail to exchange 2016 senior notes, existing transfer restrictions will remain in effect and the market value of 2016 senior notes may be adversely affected because they may be more difficult to sell.***

If you fail to exchange 2016 senior notes for exchange notes under the exchange offer, then you will continue to be subject to the existing transfer restrictions on the 2016 senior notes. In general, the 2016 senior notes may not be offered or sold unless they are sold in transactions that are registered or exempt from registration under the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws. Except in connection with this exchange offer or as required by the registration rights agreement, we do not intend to register resales of the 2016 senior notes.

The tender of 2016 senior notes under the exchange offer will reduce the principal amount of the currently outstanding 2016 senior notes. Due to the corresponding reduction in liquidity, this may have an adverse effect upon, and increase the volatility of, the market price of any 2016 senior notes that you continue to hold following completion of the exchange offer.

**Risks Related to the Exchange Notes**

***We may not be able to generate sufficient cash to service all of our indebtedness and may be forced to take other actions to satisfy our obligations under applicable debt instruments, which may not be successful.***

Our ability to make scheduled payments on or to refinance our indebtedness obligations, including our revolving credit facility and the notes, depends on our financial condition and operating performance, which are subject to prevailing economic and competitive conditions and certain financial, business and other factors beyond our control. We may not be able to maintain a level of cash flows from operating activities sufficient to permit us to pay the principal, premium, if any, and interest on our indebtedness.

If our cash flows and capital resources are insufficient to fund debt service obligations, we may be forced to reduce or delay investments and capital expenditures, sell assets, seek additional capital or restructure or refinance indebtedness. Our ability to restructure or refinance indebtedness will depend on the condition of the capital markets and our

financial condition at such time. Any refinancing of indebtedness could be at higher

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interest rates and may require us to comply with more onerous covenants, which could further restrict business operations. The terms of existing or future debt instruments may restrict us from adopting some of these alternatives. In addition, any failure to make payments of interest and principal on outstanding indebtedness on a timely basis would likely result in a reduction of our credit rating, which could harm our ability to incur additional indebtedness. In the absence of sufficient cash flows and capital resources, we could face substantial liquidity problems and might be required to dispose of material assets or operations to meet debt service and other obligations. Our revolving credit facility currently restricts our ability to dispose of assets and our use of the proceeds from such disposition. We may not be able to consummate those dispositions, and the proceeds of any such disposition may not be adequate to meet any debt service obligations then due. These alternative measures may not be successful and may not permit us to meet scheduled debt service obligations.

As of March 23, 2017, the borrowing base under our revolving credit facility was \$400.0 million. In the future, we may not be able to access adequate funding under our revolving credit facility as a result of a decrease in the borrowing base due to the issuance of new indebtedness, the outcome of a subsequent borrowing base redetermination or an unwillingness or inability on the part of lending counterparties to meet their funding obligations and the inability of other lenders to provide additional funding to cover the defaulting lender's portion. Declines in commodity prices could result in a determination to lower the borrowing base in the future and, in such a case, we could be required to repay any indebtedness in excess of the redetermined borrowing base. As a result, we may be unable to implement our drilling and development plan, make acquisitions or otherwise carry out our business plans, which would have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations and impair our ability to service our indebtedness.

***Our leverage and debt service obligations may adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, business prospects and our ability to make payments on the exchange notes.***

As of December 31, 2016, we had approximately \$575 million of outstanding indebtedness (excluding letters of credit), including no borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility, and we had approximately \$400 million of borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facility (excluding letters of credit). Our level of indebtedness could affect our operations in several ways, including the following:

require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to service our existing debt, thereby reducing the cash available to finance our operations and other business activities;

limit management's discretion in operating our business and our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry in which we operate;

increase our vulnerability to downturns and adverse developments in our business and the economy generally;

limit our ability to access the capital markets to raise capital on favorable terms or to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures or acquisitions or to refinance existing indebtedness;

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place restrictions on our ability to obtain additional financing, make investments, lease equipment, sell assets and engage in business combinations;

make it more likely that a reduction in our borrowing base following a redetermination could require us to repay a portion of our then-outstanding bank borrowings;

make us vulnerable to increases in interest rates as our indebtedness under any revolving credit facility may vary with prevailing interest rates;

place us at a competitive disadvantage relative to competitors with lower levels of indebtedness in relation to their overall size or less restrictive terms governing their indebtedness; and

make it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations under the notes or other debt and increase the risk that we may default on our debt obligations.

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***The notes and the guarantees are unsecured obligations and are effectively subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness and structurally subordinated to liabilities of our non-guarantor subsidiaries.***

The notes and the guarantees are general unsecured senior obligations ranking effectively junior to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness (including all borrowings under our revolving credit facility) to the extent of the value of the collateral securing such indebtedness. If we or a guarantor is declared bankrupt, becomes insolvent or is liquidated or reorganized, the holders of our secured indebtedness or the secured indebtedness of such guarantor will be entitled to be paid in full from the proceeds of the assets, if any, securing such indebtedness before any payment may be made with respect to the notes or the affected guarantees. Holders of the notes will participate ratably in any remaining proceeds with all holders of our unsecured indebtedness, including unsecured indebtedness incurred after the notes are issued that does not rank junior to the notes, including trade payables and all of our other general indebtedness, based on the respective amounts owed to each holder or creditor. In any of the foregoing events, there may not be sufficient funds to pay amounts due on the notes. As a result, holders of the notes would likely receive less, ratably, than holders of secured indebtedness.

The notes will also be structurally subordinated to any indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries that do not guarantee the notes, consisting of San Mateo and its subsidiaries. The indenture governing the notes will permit us to form or acquire additional subsidiaries that are not guarantors of the notes in certain circumstances.

Holders of the notes will have no claim as a creditor against any of our non-guarantor subsidiaries. See Description of the Exchange Notes Brief Description of the Notes and Subsidiary Guarantees The Subsidiary Guarantees.

***We and the guarantors may incur substantial additional indebtedness. This could increase the risks associated with the notes.***

Subject to the restrictions in the indenture governing the notes and in other instruments governing our other outstanding indebtedness (including our revolving credit facility), we and our subsidiaries may incur substantial additional indebtedness (including secured indebtedness) in the future. Although the indenture governing the notes and our revolving credit facility contain restrictions on the incurrence of additional indebtedness, these restrictions are subject to waiver and a number of significant qualifications and exceptions, and indebtedness incurred in compliance with these restrictions could be substantial.

If we or a guarantor incurs any additional indebtedness that ranks equally with the notes (or with the guarantees thereof), including additional unsecured indebtedness or trade payables, the holders of that indebtedness will be entitled to share ratably with holders of the notes in any proceeds distributed in connection with any insolvency, liquidation, reorganization, dissolution or other winding-up of us or a guarantor. This may have the effect of reducing the amount of proceeds paid to holders of the notes in connection with such a distribution.

Any increase in our level of indebtedness will have several important effects on our future operations, including, without limitation:

whether we will have additional cash requirements in order to support the payment of interest on our outstanding indebtedness;

increases in our outstanding indebtedness and leverage will increase our vulnerability to adverse changes in general economic and industry conditions, as well as to competitive pressure; and

depending on the levels of our outstanding indebtedness, our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, general corporate and other purposes may be limited.

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***We cannot assure you that we will be able to maintain or improve our leverage position.***

An element of our business strategy involves maintaining a disciplined approach to financial management. However, we are also seeking to acquire, exploit and develop additional oil and natural gas reserves and conduct midstream operations, which may require the incurrence of additional indebtedness. Although we will seek to maintain or improve our leverage position, our ability to maintain or reduce our level of indebtedness depends on a variety of factors, including future performance and our future debt financing needs. General economic conditions, oil and natural gas prices and financial, business and other factors will also affect our ability to maintain or improve our leverage position. Many of these factors are beyond our control.

The indenture governing the notes has restrictive covenants that, among other things, could limit our financial flexibility, our ability to engage in activities that may be in our long-term best interests and our ability and the ability of our restricted subsidiaries to:

incur additional indebtedness;

sell assets;

pay dividends or make certain investments;

create liens that secure indebtedness;

enter into transactions with affiliates; and

merge or consolidate with another company.

See Description of the Exchange Notes Certain Covenants. Our failure to comply with these covenants could result in an event of default that, if not cured or waived, could result in the acceleration of all of our indebtedness. We would not have sufficient working capital to satisfy our debt obligations in the event of an acceleration of all or a significant portion of our outstanding indebtedness.

***The borrowing base under our revolving credit facility is subject to periodic redetermination.***

The borrowing base under the revolving credit facility is determined semi-annually as of May 1 and November 1 by the lenders based primarily on the estimated value of our proved oil and natural gas reserves at December 31 and June 30 of each year, respectively. Both we and the lenders may request an unscheduled redetermination of the borrowing base once each between scheduled redetermination dates. In addition, our lenders have the flexibility to reduce our borrowing base due to a variety of factors, some of which may be beyond our control. As of March 23, 2017, our borrowing base was \$400.0 million. We could be required to repay a portion of any outstanding bank debt to the extent that, after a redetermination, our outstanding borrowings at such time exceeded the redetermined borrowing base. We may not have sufficient funds to make such repayments, which could result in a default under the terms of the facility and an acceleration of the loans thereunder requiring us to negotiate renewals, arrange new

financing or sell significant assets, all of which could have a material adverse effect on our business and financial results.

***If we are unable to comply with the restrictions and covenants in the agreements governing the notes and our other indebtedness, there could be a default under the terms of these agreements, which could result in an acceleration of payment of funds that we have borrowed and would affect our ability to make principal and interest payments on the notes.***

Any default under the agreements governing our indebtedness that is not cured or waived by the required lenders or holders of the notes, and the remedies sought by the holders of any such indebtedness, could make us unable to pay principal, premium, if any, and interest, or special interest, if any, on the exchange notes and substantially decrease the market value of the exchange notes. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow and are otherwise unable to obtain funds necessary to meet required payments of principal, premium, if any, and

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interest, or special interest, if any, on our indebtedness, or if we otherwise fail to comply with the various covenants, including financial and operating covenants, in the agreements governing our indebtedness (including covenants in our revolving credit facility and the indenture governing the exchange notes), we could be in default under the terms of the agreements governing such indebtedness. In the event of such default:

the holders of such indebtedness could elect to declare all the funds borrowed thereunder to be due and payable, together with accrued and unpaid interest;

the lenders under our revolving credit facility could elect to terminate their commitments thereunder, cease making further loans and institute foreclosure proceedings against our assets; and

we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation.

If our operating performance declines, we may in the future need to obtain waivers under our revolving credit facility to avoid being in default. If we breach our covenants under our revolving credit facility and seek a waiver, we may not be able to obtain a waiver from the required lenders. If this occurs, we would be in default under our revolving credit facility, the lenders could exercise their rights, as described above, and we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation.

### ***We may not be able to repurchase the notes upon a change of control.***

If we experience certain kinds of changes of control, we may be required to offer to repurchase all notes at 101% of their principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any. We may not be able to repurchase the notes upon a change of control because we may not have sufficient financial resources to purchase all of the notes that are tendered following a change of control. Our failure to repurchase the notes upon a change of control could cause a default under the indenture governing the notes and could lead to a cross default under our revolving credit facility.

Additionally, using cash to fund the potential consequences of a change of control may impair our ability to obtain additional financing in the future, which could negatively impact our ability to conduct our business operations. See

Description of the Exchange Notes Repurchase at the Option of Holders Change of Control.

### ***Federal and state statutes allow courts, under specific circumstances, to void guarantees and require noteholders to return payments received from guarantors.***

Federal bankruptcy and state fraudulent transfer laws permit a court to void all or a portion of the obligations of a guarantor pursuant to its guarantee of the notes, or to subordinate any guarantor's obligations under such guarantee to claims of its other creditors, reducing or eliminating the noteholders' ability to recover under such guarantee. Although laws differ among these jurisdictions, in general, under applicable fraudulent transfer or conveyance laws, a guarantee could be voided as a fraudulent transfer or conveyance if (i) the guarantee was incurred with the intent of hindering, delaying or defrauding creditors; or (ii) the guarantor received less than reasonably equivalent value or fair consideration in return for incurring the guarantee and either:

the guarantor was insolvent or rendered insolvent by reason of the incurrence of the guarantee or subsequently became insolvent for other reasons;

the incurrence of the guarantee left the guarantor with an unreasonably small amount of capital to carry on the business; or

the guarantor intended to, or believed that it would, incur debts beyond its ability to pay such debts as they mature.

A court would likely find that a guarantor did not receive reasonably equivalent value or fair consideration for its guarantee if the guarantor did not substantially benefit directly or indirectly from the issuance of the notes. If a court were to void a guarantee, you would no longer have a claim against the guarantor. Sufficient funds to

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repay the notes may not be available from other sources, including the remaining guarantors, if any. In addition, the court might direct you to repay any amounts that you already received from the guarantor.

The measures of insolvency for purposes of fraudulent transfer laws vary depending upon the governing law of the applicable jurisdiction. Generally, a guarantor would be considered insolvent if:

the sum of its debts, including contingent liabilities, was greater than the fair saleable value of all its assets;

the present fair saleable value of its assets was less than the amount that would be required to pay its probable liability on its existing debts, including contingent liabilities, as they became absolute and mature;  
or

it could not pay its debts as they became due.

Each guarantee contains a provision intended to limit the guarantor's liability under the guarantee to the maximum amount that the guarantor could incur without causing the incurrence of obligations under its guarantee to be deemed a fraudulent transfer. This provision may not be effective to protect the guarantees from being voided under fraudulent transfer law.

***Although a limited market currently exists for the initial notes, an active trading market for the exchange notes may not develop and, if one develops, it may not be liquid.***

Although the issuance of the exchange notes will be registered under the Securities Act, we do not intend to have the exchange notes listed on a national securities exchange or included in any automated quotation system. If the exchange notes are traded after their initial issuance, they may trade at a discount from the initial offering price of the 2016 senior notes at the time they are exchanged for exchange notes. As a result, we cannot ensure you that you will be able to sell any of the exchange notes at a particular time, at attractive prices or at all.

Historically, the market for non-investment grade debt has been subject to disruptions that have caused substantial volatility in the prices of securities similar to the exchange notes independent of the operating and financial performance of the issuers of these securities. We cannot assure you that the market, if any, for the exchange notes will be free from similar disruptions. Any such disruption may adversely affect the holders of notes. Future trading prices of the notes will depend on many factors, including prevailing interest rates, our financial condition and results of operations, the then current ratings assigned to the notes and the market for similar securities. Any trading market that develops would be affected by many factors, independent of and in addition to the foregoing, including the:

time remaining to the maturity of the notes;

outstanding amount of the notes;

the number of noteholders;

the interest of securities dealers in making a market for the notes;

our operating performance and financial condition;

terms related to optional redemption of the notes; and

level, direction and volatility of market interest rates generally.

Although a limited market exists for the initial notes, an active trading market for the exchange notes may not develop and, if one develops, it may not be liquid. To the extent that an active trading market for the exchange notes does not develop, the liquidity and trading prices for the exchange notes may be harmed. Thus, you may not be able to liquidate your investment rapidly or at all, and your lenders may not readily accept the exchange notes as collateral for loans.

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***Many of the covenants contained in the indenture will be terminated if the notes are rated investment grade by Standard & Poor's and Moody's and no default has occurred and is continuing.***

Many of the covenants in the indenture governing the notes will be suspended if the notes are rated investment grade by Standard & Poor's and Moody's, provided at such time no default or event of default has occurred and is continuing. These covenants include restrictions on our ability to pay dividends, to incur debt and to enter into certain transactions. There can be no assurance that the notes will ever be rated investment grade. However, termination of these covenants would allow us to engage in certain transactions that would not have been permitted while these covenants were in force. The covenant termination will continue even if the notes are subsequently downgraded below investment grade. See Description of the Exchange Notes Covenant Termination.

***We face risks related to rating agency downgrades.***

Credit rating agencies continually revise their ratings for companies that they follow, including us. In the event of a ratings downgrade, the market price of the notes may be adversely affected, raising capital may become more difficult and borrowing costs under our revolving credit facility and other future borrowings may increase.

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**USE OF PROCEEDS**

The exchange offer is intended to satisfy our obligations under the registration rights agreement. We will not receive any cash proceeds from the issuance of the exchange notes in the exchange offer. In consideration for issuing the exchange notes as contemplated by this prospectus, we will receive 2016 senior notes in a like principal amount. The form and terms of the exchange notes are identical in all respects to the form and terms of the 2016 senior notes, except the exchange notes do not include certain transfer restrictions, registration rights or provisions for additional interest. 2016 senior notes surrendered in exchange for the exchange notes will be retired and canceled and will not be reissued. Accordingly, the issuance of the exchange notes will not result in any change in our outstanding indebtedness.

**Table of Contents****RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

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

	<b>For the Year Ended December 31,</b>				
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</b>	(a)	(a)	22.06	8.00	(a)

(a) During the period noted, our coverage ratio was less than 1:1. We would have needed to generate additional earnings of approximately \$100.6 million, \$830.0 million and \$36.1 million during the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2012, respectively, to achieve a coverage ratio of 1:1.

For purposes of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges:

earnings consist of income (loss) before income taxes plus fixed charges, amortization of capitalized interest less interest capitalized and (income) loss attributable to non-controlling interest in subsidiaries that have not incurred fixed charges; and

fixed charges consist of interest expense (gross of interest income), capitalized interest, amortization of deferred loan costs and the estimated interest component of rental expense.

We paid no preferred stock dividends during any period presented, and accordingly, the ratio of earnings to fixed charges and preferred stock dividends is the same as the ratio of earnings to fixed charges.

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**THE EXCHANGE OFFER**

We sold the 2016 senior notes on December 9, 2016 pursuant to the purchase agreement, dated as of December 6, 2016, by and among us, our subsidiary guarantors and the initial purchasers named therein. The 2016 senior notes were subsequently offered by the initial purchasers to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act and to non-U.S. persons pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act.

**Purpose of the Exchange Offer**

We sold the 2016 senior notes in transactions that were exempt from or not subject to registration requirements under the Securities Act. Accordingly, the 2016 senior notes are subject to transfer restrictions. In general, you may not offer or sell the 2016 senior notes unless either they are no longer subject to certain restrictions on transfer or the offer or sale is exempt from or not subject to registration under the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws.

In connection with the sale of the 2016 senior notes, we entered into a registration rights agreement with the initial purchasers of the 2016 senior notes. We are making the exchange offer to fulfill our contractual obligations under that agreement. A copy of the registration rights agreement has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. The exchange offer will be open for at least 20 business days.

Pursuant to the exchange offer, we will issue the exchange notes in exchange for 2016 senior notes. The terms of the exchange notes are identical in all material respects to those of the 2016 senior notes, except that the exchange notes (1) will not be subject to certain restrictions on transfer applicable to the 2016 senior notes and (2) will not have registration rights or provide for any increase in the interest rate related to the obligation to register. See [Description of the Exchange Notes](#) for more information on the terms of the exchange notes.

We are not making the exchange offer to, and will not accept tenders for exchange from, holders of the 2016 senior notes in any jurisdiction in which an exchange offer or the acceptance thereof would not be in compliance with the securities or blue sky laws of such jurisdiction. Unless the context requires otherwise, the term [holder](#) means any person whose 2016 senior notes are held of record by The Depository Trust Company, or DTC, who desires to deliver such 2016 senior notes by book-entry transfer at DTC.

We make no recommendation to the holders of the 2016 senior notes as to whether to tender or refrain from tendering all or any portion of their 2016 senior notes pursuant to the exchange offer. In addition, no one has been authorized to make any such recommendation. Holders of the 2016 senior notes must make their own decision whether to tender pursuant to the exchange offer and, if so, the aggregate amount of 2016 senior notes to tender after reading this prospectus and the letter of transmittal and consulting with their advisers, if any, based on their own financial position and requirements.

The exchange notes issued in exchange for the 2016 senior notes are expected to bear the same CUSIP and ISIN numbers as our initial notes, but will bear different CUSIP and ISIN numbers from any unexchanged 2016 senior notes. The exchange notes will be treated as a single series of debt securities with our initial notes. Holders of the 2016 senior notes, the exchange notes and the initial notes will vote as one series under the indenture governing the notes.

Each broker-dealer that receives exchange notes for its own account in exchange for 2016 senior notes, where such securities were acquired by such broker-dealer as a result of market making activities or other trading activities, must acknowledge that it will deliver a prospectus that meets the requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any resale of the exchange notes. See [Plan of Distribution](#).



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**Resales of Exchange Notes**

Based on interpretations by the staff of the SEC, as described in no-action letters issued to third parties, we believe that exchange notes issued in the exchange offer in exchange for 2016 senior notes may be offered for resale, resold or otherwise transferred by holders of the 2016 senior notes without compliance with the registration and prospectus delivery provisions of the Securities Act, if:

the exchange notes are acquired in the ordinary course of the holders' business;

the holders have no arrangement or understanding with any person to participate in the distribution of the exchange notes; and

the holders are not affiliates of Matador Resources Company within the meaning of Rule 405 under the Securities Act.

However, the SEC has not considered the exchange offer described in this prospectus in the context of a no-action letter. We cannot assure you that the staff of the SEC would make a similar determination with respect to the exchange offer as in the other circumstances. Each holder who wishes to exchange 2016 senior notes for exchange notes will be required to represent that it meets the above three requirements.

Any holder who is an affiliate of ours or who intends to participate in the exchange offer for the purpose of distributing exchange notes or any broker-dealer who purchased 2016 senior notes directly from us to resell pursuant to Rule 144A or any other available exemption under the Securities Act:

may not rely on the applicable interpretations of the staff of the SEC mentioned above;

will not be permitted or entitled to tender the 2016 senior notes in the exchange offer; and

must comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any resale transaction.

Unless an exemption from registration is otherwise available, any securityholder intending to distribute exchange notes should be covered by an effective registration statement under the Securities Act. The registration statement should contain the selling securityholder's information required by Item 507 or 508, as applicable, of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act.

In addition, to comply with state securities laws, the exchange notes may not be offered or sold in any state unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in such state or an exemption from registration or qualification, with which there has been compliance, is available. The offer and sale of the exchange notes to qualified institutional buyers, as defined under Rule 144A of the Securities Act, is generally exempt from registration or qualification under the state securities laws. We currently do not intend to register or qualify the sale of exchange notes in any state where an exemption from registration or qualification is required and not available.

**Terms of the Exchange Offer**

Upon the terms and conditions described in this prospectus and in the accompanying letter of transmittal, which together constitute the exchange offer, we will accept for exchange 2016 senior notes which are properly tendered at or before the expiration time and not withdrawn as permitted below. 2016 senior notes tendered in the exchange offer must be in denominations of principal amount of \$2,000 and any integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

The exchange offer is not conditioned upon any minimum aggregate principal amount of 2016 senior notes being tendered in the exchange offer.

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As of the date of this prospectus, \$175.0 million in aggregate principal amount of notes that are 2016 senior notes are outstanding. Also, \$400.0 million in aggregate principal amount of notes that are initial notes are outstanding. This prospectus is being sent to DTC, the sole registered holder of the 2016 senior notes. There will be no fixed record date for determining registered holders of 2016 senior notes entitled to participate in the exchange offer. This exchange offer is made only to holders of the \$175.0 million principal amount of the notes that were issued in December 2016 and have not been registered under the Securities Act (i.e., 2016 senior notes). This exchange offer is not being made to the holders of initial notes.

We intend to conduct the exchange offer in accordance with the provisions of the registration rights agreement, the applicable requirements of the Securities Act and the Exchange Act, and the rules and regulations of the SEC. 2016 senior notes whose holders do not tender for exchange in the exchange offer will remain outstanding and continue to accrue interest. These 2016 senior notes will be entitled to the rights and benefits such holders have under the indenture relating to the 2016 senior notes and, if applicable, the registration rights agreement.

We will be deemed to have accepted for exchange properly tendered 2016 senior notes when we have given written notice of the acceptance to the exchange agent and complied with the applicable provisions of the registration rights agreement. The exchange agent will act as agent for the tendering holders for the purposes of receiving the exchange notes from us.

If you tender 2016 senior notes in the exchange offer, you will not be required to pay brokerage commissions or fees or, subject to the letter of transmittal, transfer taxes with respect to the exchange of 2016 senior notes. We will pay all charges and expenses, other than certain applicable taxes described below, in connection with the exchange offer. Please read [Fees and Expenses](#) for more details regarding fees and expenses incurred in connection with the exchange offer.

We will return any 2016 senior notes that we do not accept for exchange for any reason without expense to their tendering holders promptly after the expiration or termination of the exchange offer.

## **Expiration, Extension and Amendment**

The expiration time of the exchange offer is 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on May 23, 2017. However, we may, in our sole discretion, at any time or various times, extend the period of time for which the exchange offer is open and set a later expiration date. The term [expiration time](#) as used herein means the latest time and date to which we extend the exchange offer. If we decide to extend the exchange offer period, we will then delay acceptance of any 2016 senior notes by giving written notice of an extension to the holders of 2016 senior notes as described below. During any extension period, all 2016 senior notes previously tendered will remain subject to the exchange offer and may be accepted for exchange by us. Any 2016 senior notes not accepted for exchange will be returned to the tendering holder after the expiration or termination of the exchange offer.

Our obligation to accept 2016 senior notes for exchange in the exchange offer is subject to the conditions described below under [Conditions to the Exchange Offer](#). We may decide to waive any of the conditions in our discretion. Furthermore, we reserve the right to amend or terminate the exchange offer, and to not accept for exchange any 2016 senior notes not previously accepted for exchange, if the conditions of the exchange offer specified below under the same headings are not fulfilled. We will give written notice of any extension, amendment, non-acceptance or termination to the holders of the 2016 senior notes as promptly as practicable. If we amend the exchange offer in a manner that we determine to constitute a material change, we will promptly disclose such amendment by means of a prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement will be distributed to holders of the 2016 senior notes. If the change is made less than five business days before the expiration of the exchange offer, we will extend the offer so

that the holders have at least five business days to tender or withdraw. In the event of any increase or decrease in the consideration we are offering for the 2016 senior notes or in the percentage of 2016 senior notes being sought by us, we will extend the exchange offer to remain open for at least

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10 business days after the date we provide notice of such increase or decrease to the registered holders of 2016 senior notes. We will notify you of any extension by means of a press release or other public announcement no later than 9:00 a.m., New York City time on the first business day after the previously scheduled expiration time.

## **Procedures for Tendering**

To participate in the exchange offer, you must properly tender your 2016 senior notes to the exchange agent as described below. We will only issue exchange notes in exchange for 2016 senior notes that you timely and properly tender. You should follow carefully the instructions on how to tender your 2016 senior notes. It is your responsibility to properly tender your 2016 senior notes. We have the right to waive any defects. However, we are not required to waive defects, and neither we nor the exchange agent is required to notify you of any defects in your tender.

If you have any questions or need help in exchanging your 2016 senior notes, please call the exchange agent whose address and phone number are described in the letter of transmittal included as Annex A to this prospectus.

All of the 2016 senior notes were issued in book-entry form, and all of the 2016 senior notes are currently represented by global certificates registered in the name of Cede & Co., the nominee of DTC. We have confirmed with DTC that the 2016 senior notes may be tendered using ATOP. The exchange agent will establish an account with DTC for purposes of the exchange offer promptly after the commencement of the exchange offer, and DTC participants may electronically transmit their acceptance of the exchange offer by causing DTC to transfer their 2016 senior notes to the exchange agent using the ATOP procedures. In connection with the transfer, DTC will send an agent's message to the exchange agent. The agent's message will state that DTC has received instructions from the participant to tender 2016 senior notes and that the participant agrees to be bound by the terms of the letter of transmittal.

By using the ATOP procedures to exchange 2016 senior notes, you will not be required to deliver a letter of transmittal to the exchange agent. However, you will be bound by its terms just as if you had signed it.

There is no procedure for guaranteed late delivery of the 2016 senior notes.

If you beneficially own 2016 senior notes that are registered in the name of a broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee and you wish to tender those notes, you should contact the registered holder as soon as possible and instruct the registered holder to tender on your behalf.

*Determinations Under the Exchange Offer.* We will determine in our sole discretion all questions as to the validity, form, eligibility, time of receipt, acceptance of tendered 2016 senior notes and withdrawal of tendered 2016 senior notes. Our determination will be final and binding. We reserve the absolute right to reject any 2016 senior notes not properly tendered or any 2016 senior notes our acceptance of which might, in the opinion of our counsel, be unlawful. We also reserve the right to waive any defect, irregularities or conditions of tender as to particular 2016 senior notes. Our interpretation of the terms and conditions of the exchange offer, including the instructions in the letter of transmittal, will be final and binding on all parties. Unless waived, all defects or irregularities in connection with tenders of 2016 senior notes must be cured within such time as we shall determine. Although we intend to notify holders of defects or irregularities with respect to tenders of 2016 senior notes, neither we, the exchange agent nor any other person will incur any liability for failure to give such notification. Tenders of 2016 senior notes will not be deemed made until such defects or irregularities have been cured or waived. Any 2016 senior notes received by the exchange agent that are not properly tendered and as to which the defects or irregularities have not been cured or waived will be returned to the tendering holder promptly following the expiration time.



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*When We Will Issue Exchange Notes.* In all cases, we will issue exchange notes for 2016 senior notes that we have accepted for exchange under the exchange offer only after the exchange agent receives, prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date,

a book-entry confirmation of such 2016 senior notes into the exchange agent's account at DTC; and

a properly transmitted agent's message.

Such notes will be issued promptly following the expiration or termination of the offer.

*Return of 2016 Senior Notes Not Accepted or Exchanged.* If we do not accept any tendered 2016 senior notes for exchange or if 2016 senior notes are submitted for a greater principal amount than the holder desires to exchange, the unaccepted or non-exchanged 2016 senior notes will be returned without expense to their tendering holder. Such non-exchanged 2016 senior notes will be credited to an account maintained with DTC. These actions will occur promptly after the expiration or termination of the exchange offer.

*Your Representations to Us.* By agreeing to be bound by the letter of transmittal, you will represent to us that, among other things:

any exchange notes to be received by you will be acquired in the ordinary course of your business;

you have no arrangement or understanding with any person or entity to participate in the distribution (within the meaning of the Securities Act) of the exchange notes in violation of the provisions of the Securities Act;

you are not an affiliate, as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act, of us or our subsidiary guarantors; and

if you are a broker-dealer that will receive exchange notes for your own account in exchange for 2016 senior notes that were acquired as a result of market-making or other trading activities, then you will deliver this prospectus (or, to the extent permitted by law, make this prospectus available to purchasers) in connection with any resale of the exchange notes.

Each broker-dealer that receives exchange notes for its own account in exchange for 2016 senior notes, where such securities were acquired by such broker-dealer as a result of market making activities or other trading activities, must acknowledge that it will deliver a prospectus that meets the requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any resale of the exchange notes. See Plan of Distribution.

## **Withdrawal of Tenders**

Except as otherwise provided in this prospectus, you may withdraw your tender at any time prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the expiration date of the exchange offer. For a withdrawal to be effective you must comply with

the appropriate ATOP procedures. Any notice of withdrawal must specify the name and number of the account at DTC to be credited with withdrawn 2016 senior notes and otherwise comply with the ATOP procedures.

We will determine in our sole discretion all questions as to the validity, form, eligibility and time of receipt of a notice of withdrawal. Our determination shall be final and binding on all parties. We will deem any 2016 senior notes so withdrawn not to have been validly tendered for exchange for purposes of the exchange offer.

Any 2016 senior notes that have been tendered for exchange but that are not exchanged for any reason will be credited to an account maintained with DTC for the 2016 senior notes. This return or crediting will take place promptly after withdrawal, rejection of tender, expiration or termination of the exchange offer. You may retender properly withdrawn 2016 senior notes by following the procedures described under Procedures for Tendering above at any time on or prior to the expiration time.

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**Conditions to the Exchange Offer**

We will not be required to accept for exchange, or exchange any exchange notes for, any 2016 senior notes if the exchange offer, or the making of any exchange by a holder of 2016 senior notes, would violate applicable law or SEC policy. Similarly, we may terminate the exchange offer as provided in this prospectus before accepting 2016 senior notes for exchange in the event of such a potential violation.

We will not be obligated to accept for exchange the 2016 senior notes of any holder that has not made to us the representations described under Procedures for Tendering and Plan of Distribution and such other representations as may be reasonably necessary under applicable SEC rules, regulations or interpretations to allow us to use an appropriate form to register the exchange notes under the Securities Act.

Additionally, we will not accept for exchange any 2016 senior notes tendered, and will not issue exchange notes in exchange for any such 2016 senior notes, if at such time any stop order has been threatened or is in effect with respect to the exchange offer registration statement of which this prospectus constitutes a part or the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939.

We expressly reserve the right to amend or terminate the exchange offer, and to reject for exchange any 2016 senior notes not previously accepted for exchange, upon the occurrence of any of the conditions to the exchange offer specified above. We will promptly give written notice of any extension, amendment, non-acceptance or termination to the holders of the 2016 senior notes.

These conditions are for our sole benefit, and we may assert them or waive them in whole or in part at any time or at various times prior to the expiration of the exchange offer in our sole discretion. If we fail at any time to exercise any of these rights, this failure will not mean that we have waived our rights. Each such right will be deemed an ongoing right that we may assert at any time or at various times prior to the expiration of the exchange offer.

**Exchange Agent**

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association has been appointed as the exchange agent for the exchange offer. All executed letters of transmittal and any other required documents should be directed to the exchange agent at the address or facsimile number set forth below. Questions and requests for assistance and requests for additional copies of this prospectus or of the letter of transmittal should be directed to the exchange agent addressed as follows:

**Registered or Certified Mail:**

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.  
Corporate Trust Operations  
MAC N9300-070  
P.O. Box 1517

**Air Courier Service:**

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.  
Corporate Trust Operations  
MAC N9300-070  
600 Fourth Street South,

**By Facsimile Transmission:**

(612) 667-6282

*Confirm by Telephone:*

1-800-344-5128

7th Floor

Minneapolis, MN 55480

Minneapolis, MN 55479

Delivery of the letter of transmittal to an address other than as set forth above or transmission of the letter of transmittal via a facsimile transmission to a number other than as set forth above will not constitute a valid delivery of the letter of transmittal. Delivery of documents to The Depository Trust Company does not constitute delivery to the

exchange agent.

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### **Fees and Expenses**

We will bear the expenses of soliciting tenders. The principal solicitation is being made by e-mail; however, we may make additional solicitation by mail, telephone or in person by our officers and regular employees and those of our affiliates.

We have not retained any dealer-manager in connection with the exchange offer and will not make any payments to broker-dealers or others soliciting acceptances of the exchange offer. We will, however, pay the exchange agent reasonable and customary fees for its services and reimburse it for its related reasonable out-of-pocket expenses.

We will pay the cash expenses to be incurred in connection with the exchange offer. They include:

SEC registration fees;

fees and expenses of the exchange agent and trustee;

accounting and legal fees and printing costs; and

related fees and expenses.

### **Transfer Taxes**

We will pay all transfer taxes, if any, applicable to the exchange of 2016 senior notes under the exchange offer. Each tendering holder, however, will be required to pay any transfer taxes, whether imposed on the registered holder or any other person, if a transfer tax is imposed for any reason other than the exchange of 2016 senior notes under the exchange offer.

### **Consequences of Failure to Exchange**

If you do not exchange your 2016 senior notes for exchange notes under the exchange offer, the 2016 senior notes you hold will continue to be subject to the existing restrictions on transfer. In general, you may not offer or sell the 2016 senior notes except under an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws. We do not intend to register 2016 senior notes under the Securities Act unless the registration rights agreement requires us to do so.

### **Accounting Treatment**

We will record the exchange notes at the same carrying value as the 2016 senior notes, as reflected in our accounting records on the date of the exchange. Accordingly, we will not recognize any gain or loss for accounting purposes. The expenses of the exchange offer will be amortized over the term of the exchange notes.

### **Other**

Participation in the exchange offer is voluntary, and you should consider carefully whether to accept. You are urged to consult your financial and tax advisors in making your own decision on what action to take.

We may in the future seek to acquire untendered 2016 senior notes in open market or privately negotiated transactions, through subsequent exchange offers or otherwise. We have no present plans to acquire any 2016 senior notes that are not tendered in the exchange offer or to file a registration statement to permit resales of any untendered 2016 senior notes.

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**DESCRIPTION OF THE EXCHANGE NOTES**

The Company issued the initial notes and 2016 senior notes and will issue the exchange notes (collectively with the initial notes and 2016 senior notes, the *Notes* ) under an indenture (the *Indenture* ) dated as of April 14, 2015, as amended, by and among itself, the Guarantors and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee (the *Trustee* ). The terms of the exchange notes will include those stated in the Indenture and those made part of the Indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the *Trust Indenture Act* ). The exchange notes will have substantially identical terms as the initial notes other than with respect to the date of issuance and issue price. The exchange notes are expected to bear the same CUSIP and ISIN numbers as our initial notes and different CUSIP and ISIN numbers than any unexchanged 2016 senior notes.

The following description is a summary of the material provisions of the Indenture. It does not restate this agreement in its entirety. The Company urges you to read the Indenture because it, and not this description, defines your rights as Holders of the Notes. You may request copies of the Indenture at the Company's address set forth under the headings *Additional Information* and *Where You Can Find More Information*.

You can find the definitions of certain terms used in this description under the subheadings *Certain Definitions* and *Principal, Maturity and Interest*. In this description, the word *Company* refers only to Matador Resources Company and not to any of its subsidiaries. The term *2016 senior notes* refers to the \$175.0 million aggregate principal amount outstanding of our Notes that were issued in a private offering on December 9, 2016, the term *initial notes* refers to the \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount outstanding of our Notes that were issued in October 2015 and previously registered under the Securities Act and the term *exchange notes* refers to the registered notes offered hereby in exchange for the 2016 senior notes.

The registered holder of a Note will be treated as the owner of it for all purposes. Only registered holders of Notes will have rights under the Indenture, and all references to *Holders* in this description are to registered holders of Notes.

If the exchange offer is consummated, Holders of 2016 senior notes who do not exchange their notes for exchange notes will vote together with the Holders of the exchange notes and the initial notes for all relevant purposes under the Indenture. In that regard, the Indenture requires that certain actions by the Holders under the Indenture (including acceleration after an Event of Default) must be taken, and certain rights must be exercised, by specified minimum percentages of the aggregate principal amount of all Notes issued under the Indenture. In determining whether Holders of the requisite percentage in principal amount have given any notice, consent or waiver or taken any other action permitted under the Indenture, any 2016 senior notes that remain outstanding after the exchange offer will be aggregated with the exchange notes and the initial notes, and the Holders of any 2016 senior notes and the exchange notes and the initial notes will vote together as a single series for all such purposes.

**Brief Description of the Notes and Subsidiary Guarantees**

***The Notes***

Like the 2016 senior notes, the exchange notes:

will be general unsecured senior obligations of the Company;

will be equal in right of payment to all existing and future senior Indebtedness of the Company;

will be effectively subordinate in right of payment to any secured Indebtedness of the Company to the extent of the collateral securing such Indebtedness, including Indebtedness under the Credit Agreement;

will be senior in right of payment to any future Subordinated Indebtedness of the Company;

will be effectively subordinated to the Indebtedness of our subsidiaries that do not guarantee the Notes; and

will be guaranteed by the Guarantors.

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### ***The Subsidiary Guarantees***

Like the 2016 senior notes, the exchange notes will be jointly and severally guaranteed by each of the Company's present Restricted Subsidiaries other than San Mateo and its subsidiaries (which entities do not guarantee any Indebtedness of the Company), and by any of its future Restricted Subsidiaries that guarantee Indebtedness of the Company or another Guarantor under a Credit Facility.

The Subsidiary Guarantees of the Notes:

will be general unsecured senior obligations of each Guarantor;

will be equal in right of payment to all existing and future senior Indebtedness of each Guarantor;

will be effectively subordinate in right of payment to any secured Indebtedness of each Guarantor to the extent of the collateral securing such Indebtedness, including Indebtedness of the Guarantors under the Credit Agreement; and

will be senior in right of payment to any future Subordinated Indebtedness of each Guarantor.

As of the date of the Indenture, all of the Company's Subsidiaries (other than the Joint Venture Subsidiary) were Restricted Subsidiaries. Under the circumstances described below under the subheading *Certain Definitions* *Unrestricted Subsidiary*, the Company will be permitted to designate certain of its Subsidiaries as Unrestricted Subsidiaries. Unrestricted Subsidiaries are not subject to many of the restrictive covenants in the Indenture and do not guarantee the Notes.

As of the date of this prospectus, San Mateo and its subsidiaries, which are Restricted Subsidiaries other than the Joint Venture Subsidiary, have no outstanding Indebtedness.

### **Principal, Maturity and Interest**

The Company has issued \$175,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of 2016 senior notes and previously issued the initial notes in an aggregate principal amount of \$400,000,000. The Company may issue Additional Notes ( *Additional Notes* ) from time to time after this offering in an unlimited amount, without the consent of the Holders but subject to the provisions of the Indenture described below under the caption *Certain Covenants* *Incurrence of Indebtedness*. The 2016 senior notes, the initial notes and any Additional Notes subsequently issued under the Indenture, together with the exchange notes, will be treated as a single class for all purposes under the Indenture, including, without limitation, waivers, amendments, redemptions and offers to purchase. Unless otherwise provided or the context requires, for all purposes of the Indenture and this *Description of the Exchange Notes*, references to the Notes include any Additional Notes and Exchange Notes actually issued. The Company will issue Notes in minimum denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. The Notes will mature on April 15, 2023.

Interest on the Notes accrues at the rate of 6.875% per year and is payable semiannually in arrears on April 15 and October 15. The Company will make each interest payment to the Holders of record of the Notes on the immediately preceding April 1 and October 1.

Interest on the 2016 senior notes and the exchange notes will accrue from April 15, 2017. Interest will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year comprised of twelve 30-day months.

**Methods of Receiving Payments on the Notes**

If a Holder of not less than \$5.0 million aggregate principal amount of any Notes held in definitive form has given wire transfer instructions to the Company for an account in the U.S., the Company will make all principal,

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premium and interest payments on those Notes in accordance with those instructions. All other payments on the Notes will be made at the office or agency of the Paying Agent unless the Company elects to make interest payments by check mailed to the Holders at their addresses set forth in the register of Holders.

The Company will make all principal, premium and interest payments on each Note in global form registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company ( *DTC* ) or its nominee in immediately available funds to DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, as the Holder of such Global Note (as defined below).

## **Paying Agent and Registrar for the Notes**

The Trustee is acting as Paying Agent and Registrar. The Company may change the Paying Agent or Registrar without prior notice to the Holders of the Notes, and the Company or any of its Subsidiaries may act as Paying Agent or Registrar.

## **Transfer and Exchange**

A Holder may transfer or exchange Notes in accordance with the Indenture. The Registrar and the Trustee may require a Holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents, and the Company may require a Holder to pay any taxes and fees required by law or permitted by the Indenture. The Company is not required to transfer or exchange any Note selected for redemption. Also, the Company is not required to transfer or exchange any Note for a period of 15 days before a selection of Notes to be redeemed.

The registered Holder of a Note will be treated as the owner of it for all purposes.

## **Subsidiary Guarantees**

The Guarantors jointly and severally guarantee the Company's obligations under the Notes on a senior unsecured basis. The obligations of each Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee is limited in a manner intended to prevent that Subsidiary Guarantee from constituting a fraudulent conveyance under applicable laws, although no assurance can be given that a court would give the Holders the benefit of such a provision. Please read **Risk Factors** **Risks Related to the Exchange Notes** Federal and state statutes allow courts, under specific circumstances, to void guarantees and require noteholders to return payments received from guarantors.

Except in a transaction resulting in the release of a Subsidiary Guarantee of a Guarantor, the Company will not permit a Guarantor to consolidate with or merge with or into (whether or not such Guarantor is the surviving Person) another Person (other than the Company or another Guarantor) unless:

- (1) immediately after giving effect to that transaction, no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing; and
- (2) the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than such Guarantor) assumes all the obligations of that Guarantor under its Subsidiary Guarantee pursuant to a supplemental indenture satisfactory to the Trustee.

The Subsidiary Guarantee of a Guarantor will be released in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Indenture:

(1) in connection with any sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of that Guarantor (including by way of merger or consolidation) other than to the Company or another Guarantor, if such transaction as of the time of such disposition does not violate the provisions of the Indenture described under the caption    Repurchase at the Option of Holders    Asset Sales  ;

(2) in connection with any sale or other disposition of the Capital Stock of a Guarantor (including by way of merger or consolidation) other than to the Company or another Guarantor, if such transaction at the time of such disposition does not violate the provisions of the Indenture described under the caption    Repurchase at the Option of Holders    Asset Sales and the Guarantor ceases to be a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company as a result of such transaction;

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(3) if the Company designates any Restricted Subsidiary that is a Guarantor as an Unrestricted Subsidiary in accordance with the provisions of the Indenture;

(4) if the Company effects a Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance as described under Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance or if it satisfies and discharges the Indenture as described under Satisfaction and Discharge ; or

(5) at such time as such Guarantor ceases to guarantee any other Indebtedness of the Company or any other Guarantor under a Credit Facility.

**Optional Redemption**

Prior to April 15, 2018, the Company may on any one or more occasions redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes (including any Additional Notes) originally issued prior to the redemption date under the Indenture in an amount not greater than the Net Cash Proceeds of one or more Equity Offerings, at a redemption price of 106.875% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the redemption date (subject to the right of Holders of record on the relevant record date to receive interest due on an interest payment date that is on or prior to the redemption date); *provided that*

(1) at least 65% in aggregate principal amount of Notes (including any Additional Notes) originally issued under the Indenture remain outstanding immediately after the occurrence of such redemption (excluding Notes held by the Company and its Subsidiaries); and

(2) each such redemption must occur within 180 days of the date of the closing of the related Equity Offering.

In addition, at any time prior to April 15, 2018, the Company may redeem all or part of the Notes at a redemption price equal to the sum of:

(i) the principal amount thereof, plus

(ii) the Make Whole Premium at the redemption date, *plus* accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the redemption date (subject to the right of Holders of record on the relevant record date to receive interest due on an interest payment date that is on or prior to the redemption date).

On or after April 15, 2018, the Company may redeem all or a part of the Notes at any time or from time to time at the redemption prices (expressed as percentages of principal amount) set forth below plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the applicable redemption date (subject to the right of Holders of record on the relevant record date to receive interest due on an interest payment date that is on or prior to the redemption date), if redeemed during the twelve-month period beginning on April 15 of the years indicated below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
2018	105.156%
2019	103.438%
2020	101.719%

2021 and thereafter

100.000%

Except pursuant to the preceding paragraphs, or as described below in the last paragraph under Repurchase at the Option of Holders Change of Control, the Notes will not be redeemable at the Company's option prior to maturity.

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### **Selection and Notice**

If less than all of the Notes are to be redeemed at any time, the Trustee will select Notes for redemption as follows:

(1) if the Notes are listed, in compliance with the requirements of the principal national securities exchange on which the Notes are listed; or

(2) if the Notes are not so listed, on a pro rata basis (or, in the case of Notes in global form, the Notes represented thereby will be selected in accordance with DTC's prescribed method).

Notes or portions of Notes the Trustee selects for redemption shall be in minimum amounts of \$2,000 or a whole multiple of \$1,000 in excess thereof. Notices of redemption shall be given in the manner prescribed in the Indenture at least 30 but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each Holder of Notes to be redeemed at its registered address, except that notices of redemption may be given more than 60 days prior to a redemption date if the notice is issued in connection with a defeasance of the Notes or a satisfaction and discharge of the Indenture. Notices of redemption may be subject to one or more conditions precedent specified in the notice of redemption, including completion of an Equity Offering or other corporate transaction.

If any Note is to be redeemed in part only, the notice of redemption that relates to that Note shall state the portion of the principal amount thereof to be redeemed. A new Note in principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion of the original Note will be issued in the name of the Holder thereof upon cancellation of the original Note. Notes called for redemption become due on the date fixed for redemption, subject to satisfaction of any conditions to the redemption. On and after the redemption date, interest will cease to accrue on Notes or portions of them called for redemption.

### **Mandatory Redemption; Offers to Purchase; Open Market Purchases**

The Company is not required to make any mandatory redemption or sinking fund payments with respect to the Notes. However, under certain circumstances, the Company may be required to offer to purchase Notes as described under the captions *Repurchase at the Option of Holders*, *Change of Control* and *Asset Sales*. The Company may at any time and from time to time purchase Notes in the open market or otherwise.

### **Repurchase at the Option of Holders**

#### ***Change of Control***

If a Change of Control occurs, unless the Company has previously or concurrently exercised its right to redeem all of the Notes as described under *Optional Redemption*, each Holder of Notes will have the right to require the Company to repurchase all or any part (equal to \$2,000 or an integral multiple of \$1,000 in excess thereof) of that Holder's Notes pursuant to the offer described below (the *Change of Control Offer*). In the Change of Control Offer, the Company will offer a payment (the *Change of Control Payment*) in cash equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount of Notes to be repurchased plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon, if any, to the date of purchase (subject to the right of Holders of record on the relevant record date to receive interest due on an interest payment date that is on or prior to the date of purchase).

No later than 30 days following any Change of Control, the Company will send a notice to each Holder (with a copy to the Trustee) describing the transaction or transactions that constitute the Change of Control and offering to repurchase Notes on the Change of Control Payment Date specified in such notice, which date will be no earlier than 30 days nor later than 60 days from the date such notice is mailed, pursuant to the procedures required by the

Indenture and described in such notice. The Company will comply with the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under the Exchange Act and any other securities laws and regulations thereunder to the extent such laws and regulations are applicable in connection with the repurchase of the Notes as a result of a Change of

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Control. To the extent that the provisions of any securities laws or regulations conflict with the provisions of the covenant described herein, the Company will comply with the applicable securities laws and regulations and will not be deemed to have breached its obligations under this covenant by virtue of the Company's compliance with such securities laws or regulations.

On the Change of Control Payment Date, the Company will, to the extent lawful:

- (1) accept for payment all Notes or portions thereof properly tendered pursuant to the Change of Control Offer;
- (2) deposit with the Paying Agent an amount equal to the Change of Control Payment in respect of all Notes or portions thereof so tendered; and
- (3) deliver or cause to be delivered to the Trustee the Notes so accepted together with an officers' certificate stating the aggregate principal amount of Notes or portions thereof being purchased by the Company.

The Paying Agent will promptly mail to each Holder of Notes so tendered and not withdrawn the Change of Control Payment for such tendered Notes, with such payments to be made through the facilities of DTC for all Notes in global form, and the Trustee will promptly authenticate and send (or cause to be transferred by book entry) to each Holder a new Note equal in principal amount to any unpurchased portion of the Notes surrendered, if any, by such Holder; provided that each such new Note will be in a principal amount of \$2,000 or an integral multiple of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

The Company will announce to the Holders of Notes the results of the Change of Control Offer on or as soon as practicable after the Change of Control Payment Date.

The provisions described above that require the Company to make a Change of Control Offer following a Change of Control are applicable regardless of whether or not any other provisions of the Indenture are applicable. Except as described above with respect to a Change of Control, the Indenture does not contain provisions that permit the Holders of the Notes to require that the Company repurchase or redeem the Notes in the event of a takeover, recapitalization or similar transaction.

The Credit Agreement currently treats certain change of control events with respect to the Company as an event of default entitling the lenders to terminate all further lending commitments, to accelerate all loans then outstanding and to exercise other remedies. The occurrence of a Change of Control may result in a default under future Indebtedness of the Company and its Subsidiaries, and give the lenders thereunder the right to require the Company to repay obligations outstanding thereunder. Moreover, the exercise by Holders of their right to require the Company to repurchase the Notes could cause a default under such future Indebtedness, even if the Change of Control itself does not, due to the financial effect of such repurchase on the Company. The Company's ability to repurchase Notes following a Change of Control also may be limited by the Company's then existing financial resources.

The Company will not be required to make a Change of Control Offer upon a Change of Control if (1) a third party makes the Change of Control Offer in the manner, at the times and otherwise in compliance with the requirements set forth in the Indenture applicable to a Change of Control Offer made by the Company and purchases all Notes validly tendered and not withdrawn under such Change of Control Offer, (2) a notice of redemption for all outstanding Notes has been given, unless and until there is a default in payment of the applicable redemption price or (3) in connection with or in contemplation of any publicly announced Change of Control, the Company has made an offer to purchase (an *Alternate Offer*) any and all Notes validly tendered at a cash price equal to or higher than the Change of Control Payment and has purchased all Notes properly tendered in accordance with the terms of the Alternate Offer.



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A Change of Control Offer or Alternate Offer may be made in advance of a Change of Control, and conditioned upon the occurrence of a Change of Control, if a definitive agreement is in place for the Change of Control at the time of making the Change of Control Offer or Alternate Offer.

The definition of Change of Control includes a phrase relating to the sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole. Although there is a limited body of case law interpreting the phrase substantially all, there is no precise established definition of the phrase under applicable law. Accordingly, the ability of a Holder of Notes to require the Company to repurchase such Notes as a result of a sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of less than all of the assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole may be uncertain.

If Holders of not less than 90% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes validly tender and do not withdraw such Notes in a Change of Control Offer or Alternate Offer and the Company, or any other Person making a Change of Control Offer or Alternate Offer in lieu of the Company as described above, purchases all of the Notes validly tendered and not withdrawn by such Holders, the Company will have the right, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior notice, given not more than 30 days following such purchase pursuant to the Change of Control Offer or Alternate Offer described above, to redeem all Notes that remain outstanding following such purchase at a redemption price in cash equal to the applicable Change of Control Payment or Alternate Offering price, as applicable, plus, to the extent not included in the Change of Control Payment or Alternate Offer price, as applicable, accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the date of redemption (subject to the right of Holders of record on the relevant record date to receive interest due on an interest payment date that is on or prior to the date of purchase).

***Asset Sales***

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, consummate an Asset Sale unless:

(1) the Company (or the Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be) receives consideration at the time of such Asset Sale at least equal to the Fair Market Value of the Equity Interests or other assets issued or sold or otherwise disposed of (which may be determined at the time of entering into any agreement with respect to such Asset Sale); and

(2) (A) at least 75% of the aggregate consideration therefor received by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, from such Asset Sale and all other Asset Sales since the Issue Date, on a cumulative basis, is in the form of cash, Cash Equivalents or assets of the type referred to in clauses (2) or (3) of the next succeeding paragraph, or any combination of the foregoing (together, Permitted Consideration ) or (B) the Fair Market Value of all forms of consideration other than Permitted Consideration since the Issue Date does not exceed in the aggregate 10% of the ACNTA of the Company (determined at the time of receipt of such consideration), with the Fair Market Value of each item of consideration measured at the time received and without giving effect to subsequent changes in value. For purposes of this provision, each of the following shall be deemed to be cash:

(a) any liabilities (as shown on the Company's or such Restricted Subsidiary's most recent balance sheet) of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary (other than contingent liabilities and liabilities that are by their terms subordinated to the Notes or any Subsidiary Guarantee) that are assumed by the transferee of any such assets pursuant to a novation agreement or similar agreement that releases the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary from further liability;

(b) with respect to any Asset Sale of properties used or useful in the Oil and Gas Business by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries where the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary retains an interest in such property, the amount of the costs and expenses of the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary related to the exploration,

development, completion or production of such properties and activities related thereto which the transferee (or an Affiliate thereof) agrees to pay;

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(c) Indebtedness (other than contingent liabilities and liabilities that are by their terms subordinated to the notes or a Guarantee) of any Restricted Subsidiary that is no longer a Restricted Subsidiary as a result of such Asset Sale; provided that the Company and each other Restricted Subsidiary are released from any Guarantee of such Indebtedness in connection with such Asset Sale;

(d) any securities, notes or other obligations received by the Company or any such Restricted Subsidiary from such transferee that are converted within 180 days by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary into cash (to the extent of the cash received in that conversion); and

(e) solely in the case of any Asset Sale of Midstream Assets, Permitted MLP Securities.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of any Asset Sale pursuant to a condemnation, appropriation or similar taking, including by deed in lieu of condemnation, such Asset Sale shall not be required to satisfy the requirements of clauses (1) and (2) above.

Within the later of (x) one year after the date of receipt of any Net Proceeds from an Asset Sale and (y) six months after the date of an agreement entered into within such one-year period committing the Company or Restricted Subsidiary to make an acquisition or expenditure referred to in clauses (2) or (3) below, the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary may apply such Net Proceeds at its option, in any one or more of the following:

(1) to repay, prepay, redeem or repurchase any Indebtedness of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary (other than Subordinated Indebtedness);

(2) to acquire all or substantially all of the assets of, or a majority of the Voting Stock of, a company principally engaged in the Oil and Gas Business that will, upon such acquisition, become a Restricted Subsidiary or acquire any minority interest in a Restricted Subsidiary; or

(3) to make capital expenditures or to acquire properties or assets, in each case that are used or useful in the Oil and Gas Business.

Pending the final application of any such Net Proceeds, the Company may invest such Net Proceeds in any manner not prohibited by the Indenture.

Any Net Proceeds from Asset Sales that are not applied or invested as provided in the preceding paragraph will constitute Excess Proceeds. When the aggregate amount of Excess Proceeds exceeds \$25.0 million, the Company will make an offer (the *Asset Sale Offer*) to all Holders of Notes and, to the extent required by the terms thereof, all holders of other Indebtedness that is pari passu in right of payment with the Notes containing provisions similar to those set forth in the Indenture with respect to offers to purchase or redeem with the proceeds of sales of assets to purchase the maximum principal amount of Notes and such other pari passu Indebtedness that may be purchased out of the Excess Proceeds. The offer price with respect to the Notes in any Asset Sale Offer will be equal to 100% of the principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the date of purchase (subject to the right of Holders of record on the relevant record date to receive interest due on an interest payment date that is on or prior to the date of purchase), and will be payable in cash. If any Excess Proceeds remain after consummation of an Asset Sale Offer, the Company may use such Excess Proceeds for any purpose not otherwise prohibited by the Indenture. If the aggregate principal amount of Notes and such other pari passu Indebtedness tendered into such Asset Sale Offer exceeds the amount of Excess Proceeds, the Trustee shall select the Notes and such other pari passu Indebtedness to be purchased on a pro rata basis, on the basis of the aggregate principal amounts tendered in round denominations (which in the case of the Notes will be minimum denominations of \$2,000 principal amount or multiples of \$1,000 in excess

thereof). Upon completion of each Asset Sale Offer, the amount of Excess Proceeds shall be reset at zero.

The Company will comply with the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under the Exchange Act and any other securities laws and regulations thereunder to the extent such laws and regulations are applicable in connection with an Asset Sale Offer. To the extent that the provisions of any securities laws or regulations conflict with the

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provisions of the covenant described herein, the Company will comply with the applicable securities laws and regulations and will not be deemed to have breached its obligations under this covenant by virtue of the Company's compliance with such securities laws or regulations.

**Certain Covenants**

***Restricted Payments***

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly:

(1) declare or pay any dividend or make any other payment or distribution on account of the Company's or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries' Equity Interests (including, without limitation, any payment by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary in connection with any merger or consolidation involving the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries) or to the direct or indirect holders of the Company's or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries' Equity Interests in their capacity as such (other than dividends or distributions payable in Equity Interests (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company or payable to the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company);

(2) purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire or retire for value (including, without limitation, in connection with any merger or consolidation involving the Company) any Equity Interests of the Company or any direct or indirect parent of the Company (other than any such Equity Interests owned by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company);

(3) make any payment on or with respect to, or purchase, redeem, defease or otherwise acquire or retire for value, prior to scheduled maturity or scheduled sinking fund payment, any Subordinated Indebtedness of the Company or any Guarantor, except (a) a payment of interest or principal on or after the date when due or within three Business Days prior thereto, (b) in anticipation of satisfying a sinking fund obligation, principal installment payment or payment due at final maturity, in each case due within one year of the date of such payment, purchase or other acquisition or retirement or (c) payments on Indebtedness owed to the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary; or

(4) make any Investment other than a Permitted Investment (all such payments and other actions set forth in clauses (1) through (3) above and this clause (4) being collectively referred to as ***Restricted Payments*** ),

unless, at the time of and after giving effect to such Restricted Payment:

(1) no Default (except a Reporting Default) or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing or would occur as a consequence thereof;

(2) the Company would, at the time of such Restricted Payment and after giving pro forma effect thereto as if such Restricted Payment had been made at the beginning of the applicable four-quarter period, have been permitted to incur at least \$1.00 of additional Indebtedness pursuant to the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test set forth in the first paragraph of the covenant described below under the caption "Incurrence of Indebtedness"; and

(3) such Restricted Payment, together with the aggregate amount of all other Restricted Payments made by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries after the Issue Date (excluding Restricted Payments permitted by clauses (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12) or (13) of the next succeeding paragraph), is less than the sum, without duplication, of:

(a) 50% of the Consolidated Net Income of the Company for the period (taken as one accounting period) from April 1, 2015 to the end of the Company's most recently ended fiscal quarter for which internal financial statements are available at the time of such Restricted Payment (or, if such Consolidated Net Income for such period is a deficit, less 100% of such deficit); plus

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(b) 100% of the aggregate Net Cash Proceeds and 100% of the Fair Market Value of securities or other property other than cash (including Capital Stock of Persons engaged in the Oil and Gas Business or assets used in the Oil and Gas Business) received by the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary since the Issue Date from the issue or sale of Equity Interests of the Company (other than Disqualified Stock), other than Equity Interests sold to a Subsidiary of the Company or to an employee stock ownership plan or to a trust established by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for the benefit of their employees; plus

(c) the amount by which Indebtedness is reduced on the Company's consolidated balance sheet upon the conversion or exchange (other than by a Subsidiary of the Company) subsequent to the Issue Date of any Indebtedness convertible or exchangeable for Capital Stock (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company (plus the amount of any accrued interest then outstanding on such Indebtedness to the extent the obligation to pay such interest is extinguished less the amount of any cash, or the Fair Market Value of any property (as determined in good faith by an officer of the Company), distributed by the Company upon such conversion or exchange), together with the net proceeds, if any, received by the Company or its Restricted Subsidiaries upon such conversion or exchange; plus

(d) an amount equal to the sum of (i) the net reduction in the Investments (other than Permitted Investments) made by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary in any Person resulting from repurchases, repayments or redemptions of such Investments by such Person, proceeds realized on the sale of such Investments and proceeds representing the return of capital (excluding dividends and distributions to the extent included in Consolidated Net Income), in each case received by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary since the Issue Date, and (ii) to the extent such Person is an Unrestricted Subsidiary, the portion (proportionate to the Company's equity interest in such Subsidiary) of the Fair Market Value of the net assets of such Unrestricted Subsidiary at the time such Unrestricted Subsidiary is designated a Restricted Subsidiary; provided, however, that to the extent the foregoing sum exceeds, in the case of any such Person or Unrestricted Subsidiary, the amount of Investments (excluding Permitted Investments) previously made (and treated as a Restricted Payment) by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary in such Person or Unrestricted Subsidiary since the Issue Date, such excess shall not be included in this clause (d) unless the amount represented by such excess has not been and will not be taken into account in one of the foregoing clauses (a)-(c).

The preceding provisions will not prohibit:

(1) the payment of any dividend or the consummation of any redemption within 60 days after the date of declaration or giving of redemption notice, as the case may be, thereof, if at said date of declaration or notice such payment would have complied with the provisions of the Indenture (and such payment shall be deemed to be paid on the date of payment for purposes of any calculation required by this covenant);

(2) any Restricted Payment made in exchange for, or out of the Net Cash Proceeds of the substantially concurrent sale (other than to a Subsidiary of the Company) of, Equity Interests of the Company (other than Disqualified Stock), with any such payment being deemed to be substantially concurrent if made within 180 days of the sale of the Equity Interests in question; provided that the amount of any such Net Cash Proceeds that are utilized for any such redemption, repurchase, retirement, defeasance or other acquisition shall be excluded from clause (3)(b) of the preceding paragraph;

(3) the defeasance, redemption, repurchase, retirement or other acquisition of any Subordinated Indebtedness of the Company or any Guarantor with the Net Cash Proceeds from an incurrence of any Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness permitted to be incurred under the caption "Incurrence of Indebtedness";

(4) the payment of any dividend or other distribution by a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company to the holders of its common Equity Interests on a pro rata basis or on a basis more favorable to the Company or any Restricted

Subsidiary;

(5) the repurchase, redemption or other acquisition or retirement for value of any Equity Interests of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company held by any employees, former employees, directors or former directors of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (or heirs, estates or other permitted

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transferees of such employees or directors) pursuant to any agreements (including employment agreements), management equity subscription agreements or stock option agreements or plans (or amendments thereto), approved by the Board of Directors, under which such individuals purchase or sell or are granted the right to purchase or sell shares of Capital Stock; provided that the aggregate price paid for all such repurchased, redeemed, acquired or retired Equity Interests shall not exceed \$15.0 million in any calendar year, with unused amounts in any calendar year being permitted to be carried over to succeeding calendar years subject to a maximum of \$30.0 million in any calendar year; provided, further, however, that such amount in any calendar year may be increased by an amount not to exceed:

(a) the cash proceeds received by the Company or any of the Restricted Subsidiaries from the sale of Equity Interests (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company or any direct or indirect parent of the Company (to the extent contributed to the Company) to members of management, directors, managers or consultants of the Company and the Restricted Subsidiaries or any direct or indirect parent of the Company that occurs after the Issue Date (provided that the amount of such cash proceeds utilized for any such repurchase, retirement, other acquisition or dividend will not increase the amount available for Restricted Payments under clause (3)(b) of the preceding paragraph), plus

(b) the cash proceeds of key man life insurance policies received by the Company or any direct or indirect parent of the Company (to the extent contributed to the Company) or the Restricted Subsidiaries after the Issue Date; provided that the Company may elect to apply all or any portion of the aggregate increase contemplated by clauses (a) and (b) above in any calendar year; and provided, further, that cancellation of Indebtedness owing to the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary from any present or former employees, directors, managers, officers or consultants of the Company, any Restricted Subsidiary or the direct or indirect parents of the Company in connection with a repurchase of Equity Interests of the Company or any of its direct or indirect parents will not be deemed to constitute a Restricted Payment for purposes of this covenant or any other provision of the Indenture;

(6) loans or advances to employees of the Company or employees or directors of any Subsidiary of the Company, in each case as permitted by Section 402 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the proceeds of which are used to purchase Capital Stock of the Company, or to refinance loans or advances made pursuant to this clause (6), in an aggregate amount not in excess of \$2.0 million at any one time outstanding;

(7) repurchases or other acquisitions for value of Capital Stock deemed to occur upon the exercise or exchange of stock options, warrants or other convertible securities if such Capital Stock represents a portion of the exercise or exchange price thereof or made in lieu of withholding taxes in connection with any such exercise or exchange;

(8) upon the occurrence of a Change of Control or an Asset Sale and within 60 days after the completion of the offer to repurchase the Notes under the covenants described under **Repurchase at the Option of Holders** **Change of Control** or **Asset Sales** above (including the purchase of all Notes tendered and required to be purchased), any purchase, repurchase, redemption, defeasance, acquisition or other retirement for value of Subordinated Indebtedness required under the terms thereof as a result of such Change of Control or Asset Sale at a purchase or redemption price not to exceed 101% of the outstanding principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon, if any, provided that, in the notice to Holders relating to a Change of Control or Asset Sale hereunder, the Company shall describe this clause (8);

(9) the purchase by the Company of fractional shares arising out of stock dividends, splits or business combinations or conversion of convertible or exchangeable securities of debt or equity issued by the Company;

(10) payments to dissenting stockholders (x) pursuant to applicable law or (y) in connection with the settlement or other satisfaction of legal claims made pursuant to or in connection with a consolidation, merger or transfer of assets in connection with a transaction that is not prohibited by the Indenture;

(11) dividends on Disqualified Stock of the Company or preferred stock of any Restricted Subsidiary if such dividends are included in the calculation of Fixed Charges;

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(12) payments made by any Person other than the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary to the stockholders of the Company in connection with or as part of (a) a merger or consolidation of the Company with or into such Person or a subsidiary of such Person, or (b) a merger of a subsidiary of such Person into the Company; or

(13) other Restricted Payments not to exceed \$25.0 million in the aggregate since the Issue Date.

The amount of all Restricted Payments (other than cash) shall be the Fair Market Value on the date of the Restricted Payment of the asset(s) or securities proposed to be transferred or issued by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, pursuant to the Restricted Payment. The Fair Market Value of any assets or securities other than cash that are required to be valued by this covenant will be determined, in the case of amounts in excess of \$20.0 million, by an officer of the Company and, in the case of amounts in excess of \$50.0 million, by the Board of Directors of the Company whose resolution with respect thereto will be delivered to the Trustee.

For purposes of determining compliance with this covenant, if a Restricted Payment meets the criteria of more than one of the types of Restricted Payments described in clauses (1)-(13) above or pursuant to the first paragraph of this covenant, the Company, in its sole discretion, may order and classify, and subsequently reorder and reclassify, such Restricted Payment in any manner in compliance with this covenant.

***Incurrence of Indebtedness***

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, create, incur, issue, assume, Guarantee or otherwise become directly or indirectly liable, contingently or otherwise, with respect to (collectively, *incur* ) any Indebtedness (including Acquired Debt); provided, however, that the Company and any Restricted Subsidiary may incur Indebtedness (including Acquired Debt), if the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio for the Company's most recently ended four full fiscal quarters for which internal financial statements are available immediately preceding the date on which such additional Indebtedness is incurred would have been at least 2.0 to 1.0, determined on a pro forma basis (including a pro forma application of the Net Cash Proceeds therefrom), as if the additional Indebtedness had been incurred at the beginning of such four-quarter period.

The first paragraph of this covenant will not prohibit the incurrence of any of the following items of Indebtedness (collectively, ***Permitted Indebtedness*** ):

(1) the incurrence by the Company and any Restricted Subsidiary of Indebtedness under one or more Credit Facilities; provided that the aggregate principal amount of all Indebtedness incurred under this clause (1) and outstanding at any time does not exceed an amount equal to the greater of (a) \$400.0 million and (b) the sum of (x) \$150.0 million and (y) 35.0% of ACNTA at the time of incurrence;

(2) the incurrence by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries of Existing Indebtedness (other than Indebtedness described under clauses (1), (3) or (6) of this paragraph);

(3) the incurrence by the Company and the Guarantors of Indebtedness represented by (a) the Notes and related Subsidiary Guarantees issued on the date of the Indenture and (b) any Notes and related Subsidiary Guarantees issued pursuant to a registration rights agreement in exchange for the Notes issued on the date of the Indenture.

(4) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Indebtedness represented by Capital Lease Obligations, mortgage financings, industrial revenue bonds, purchase money obligations or other Indebtedness or preferred stock, or synthetic lease obligations, in each case, incurred for the purpose of financing all or any part of the purchase price or cost of design, development, construction, installation or improvement of property (real or personal

and including Capital Stock), plant or equipment used in the business of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (in each case, whether through the direct purchase of such assets or the Equity Interests of any Person owning such assets), in an aggregate principal

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amount, taken together with Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness in respect thereof, that does not exceed the greater of \$50.0 million and 5.0% of ACNTA at the time of incurrence;

(5) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness in exchange for, or the Net Cash Proceeds of which are used to refund, refinance, replace, defease or discharge Indebtedness (other than intercompany Indebtedness) that was permitted by the Indenture to be incurred under the first paragraph of this covenant or clauses (2), (3), (4), (12) or (15) or this clause (5) of this paragraph;

(6) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of intercompany Indebtedness between or among the Company and any of its Restricted Subsidiaries; provided, however, that:

(a) (i) if the Company is the obligor on such Indebtedness and the obligee is not a Guarantor, such Indebtedness must be expressly subordinated to the prior payment in full in cash of all obligations with respect to the Notes, and (ii) if a Guarantor is the obligor of such Indebtedness and the obligee is neither the Company nor a Guarantor, such Indebtedness must be expressly subordinated to the prior payment in full in cash of all obligations of such Guarantor with respect to its Subsidiary Guarantee; and

(b) (i) any subsequent issuance or transfer of Equity Interests that results in any such Indebtedness being held by a Person other than the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary thereof and (ii) any sale or other transfer of any such Indebtedness to a Person that is not either the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary thereof, shall be deemed, in each case, to constitute an incurrence of such Indebtedness by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, that was not permitted by this clause;

(7) in-kind obligations relating to net oil and natural gas balancing positions arising in the ordinary course of business;

(8) self-insurance obligations and any obligations in respect of completion bonds, performance bonds, bid bonds, plugging and abandonment bonds, appeal bonds, surety bonds, bankers acceptances, letters of credit, insurance obligations or bonds and other similar bonds and obligations incurred by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary in the ordinary course of business and any Guarantees or letters of credit functioning as or supporting any of the foregoing bonds or obligations;

(9) any obligation (including deferred premiums) under Interest Rate Agreements, Currency Agreements and Commodity Agreements; provided, that such Interest Rate Agreements, Currency Agreements and Commodity Agreements are entered into for bona fide hedging purposes of the Company or its Restricted Subsidiaries (as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors or senior management of the Company);

(10) any obligation arising from agreements of the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary providing for indemnification, Guarantee, adjustment of purchase price, holdback, contingency payment obligation based on the performance of the acquired or disposed asset or similar obligations, in each case, incurred or assumed in connection with the acquisition or disposition of any business, asset or Capital Stock;

(11) any obligation arising from the honoring by a bank or other financial institution of a check, draft or similar instrument drawn against insufficient funds in the ordinary course of business, provided, however, that such Indebtedness is extinguished within five Business Days of incurrence;

(12) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Permitted Acquisition Indebtedness;

(13) any Guarantee of Indebtedness of the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary to the extent that the guaranteed Indebtedness was permitted to be incurred by another provision of this covenant; provided that if the Indebtedness being guaranteed is subordinated or pari passu with the Notes, the Guarantee must be subordinated or pari passu, as applicable, to the same extent as the Indebtedness guaranteed;

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(14) Indebtedness incurred on behalf of, or representing guarantees of Indebtedness of, Persons other than the Company or any Restricted Subsidiaries in which the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary has an Investment; provided, however, that the aggregate principal amount of Indebtedness incurred under this clause (14), when aggregated with the principal amount of all other Indebtedness then outstanding and incurred pursuant to this clause (14), does not exceed the greater of \$35.0 million and 5.0% of ACNTA at the time of incurrence; and

(15) the incurrence by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of Indebtedness in addition to Indebtedness permitted by clauses (1) through (14) above or the first paragraph above in an aggregate principal amount (or accreted value, as applicable) at any time outstanding, including all Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness incurred to renew, refund, refinance, replace, defease or discharge any Indebtedness incurred pursuant to this clause (15), not to exceed the greater of (a) \$75.0 million and (b) 5.0% of the Company's ACNTA, determined as of the date of incurrence of such Indebtedness after giving effect to such incurrence and the application of the proceeds therefrom.

For purposes of determining compliance with this Indebtedness covenant:

(1) in the event that an item of proposed Indebtedness meets the criteria of more than one of the categories of Permitted Indebtedness described in clauses (1) through (15) above, or is entitled to be incurred pursuant to the first paragraph of this covenant, the Company will be permitted to classify such item of Indebtedness (or any portion thereof) on the date of its incurrence and, subject to clause (2) below, may later reclassify such items of Indebtedness (or any portion thereof), in any manner that complies with this covenant, and only be required to include the amount and type of such Indebtedness in one of such clauses or may include the amount and type of such Indebtedness partially in one such clause and partially in one or more other such clauses;

(2) all Indebtedness outstanding on the Issue Date under the Credit Agreement after giving effect to this offering and the use of proceeds described herein shall be deemed initially incurred on the Issue Date under clause (1) of the second paragraph of this covenant and not the first paragraph or clause (2) of the second paragraph of this covenant;

(3) Guarantees of, or obligations in respect of letters of credit relating to, Indebtedness which is otherwise included in the determination of a particular amount of Indebtedness shall not be included;

(4) the amount of Indebtedness issued at a price that is less than the principal amount thereof will be equal to the amount of the liability in respect thereof determined in accordance with GAAP;

(5) Indebtedness of any Person existing at the time such Person becomes a Restricted Subsidiary shall be deemed to have been incurred by the Company and the Restricted Subsidiary at the time such Person becomes a Restricted Subsidiary; and

(6) the accrual of interest or dividends, the accretion or amortization of original issue discount, the payment of interest on any Indebtedness in the form of additional Indebtedness with the same terms, the reclassification of preferred equity as Indebtedness due to a change in accounting principles, the payment of dividends on Disqualified Stock or preferred equity in the form of additional shares of the same class of Disqualified Stock or preferred equity will not be deemed to be an incurrence of Indebtedness or an issuance of Disqualified Stock or preferred equity for purposes of this covenant.

For purposes of determining compliance with any U.S. dollar-denominated restriction on the incurrence of Indebtedness, the U.S. dollar-equivalent principal amount of Indebtedness denominated in a foreign currency shall be calculated based on the relevant currency exchange rate in effect on the date such Indebtedness was incurred, in the case of term Indebtedness, or first committed, in the case of revolving credit Indebtedness; *provided* that if such

Indebtedness is incurred to refinance other Indebtedness denominated in a foreign currency, and such refinancing would cause the applicable U.S. dollar-dominated restriction to be exceeded if calculated at the relevant currency exchange rate in effect on the date of such refinancing, such U.S. dollar-dominated

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restriction shall be deemed not to have been exceeded so long as the principal amount of such refinancing Indebtedness does not exceed the principal amount of such Indebtedness being refinanced. Notwithstanding any other provision of this covenant, the maximum amount of Indebtedness that the Company may incur pursuant to this covenant shall not be deemed to be exceeded solely as a result of fluctuations in the exchange rate of currencies. The principal amount of any Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness, if incurred in a different currency from the Indebtedness being refinanced, shall be calculated based on the currency exchange rate applicable to the currencies in which such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness is denominated that is in effect on the date of such refinancing.

***Liens***

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to create, incur, assume or suffer to exist any Lien on any property or asset now owned or hereafter acquired, except Permitted Liens, to secure (a) any Indebtedness of the Company unless prior to, or contemporaneously therewith, the Notes are equally and ratably secured for so long as such other Indebtedness is so secured, or (b) any Indebtedness of any Guarantor, unless prior to, or contemporaneously therewith, the Subsidiary Guarantee of such Guarantor is equally and ratably secured for so long as such other Indebtedness is so secured; *provided, however*, that if such Indebtedness is expressly subordinated to the Notes or a Subsidiary Guarantee, the Lien securing such Indebtedness will be subordinated and junior to the Lien securing the Notes or such Subsidiary Guarantee, as the case may be, with the same relative priority as such Indebtedness has with respect to the Notes or such Subsidiary Guarantee.

***Dividend and Other Payment Restrictions Affecting Subsidiaries***

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, create or permit to exist or become effective any consensual encumbrance or restriction on the ability of any Restricted Subsidiary to:

- (a) pay dividends or make any other distributions on its Capital Stock to the Company or any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries, or pay any Indebtedness owed to the Company or any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries (it being understood that the priority of any preferred stock in receiving dividends, distributions or liquidating distributions prior to dividends, distributions or liquidating distributions being paid on Capital Stock shall not be deemed a restriction on the ability to make distributions on Capital Stock);
- (b) make loans or advances to the Company or any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries (it being understood that the subordination of loans or advances made to the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to other Indebtedness incurred by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries shall not be deemed a restriction on the ability to make loans or advances); or
- (c) transfer any of its properties or assets to the Company or any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries.

However, the preceding restrictions will not apply to encumbrances or restrictions existing under or by reason of:

- (1) agreements existing on the Issue Date, including the Credit Agreement as in effect on the Issue Date and the Indenture, the Notes and the Subsidiary Guarantees;
- (2) any instrument governing Indebtedness or Capital Stock of a Person acquired by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries as in effect at the time of such acquisition (except to the extent such Indebtedness was incurred in connection with or in contemplation of such acquisition), which encumbrance or restriction is not applicable to any Person, or the properties or assets of any Person, other than the Person, or the property or assets of the Person, so acquired, provided that, in the case of Indebtedness, such Indebtedness was permitted by the terms of the Indenture to

be incurred;

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- (3) any agreement for the sale or other disposition of Capital Stock or assets of a Restricted Subsidiary that restricts distributions by such Restricted Subsidiary pending such sale or other disposition;
- (4) any amendment, restatement, modification, supplement, extension, renewal, refunding, replacement or refinancing of Indebtedness referred to in clauses (1) or (2), provided that the encumbrances or restrictions contained in the agreements governing the foregoing are not materially more restrictive, taken as a whole, than those contained in the agreements governing such Indebtedness as determined in good faith by the Company;
- (5) cash or other deposits, or net worth requirements or similar requirements, imposed by suppliers, or other deposits by parties under agreements entered into in the ordinary course of the Oil and Gas Business of the types described in the definition of Permitted Business Investments;
- (6) any applicable law, rule, regulation, order, approval, license, permit or similar restriction;
- (7) provisions limiting the disposition or distribution of assets or property or transfer of Capital Stock in joint venture agreements, asset sale agreements, sale-leaseback agreements, stock sale agreements, limited liability company organizational documents, and other similar agreements entered into in the ordinary course of business, consistent with past practice or with the approval of the Company's Board of Directors or any of its officers, which limitation is applicable only to the assets, property or Capital Stock that are the subject of such agreements;
- (8) any encumbrance or restriction contained in the terms of any Indebtedness or Capital Stock permitted to be incurred under the Indenture or any agreement pursuant to which such Indebtedness was incurred if either (x) in the case of Indebtedness, the encumbrance or restriction applies only in the event of a payment default or a default with respect to a financial covenant in such Indebtedness or agreement or (y) the Company determines that any such encumbrance or restriction either (i) will not materially affect the Company's ability to make principal or interest payments on the Notes and such restrictions are not materially less favorable to Holders of Notes than is customary in comparable financings or (ii) are not materially more restrictive, taken as a whole, with respect to any Restricted Subsidiary than those in effect on the Issue Date with respect to that Restricted Subsidiary pursuant to agreements in effect on the Issue Date or those contained in the Indenture or the Credit Agreement, in each case as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors or an officer of the Company;
- (9) encumbrances or restrictions applicable only to a Restricted Subsidiary that is not a Domestic Subsidiary;
- (10) any encumbrance or restriction with respect to an Unrestricted Subsidiary pursuant to or by reason of an agreement that the Unrestricted Subsidiary is a party to or entered into before the date on which such Unrestricted Subsidiary became a Restricted Subsidiary; provided that such agreement was not entered into in anticipation of the Unrestricted Subsidiary becoming a Restricted Subsidiary and any such encumbrance or restriction does not extend to any assets or property of the Company or any other Restricted Subsidiary other than the assets and property of such Unrestricted Subsidiary; and
- (11) with respect to clause (c) of the preceding paragraph only, any of the following encumbrances or restrictions:
- (a) purchase money obligations for property acquired in the ordinary course of business or otherwise permitted under the Indenture that impose restrictions on the property so acquired;
- (b) Permitted Liens or Liens securing Indebtedness otherwise permitted to be incurred pursuant to the provisions of the covenant described above under the caption "Liens" that limit the right of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to dispose of the assets subject to such Lien;

(c) restrictions contained in asset sale agreements limiting the transfer of such assets pending the closing of such sale;

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(d) restrictions on the subletting, assignment or transfer of any property or asset that is subject to a lease, license, sub-license or similar contract, or on the assignment or transfer of any such lease, license, sub-license or other contract;

(e) agreements governing Hedging Obligations entered into in the ordinary course of business; and

(f) customary restrictions on the disposition or distribution of assets or property in agreements entered into in the ordinary course of the Oil and Gas Business of the types described in the definition of Permitted Business Investments.

***Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets***

The Company may not: (1) consolidate or merge with or into another Person (whether or not the Company is the surviving corporation); or (2) sell, assign, transfer, lease, convey or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of the properties or assets of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries taken as a whole, in one or more related transactions, to another Person, unless:

(1) either:

(a) the Company is the surviving corporation; or

(b) the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Company) or to which such sale, assignment, transfer, lease, conveyance or other disposition shall have been made is a Person existing under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

(2) the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Company) or the Person to which such sale, assignment, transfer, lease, conveyance or other disposition shall have been made assumes all the obligations of the Company under the Notes and the Indenture pursuant to a supplemental indenture reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee;

(3) immediately after such transaction no Default or Event of Default exists;

(4) either (a) the Company or the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Company) would, on the date of such transaction after giving pro forma effect thereto and any related financing transactions as if the same had occurred at the beginning of the applicable four-quarter period, be permitted to incur at least \$1.00 of additional Indebtedness pursuant to the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test set forth in the first paragraph of the covenant described above under the caption **Certain Covenants Incurrence of Indebtedness** or (b) immediately after giving effect to such transaction on a pro forma basis and any related financing transactions as if the same had occurred at the beginning of the applicable four-quarter period, the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio of the Company is equal to or greater than the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio of the Company immediately before such transaction; and

(5) the Company has delivered to the Trustee an officers' certificate and an Opinion of Counsel, each stating that such consolidation, merger or disposition and such supplemental indenture (if any) comply with the Indenture and all conditions precedent therein relating to such transaction have been satisfied and an Opinion of Counsel stating that the Notes and the indenture constitute the valid and binding obligations of the Company (or, if applicable, the successor company).

The surviving or transferee Person in any of the above transactions (if not the Company) will succeed to, and be substituted for the Company under the Indenture and the Notes and the Company (if not the surviving Person) will be fully released from its obligations under the Indenture and the Notes, except in the case of a lease of all or substantially all of its assets.

For purposes of this covenant, the sale, assignment, transfer, lease, conveyance or other disposition of all or substantially all of the properties or assets of one or more Subsidiaries of the Company, which properties or

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assets, if held by the Company instead of such Subsidiaries, would constitute all or substantially all of the properties or assets of the Company on a consolidated basis, shall be deemed to be the transfer of all or substantially all of the properties or assets of the Company.

Although there is a limited body of case law interpreting the phrase substantially all, there is no precise established definition of the phrase under applicable law. Accordingly, in certain circumstances there may be a degree of uncertainty as to whether a particular transaction would involve all or substantially all of the properties or assets of a Person.

Clauses (3) and (4) of this Merger, Consolidation, or Sale of Assets covenant will not apply to a sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of assets between or among the Company and any of its Restricted Subsidiaries that are Guarantors.

***Transactions with Affiliates***

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to, make any payment to, or sell, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of any of its properties or assets to, or purchase any property or assets from, or enter into or make or amend any transaction, contract, agreement, understanding, loan, advance or Guarantee with, or for the benefit of, any Affiliate (each, an Affiliate Transaction ) involving aggregate consideration to or from the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary in excess of \$5.0 million, unless:

(1) such Affiliate Transaction is on terms that are no less favorable to the Company or the relevant Restricted Subsidiary than those that could reasonably be expected to be obtained at the time of such transaction in arm's-length dealings by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary with a Person that is not an Affiliate or, if in the good faith judgment of the Company, no comparable transaction is available with which to compare such Affiliate Transaction, such Affiliate Transaction is otherwise fair to the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary from a financial point of view; and

(2) (a) the Company delivers to the Trustee with respect to any Affiliate Transaction or series of related Affiliate Transactions involving aggregate consideration to or from the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary in excess of \$20.0 million, an officers' certificate certifying that such Affiliate Transaction complies with the requirements of clause (1) above, and (b) with respect to any Affiliate Transaction or series of related Affiliate Transactions involving aggregate consideration to or from the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary in excess of \$50.0 million, a majority of the Disinterested Members of the Board of Directors, if any, (or, if there is only one Disinterested Member, such Disinterested Member) have approved such Affiliate Transaction(s), as evidenced by a resolution delivered to the Trustee and certified by an officers' certificate as having been adopted by the Board of Directors.

The following items shall not be deemed to be Affiliate Transactions and, therefore, will not be subject to the provisions of the prior paragraph:

(1) any employment or severance agreement or other employee, consulting, service, termination or director compensation agreement, arrangement or plan, (or any amendment thereto with respect thereto), or indemnification agreements, entered into by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary with officers and employees of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary thereof and the payment of compensation to officers and employees of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary thereof (including amounts paid pursuant to employee benefit plans, employee stock option or similar plans), so long as such agreement or payment is in the ordinary course of business or has been approved by a majority of the Disinterested Members of the Board of Directors (or, if there is only one Disinterested Member, such Disinterested Member);

(2) transactions between or among the Company and/or its Restricted Subsidiaries;

(3) Restricted Payments that, in each case, are permitted by the provisions of the Indenture described above under the caption Restricted Payments or Permitted Investments;

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(4) customary compensation, indemnification and other benefits made available to officers, directors or employees of the Company or any Affiliate of the Company, including reimbursement or advancement of out-of-pocket expenses and provisions of officers and directors liability insurance;

(5) loans or advances to employees, officers or directors in the ordinary course of business of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, in each case only as permitted by Section 402 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, but in any event not to exceed \$2.0 million in the aggregate outstanding at any one time;

(6) any transactions undertaken pursuant to any contracts in existence on the Issue Date (as in effect on the Issue Date) and any renewals, replacements or modifications of such contracts (pursuant to new transactions or otherwise) on terms no less favorable to the holders of the Notes than those in effect on the Issue Date;

(7) in the case of (i) contracts for (A) drilling or other oil-field services or supplies, (B) the sale, storage, gathering, processing, treating, transport or disposal of hydrocarbons or water or activities or services reasonably related thereto or (C) the lease or rental of office or storage space or (ii) other operation type or administrative services contracts, any such contracts that are entered into in the ordinary course of business (x) which are fair to the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries, in the good faith determination of the Board of Directors of the Company or the senior management thereof or (y) which are on terms substantially similar to those contained in similar contracts entered into by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary and third parties or, if neither the Company nor any Restricted Subsidiary has entered into a similar contract with a third party, that the terms are on the whole not materially less favorable than those that would be reasonably expected to be available from third parties on an arm's-length basis, as determined in good faith by the Company;

(8) transactions with a Person (other than an Unrestricted Subsidiary) that is an Affiliate of the Company solely because the Company owns, directly or through a Subsidiary, an Equity Interest in, or controls, such Person;

(9) any sale or other issuance of Equity Interests (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company to, or receipt of a capital contribution from, an Affiliate (or a Person that becomes an Affiliate) of the Company;

(10) any transaction in which the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, as the case may be, deliver to the Trustee a letter from an accounting, appraisal or investment banking firm of national standing stating that such transaction meets the requirements of clause (1) of the first paragraph of this covenant;

(11) any Transaction between the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary on the one hand and any Person deemed to be an Affiliate solely because a director of such Person is also a director of the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary, on the other hand; provided that such director abstains from voting as a director of the Company or the Restricted Subsidiary, as applicable, in connection with the approval of the transaction; and

(12) Transactions with customers, clients, suppliers or purchasers or sellers of goods or services, in each case in the ordinary course of the business of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries and otherwise in compliance with the Indenture; provided that such Transactions are on terms substantially similar to those obtained by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary in similar Transactions with third parties or, if neither the Company nor any Restricted Subsidiary has entered into a similar Transaction with a third party, that are on the whole not materially less favorable than those that would be reasonably expected to be available from third parties on an arm's-length basis, as determined in good faith by the Company.

***Additional Subsidiary Guarantees***

If, after the Issue Date, any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company that is not already a Guarantor guarantees any Indebtedness of the Company or any Guarantor under a Credit Facility, then that Subsidiary will become a Guarantor by executing a supplemental indenture and delivering it and an officers certificate stating that the execution of the supplemental indenture is authorized by the indenture and the Notes to the Trustee within 30 days of the date on which it guaranteed such Indebtedness. Any such guarantee shall be subject to release as described under Subsidiary Guarantees.

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### ***Business Activities***

The Company will not, and will not permit any Restricted Subsidiary to, engage in any business other than the Oil and Gas Business, except to such extent as would not be material to the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries taken as a whole.

### ***Reports***

Whether or not required by the SEC, so long as any Notes are outstanding, the Company will furnish to the Holders of Notes, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and regulations:

(1) all quarterly and annual financial information that would be required to be contained in a filing with the SEC on Forms 10-Q and 10-K if the Company were required to file such Forms, including a section on Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and, with respect to the annual information only, a report on the annual financial statements by the Company's certified independent public accountants; and

(2) all current reports that would be required to be filed with the SEC on Form 8-K if the Company were required to file such reports.

If the Company has designated as an Unrestricted Subsidiary any of its Subsidiaries that is a Significant Subsidiary (or that, taken together with other Unrestricted Subsidiaries, would be a Significant Subsidiary), then the quarterly and annual financial information required by the preceding paragraph shall include a reasonably detailed presentation, either on the face of the financial statements or in the footnotes thereto, and in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, of the financial condition and results of operations of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries separate from the financial condition and results of operations of the Unrestricted Subsidiaries of the Company.

The availability of the foregoing materials on the SEC's website or on the Company's website shall be deemed to satisfy the foregoing delivery obligations.

In the event that any direct or indirect parent company of the Company becomes a guarantor of the Notes, the Company may satisfy its obligations in this covenant with respect to financial information relating to the Company by furnishing financial information relating to such parent company; provided that the same is accompanied by consolidating information that explains in reasonable detail the differences between the information relating to such parent, on the one hand, and the information relating to the Company and its Subsidiaries on a standalone basis, on the other hand.

In addition, the Company will agree that, for so long as any Notes remain outstanding and are restricted securities under Rule 144 under the Securities Act, if at any time it is not required to file with the SEC the reports required by the preceding paragraphs, it will furnish to beneficial owners of Notes and to prospective investors, upon request, the information required to be delivered pursuant to Rule 144A(d)(4) under the Securities Act.

### **Covenant Termination**

From and after the occurrence of an Investment Grade Rating Event, the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries will no longer be subject to the provisions of the Indenture described in Repurchase at the Option of Holders Asset Sales or in Certain Covenants above under the following headings:

Restricted Payments,

Incurrence of Indebtedness,

Dividend and Other Payment Restrictions Affecting Subsidiaries,

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Clause (4) of Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets,

Transactions with Affiliates, and

Business Activities

(collectively, the ***Eliminated Covenants*** ). As a result, after the date on which the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries are no longer subject to the Eliminated Covenants, the Notes will be entitled to substantially reduced covenant protection.

After the foregoing covenants have been terminated, the Company may not designate any of its Subsidiaries as Unrestricted Subsidiaries pursuant to the second sentence of the definition of Unrestricted Subsidiary.

**Events of Default and Remedies**

Each of the following is an Event of Default:

- (1) default for 30 days in the payment when due of interest on the Notes;
- (2) default in payment when due of the principal of or premium, if any, on the Notes;
- (3) failure by the Company to comply with its obligations to offer to purchase or purchase Notes under the provisions described under the captions Repurchase at the Option of the Holders Change of Control and Asset Sales or its failure to comply with the provisions described under the caption Certain Covenants Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets ;
- (4) failure by the Company for 180 days after receipt of written notice from the Trustee or the Holders of 25% in principal amount of the Notes to comply with the provisions described under the caption Certain Covenants Reports ;
- (5) failure by the Company for 60 days after receipt of written notice from the Trustee or the Holders of 25% in principal amount of the Notes to comply with any of its other agreements in the Indenture;
- (6) default under any mortgage, indenture or instrument under which there is issued or by which there is secured or evidenced any Indebtedness for money borrowed by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (or the payment of which is Guaranteed by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries), whether such Indebtedness or Guarantee now exists, or is created after the Issue Date, if that default:
  - (a) is caused by a failure to pay when due any principal on such Indebtedness prior to the expiration of the grace period provided in such Indebtedness (a ***Payment Default*** ); or
  - (b) results in the acceleration of such Indebtedness prior to its Stated Maturity, and, in each case, the principal amount of any such Indebtedness, together with the principal amount of any other such Indebtedness under which there has been a Payment Default or the maturity of which has been so accelerated, aggregates \$25.0 million or more (the ***Cross-Acceleration Provision*** ); *provided, however*, that if any such Payment Default is cured or waived or any such acceleration rescinded, or such Indebtedness is repaid, within a period of 30 days from the continuation of such Payment Default beyond the applicable grace period or the occurrence of such acceleration, as the case may be, such Event of Default and any consequential acceleration of the Notes shall be automatically rescinded, so long as such rescission does not conflict with any judgment or decree;

(7) failure by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to pay final judgments entered by a court or courts of competent jurisdiction aggregating in excess of \$25.0 million (net of any amounts covered by insurance or a binding indemnity agreement), which judgments are not paid, discharged or stayed for a period of 60 days (the ***Judgment Provision*** );

(8) any Subsidiary Guarantee of a Guarantor shall be held in any judicial proceeding to be unenforceable or invalid or, except as permitted by the Indenture, shall cease for any reason to be in full

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force and effect or any Guarantor, or any Person acting on behalf of any Guarantor, shall deny or disaffirm its obligations under its Subsidiary Guarantee (the ***Guarantee Default Provision*** ), in each case with respect to any Guarantor that is a Significant Subsidiary or any group of Guarantors that, taken together, would constitute a Significant Subsidiary; and

(9) certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency with respect to the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary that is a Significant Subsidiary or any group of Restricted Subsidiaries that, taken together, would constitute a Significant Subsidiary (the ***Bankruptcy Provision*** ).

In the case of an Event of Default arising from certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency with respect to the Company, any Restricted Subsidiary that is a Significant Subsidiary or any group of Restricted Subsidiaries that, taken together, would constitute a Significant Subsidiary, all outstanding Notes will become due and payable immediately without further action or notice. If any other Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee or the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may declare all the Notes to be due and payable immediately. Under certain circumstances, the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may rescind an acceleration with respect to the Notes and its consequences.

Holders of the Notes may not enforce the Indenture or the Notes except as provided in the Indenture.

Subject to certain limitations, Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes may direct the Trustee in its exercise of any trust or power. The Trustee may withhold from Holders of the Notes notice of any continuing Default or Event of Default (except a Default or Event of Default relating to the payment of principal, premium or interest) if it determines that withholding notice is in their interest.

The Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Notes then outstanding by notice to the Trustee may on behalf of the Holders of all of the Notes waive any existing Default or Event of Default and its consequences under the Indenture except a Default or Event of Default in respect of a provision that under Amendment, Supplement and Waiver below cannot be amended or waived without the consent of each Holder affected.

The Company is required to deliver to the Trustee annually a statement regarding compliance with the Indenture. Upon becoming aware of any Default or Event of Default, the Company is required to deliver to the Trustee a statement specifying such Default or Event of Default.

## **No Personal Liability of Directors, Officers, Employees and Stockholders**

No director, officer, employee, incorporator, member, partner, stockholder or other owner of the Capital Stock of the Company or any Guarantor, as such, shall have any liability for any obligations of the Company or the Guarantors under the Notes, the Indenture, the Subsidiary Guarantees, the Registration Rights Agreement or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each Holder of Notes by accepting a Note waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for issuance of the Notes.

## **Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance**

The Company may, at its option and at any time, elect to have all of its obligations discharged with respect to the outstanding Notes and the Indenture and all obligations of the Guarantors discharged with respect to their Subsidiary Guarantees ( ***Legal Defeasance*** ) except for:

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(1) the rights of Holders of outstanding Notes to receive payments in respect of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on such Notes when such payments are due from the trust referred to below;

(2) the Company's obligations with respect to the Notes concerning issuing temporary Notes, registration of Notes, mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen Notes and the maintenance of an office or agency for payment and money for security payments held in trust;

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(3) the rights, powers, trusts, duties and immunities of the Trustee, and the Company's obligations in connection therewith; and

(4) the Legal Defeasance provisions of the Indenture.

In addition, the Company may, at its option and at any time, elect to terminate its obligations under Repurchase at the Option of Holders Change of Control and Asset Sales and under the covenants described under Certain Covenants (other than the covenant described under Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets ), the operation of the Cross-Acceleration Provision, the Judgment Provision, the Guarantee Default Provision and (with respect only to Significant Subsidiaries) the Bankruptcy Provision described under Events of Default and Remedies above and the limitations contained in clause (4) of the first paragraph under Certain Covenants Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets above (collectively, Covenant Defeasance ) and certain other covenants or obligations of the Company set forth in the Indenture, and thereafter any omission to comply with such obligations or provisions will not constitute a Default or Event of Default.

The Company may exercise its Legal Defeasance option notwithstanding its prior exercise of its Covenant Defeasance option. If the Company exercises its Legal Defeasance option, payment of the Notes may not be accelerated because of any Event of Default. If the Company exercises its Covenant Defeasance option, payment of the Notes may not be accelerated because of an Event of Default specified in clauses (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) or (with respect only to Significant Subsidiaries) (9) under Events of Default and Remedies above or because of the failure of the Company to comply with clause (4) of the first paragraph under Certain Covenants Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets above. If the Company exercises its Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance option, each Guarantor will be released from its obligations with respect to its Subsidiary Guarantee.

In order to exercise either Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance:

(1) the Company must irrevocably deposit with the Trustee, in trust, for the benefit of the Holders of the Notes, cash in U.S. dollars, non-callable Government Securities, or a combination thereof, in such amounts as will be sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants, to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the outstanding Notes on the Stated Maturity or on the applicable redemption date, as the case may be, and the Company must specify whether the Notes are being defeased to Stated Maturity or to a particular redemption date (provided that if such redemption is made as provided in the second paragraph under Optional Redemption, (x) the amount of cash in U.S. dollars, non-callable Government Securities, or a combination thereof, that must be irrevocably deposited will be determined using an assumed Make Whole Premium calculated as of the date of such deposit and (y) the depositor must irrevocably deposit or cause to be deposited additional money in trust on the redemption date as necessary to pay the Make Whole Premium as determined on such date);

(2) in the case of Legal Defeasance, the Company shall have delivered to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel reasonably acceptable to the Trustee confirming that (a) the Company has received from, or there has been published by, the Internal Revenue Service a ruling or (b) since the Issue Date, there has been a change in the applicable federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that, and based thereon such Opinion of Counsel shall confirm that, the Holders of the outstanding Notes will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Legal Defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such Legal Defeasance had not occurred;

(3) in the case of Covenant Defeasance, the Company shall have delivered to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel reasonably acceptable to the Trustee confirming that the Holders of the outstanding Notes will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Covenant Defeasance and will be subject to federal

income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such Covenant Defeasance had not occurred;

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(4) no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such deposit (other than a Default or Event of Default resulting from the borrowing of funds to be applied to such deposit or the grant of any Lien securing such borrowings);

(5) such Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance will not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under any material agreement or instrument (other than the Indenture and the agreements governing any other Indebtedness being defeased, discharged or replaced) to which the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries is a party or by which the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries is bound;

(6) the Company must deliver to the Trustee an officers certificate stating that the deposit was not made by the Company with the intent of preferring the Holders of Notes over the other creditors of the Company with the intent of defeating, hindering, delaying or defrauding creditors of the Company or others; and

(7) the Company must deliver to the Trustee an officers certificate and an Opinion of Counsel, stating that all conditions precedent relating to the Legal Defeasance or the Covenant Defeasance have been complied with.

## **Satisfaction and Discharge**

The Company may discharge its and the Guarantors obligations under the Indenture if (a) all outstanding Notes have been delivered to the Trustee for cancellation, (b) all outstanding Notes have become due and payable at their scheduled maturity or (c) all outstanding Notes are scheduled for redemption within one year by reason of a mailing of a notice of redemption or otherwise, and the Company has deposited with the Trustee an amount of cash in U.S. dollars sufficient to pay and discharge all outstanding Notes, not previously delivered for cancellation, on the date of their scheduled maturity or the scheduled date of redemption.

## **Amendment, Supplement and Waiver**

Except as provided below, the Indenture, the Notes and the Subsidiary Guarantees may be amended with the consent of the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the Notes then outstanding (including consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer or exchange offer for, Notes), and any existing default or compliance with any provision of the Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees may be waived with the consent of the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes (including consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for Notes).

Without the consent of each Holder affected, an amendment, supplement or waiver may not (with respect to any Notes held by a non-consenting Holder):

(1) reduce the principal amount of Notes whose Holders must consent to an amendment, supplement or waiver;

(2) reduce the principal of or change the fixed maturity of any Note or alter or waive the provisions with respect to the redemption of the Notes (other than provisions relating to the covenants described above under the caption

Repurchase at the Option of Holders or provisions relating to minimum notices required for redemption of Notes described under the caption Optional Redemption );

(3) reduce the rate of or change the time for payment of interest on any Note;

(4) waive a Default or Event of Default in the payment of principal of or premium, if any, or interest on the Notes, except a Default in payments that have become due solely because of an acceleration of the Notes that has been

rescinded;

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- (5) make any Note payable in a currency other than that stated in the Notes;
- (6) make any change in the provisions of the Indenture relating to waivers of past Defaults or the rights of Holders of Notes to receive payments of principal of or premium, if any, or interest on the Notes (except as permitted by clause (2) above);
- (7) release any Guarantor from its obligations under its Subsidiary Guarantee except in accordance with the terms of the Indenture; or
- (8) make any change in the preceding amendment, supplement and waiver provisions.

Notwithstanding the preceding, without the consent of any Holder of Notes, the Company, the Guarantors and the Trustee may amend or supplement the Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees:

- (1) to cure any ambiguity, defect, inconsistency, omission or mistake;
- (2) to provide for uncertificated Notes in addition to or in place of certificated Notes;
- (3) to provide for the assumption of the Company's or a Guarantor's obligations to Holders of Notes in the case of a merger or consolidation or sale of all or substantially all of the Company's or a Guarantor's properties or assets in compliance with the Indenture;
- (4) to add or release Guarantors in compliance with the Indenture;
- (5) to make any change that would provide any additional rights or benefits to the Holders of Notes, add Events of Default or surrender any right or power conferred upon the Company or any Guarantor or that does not adversely affect in any material respect the legal rights under the Indenture of any such Holder;
- (6) to conform the text of the Indenture, the Notes or the Subsidiary Guarantees to this Description of the Exchange Notes ;
- (7) to secure the Notes, including pursuant to the requirements of the covenant described above under the caption Certain Covenants Liens ;
- (8) to comply with requirements of the SEC in order to effect or maintain the qualification of the Indenture under the Trust Indenture Act;
- (9) to comply with requirements of any securities depository with respect to the Notes; or
- (10) to provide for the issuance of the exchange notes or Additional Notes.

**Concerning the Trustee**

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association is the Trustee under the Indenture. Such bank is a lender under the Credit Agreement and has also been appointed as the exchange agent in connection with the exchange offer.

If the Trustee becomes a creditor of the Company or any Guarantor, the Indenture will limit its right to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or

otherwise. The Trustee will be permitted to engage in other transactions; however, if it acquires any conflicting interest after a Default has occurred and is continuing it must eliminate such conflict within 90 days, apply to the SEC for permission to continue or resign.

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The Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Notes will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for exercising any remedy available to the Trustee, subject to certain exceptions. If an Event of Default shall occur and be continuing, the Trustee will be required, in the exercise of its power, to use the degree of care of a prudent person in the conduct of his own affairs. Subject to such provisions, the Trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the Indenture at the request of any Holder of Notes, unless such Holder shall have offered to the Trustee security and indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense as provided in the Indenture.

## **Governing Law**

The Indenture, the Notes and the Subsidiary Guarantees will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

## **Additional Information**

Anyone who receives this prospectus may obtain a copy of the Indenture without charge by writing to Matador Resources Company, 5400 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1500, Dallas, Texas 75240, Attention: General Counsel.

## **Certain Definitions**

Set forth below are certain defined terms used in the Indenture. Reference is made to the Indenture for a full disclosure of all such terms, as well as any other capitalized terms used herein for which no definition is provided.

**ACNTA** means (without duplication), as of the date of determination:

(a) the sum of:

(i) discounted future net revenue from proved oil and natural gas reserves of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries calculated in accordance with SEC guidelines before any state or federal income taxes, as estimated by the Company or independent engineers in one or more reserve reports prepared as of the end of the Company's most recently completed fiscal year for which audited financial statements are available or, at the Company's option, the most recently completed fiscal quarter for which financial statements are available, as increased by, as of the date of determination, the estimated discounted future net revenues from:

(A) estimated proved oil and natural gas reserves of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries attributable to acquisitions consummated since the date of such year-end or quarterly reserve report, as applicable, and

(B) estimated proved oil and natural gas reserves of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries attributable to extensions, discoveries and other additions and upward determinations of estimates of proved oil and natural gas reserves (including previously estimated development costs incurred during the period and the accretion of discount since the prior year end) due to exploration,

development or exploitation, production or other activities which reserves were not reflected in such year-end or quarterly reserve report, as applicable, and decreased by, as of the date of determination, the discounted future net revenue attributable to:

- (C) estimated proved oil and natural gas reserves of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries reflected in such year-end or quarterly reserve report produced or disposed of since the date of such year-end or quarterly reserve report (before any state or federal income taxes), and
- (D) reductions in the estimated proved oil and natural gas reserves of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries reflected in such year-end or quarterly reserve report since the date of such year-end or quarterly reserve report attributable to downward determinations of estimates of proved oil and

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natural gas reserves due to exploration, development or exploitation, production or other activities conducted or otherwise occurring since the date of such year-end or quarterly reserve report, in the case of the preceding clauses (A) through (D), calculated in accordance with SEC guidelines (utilizing the prices utilized in such year-end or quarterly reserve report, as applicable) before any state or federal income taxes; provided, however, that, in the case of each of the determinations made pursuant to clauses (A) through (D), such increases and decreases shall be as estimated by the Company's internal engineers or third party engineers;

- (ii) the capitalized costs that are attributable to oil and natural gas properties of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries to which no proved oil and natural gas reserves are attributed, based on the Company's books and records as of a date no earlier than the date of the Company's latest annual or quarterly financial statements;
- (iii) the Net Working Capital on a date no earlier than the date of the Company's latest annual or quarterly financial statements; and
- (iv) the greater of (I) the net book value on a date no earlier than the date of the Company's latest annual or quarterly financial statements and (II) the appraised value, as estimated by independent appraisers within the immediately preceding 12 months, of other tangible assets of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries (provided that the Company shall not be required to obtain such an appraisal of such assets if no such appraisal has been performed);

*minus*

(b) to the extent not otherwise taken into account in the immediately preceding clause (a), the sum of:

- (i) minority interests;
- (ii) any net gas or other balancing liabilities of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries reflected in the Company's latest annual or quarterly financial statements;
- (iii) the discounted future net revenue, calculated in accordance with SEC guidelines (utilizing the same prices utilized in the Company's year-end reserve report) before any state or federal income taxes, attributable to reserves that are required to be delivered to third parties to fully satisfy the obligations of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries with respect to Volumetric Production Payments on the schedules specified with respect thereto; and
- (iv) the discounted future net revenue, calculated in accordance with SEC guidelines before any state or federal income taxes, attributable to reserves subject to Dollar-Denominated Production Payments that, based on the estimates of production included in determining the discounted future net revenue

specified in the immediately preceding clause (a)(i) (utilizing the same prices utilized in the Company's year-end reserve report), would be necessary to satisfy fully the obligations of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries with respect to Dollar-Denominated Production Payments on the schedules specified with respect thereto.

If the Company changes its method of accounting from the full cost method to the successful efforts method or a similar method of accounting, ACNTA will continue to be calculated as if the Company were still using the full cost method of accounting. For the avoidance of doubt, references in this definition to oil and natural gas reserves shall include any reserves attributable to natural gas liquids or other hydrocarbons.

***Acquired Debt*** means, with respect to any specified Person:

- (1) Indebtedness of any other Person existing at the time such other Person is merged with or into or became a Restricted Subsidiary of such specified Person, whether or not such Indebtedness is incurred in connection with, or in contemplation of, such other Person merging with or into, or becoming a Restricted Subsidiary of, such specified Person; and

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- (2) Indebtedness secured by a Lien encumbering any asset acquired by such specified Person, provided that the amount of any such Acquired Debt shall not exceed the Fair Market Value of the assets subject to such Lien.

**Affiliate** of any specified Person means any other Person directly or indirectly controlling or controlled by or under direct or indirect common control with such specified Person. For purposes of this definition, control, as used with respect to any Person, shall mean the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of such Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by agreement or otherwise. For purposes of this definition, the terms controlling, controlled by and under common control with shall have correlative meanings.

**Asset Sale** means:

- (1) the sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition (including, without limitation, by means of a sale and leaseback transaction) of any assets, including, without limitation, any sale of hydrocarbons or other mineral products as a result of the creation of Production Payments and Reserve Sales; *provided* that the sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries taken as a whole will be governed by the provisions of the Indenture described above under the caption Repurchase at the Option of Holders Change of Control, and/or the provisions described above under the caption Certain Covenants Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets and not by the provisions described above under the caption Certain Covenants Asset Sales ; and
- (2) the issuance of Equity Interests by any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries or the sale of Equity Interests in any of its Subsidiaries (other than directors' qualifying shares or shares required by applicable law to be held by a Person other than the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary).

Notwithstanding the preceding, the following items shall not be deemed to be Asset Sales:

- (1) any single transaction or series of related transactions that: (a) involves assets having a Fair Market Value of less than \$20.0 million; or (b) results in Net Proceeds to the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries of less than \$20.0 million;
- (2) a transfer of assets between or among the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries;
- (3) an issuance of Equity Interests by a Restricted Subsidiary to the Company or to another Restricted Subsidiary;
- (4) a disposition of cash or Cash Equivalents, inventory, accounts receivable, surplus or obsolete equipment or other similar property or any other disposition of property in the ordinary course of business (excluding the disposition of oil and gas in place and other interests in real property unless made in connection with a Permitted Business Investment) or the early termination or unwinding of any Hedging Obligation;

- (5) a Permitted Investment or a Restricted Payment that is permitted by the covenant described above under the caption Certain Covenants Restricted Payments ;
- (6) a disposition of oil, natural gas or other hydrocarbons or other mineral products in the ordinary course of business of the oil and gas production operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries;
- (7) any abandonment, relinquishment, farm-in, farm-out, lease and sub-lease of developed and/or undeveloped properties made or entered into in the ordinary course of business, but excluding any disposition as a result of the creation of a Production Payment and Reserve Sale;
- (8) the creation or perfection of a Lien or disposition of any asset subject to such Lien in connection with enforcement thereof;

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- (9) any trade or exchange by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of properties or assets used or useful in the Oil and Gas Business for other properties or assets used or useful in the Oil and Gas Business owned or held by another Person (including Capital Stock of a Person engaged in the Oil and Gas Business that is or becomes a Restricted Subsidiary), including any cash or Cash Equivalents necessary in order to achieve an exchange of equivalent value, provided that the Fair Market Value of the properties or assets traded or exchanged by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary (including any cash or Cash Equivalents to be delivered by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary) is reasonably equivalent to the Fair Market Value of the properties or assets (together with any cash or Cash Equivalents) to be received by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary, and provided, further, that any cash received in the transaction must be applied in accordance with the covenant described above under the caption **Repurchase at the Option of Holders Asset Sales** as if such transaction were an Asset Sale;
  - (10) the surrender or waiver of contract rights or the settlement, release or surrender of contract, tort or other claims of any kind;
  - (11) any assignment of an overriding royalty or net profits interest to an employee or consultant of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business in connection with the generation of prospects or the development of oil and natural gas projects;
  - (12) the sale or other disposition (whether or not in the ordinary course of business) of oil and gas properties, provided at the time of such sale or other disposition such properties do not have associated with them any proved reserves;
  - (13) any Production Payment or Reserve Sale, provided that any such Production Payment or Reserve Sales shall have been created, incurred, issued, assumed or guaranteed in connection with the acquisition or financing of, and within 180 days after the acquisition of, the property that is subject thereto;
  - (14) the licensing or sublicensing of intellectual property or other general intangibles to the extent that such license does not prohibit the licensor from using the intellectual property and licenses, leases or subleases of other property; and
  - (15) any sale of Equity Interests in, or Indebtedness or other securities of, an Unrestricted Subsidiary.
- Beneficial Owner** has the meaning assigned to such term in Rule 13d-3 and Rule 13d-5 under the Exchange Act.

**Board of Directors** means:

- (1) with respect to a corporation, the board of directors of the corporation or any committee thereof duly authorized to act on behalf of such board;

- (2) with respect to a partnership, the board of directors or other governing body of the general partner of the partnership;
- (3) with respect to a limited liability company, the board of directors or other governing body, and in the absence of same, the manager or board of managers or the managing member or members or any controlling committee thereof; and
- (4) with respect to any other Person, the board or committee of such Person serving a similar function.

**Board Resolution** means a copy of a resolution certified by the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of the applicable Person to have been duly adopted by the Board of Directors of such Person and to be in full force and effect on the date of such certification, and delivered to the Trustee.

**Business Day** means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which commercial banks in New York, New York or the Trustee are authorized or required by law to close.

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***Capital Lease Obligation*** means, at the time any determination thereof is to be made, the amount of the liability of a Person in respect of a capital lease that would at that time be required to be capitalized on a balance sheet of such Person in accordance with GAAP. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any lease (whether entered into before or after the Issue Date) that would have been classified as an operating lease pursuant to GAAP as in effect on the Issue Date will be deemed not to represent a Capital Lease Obligation.

***Capital Stock*** means:

- (1) in the case of a corporation, corporate stock;
- (2) in the case of an association or business entity, any and all shares, interests, participations, rights or other equivalents (however designated) of corporate stock;
- (3) in the case of a partnership or limited liability company, partnership or membership interests (whether general or limited); and
- (4) any other interest or participation (other than any debt security convertible into an equity interest) that confers on a Person the right to receive a share of the profits and losses of, or distributions of assets of, the issuing Person.

***Cash Equivalents*** means:

- (1) United States dollars;
- (2) securities issued or directly and fully guaranteed or insured by the United States government or any agency or instrumentality thereof (provided that the full faith and credit of the United States is pledged in support thereof) having maturities of not more than one year from the date of acquisition;
- (3) demand accounts, time deposit accounts, certificates of deposit and Eurodollar time deposits with maturities of 365 days or less from the date of acquisition, bankers' acceptances with maturities not exceeding 365 days and overnight bank deposits, in each case, with any domestic commercial bank having capital and surplus in excess of \$250.0 million and a Thomson Bank Watch Rating of B or better;
- (4) repurchase obligations with a term of not more than seven days for underlying securities of the types described in clauses (2) and (3) above entered into with any financial institution meeting the qualifications specified in clause (3) above;
- (5)

commercial paper having one of the two highest ratings obtainable from Moody's or S&P and in each case maturing within 365 days after the date of acquisition;

- (6) deposits and certificates of deposit with any commercial bank not meeting the qualifications specified in clause (3) above, provided all such deposits do not exceed \$1.0 million in the aggregate at any one time;
- (7) securities issued and fully guaranteed by any state, commonwealth or territory of the United States of America, or by any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof, rated at least A by Moody's or S&P and having maturities of not more than 365 days from the date of acquisition;
- (8) Indebtedness or preferred stock issued by Persons with a rating of A or higher from S&P or A-2 from Moody's, with maturities of 365 days or less from the date of acquisition; and
- (9) money market or other mutual funds substantially all of the assets of which constitute Cash Equivalents of the kinds described in clauses (1) through (8) of this definition.

***Change of Control*** means the occurrence of any of the following:

- (1) the sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition (other than by way of merger or consolidation), in one or a series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole;

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- (2) the adoption by the Board of Directors of a plan of liquidation or dissolution of the Company; or
- (3) the consummation of any transaction (including, without limitation, any merger or consolidation) the result of which is that any Person, entity or group (within the meaning of Section 13(d) or 14(d) of the Exchange Act), other than one or more Permitted Holders (or any intermediate companies owned or controlled directly or indirectly by one or more Permitted Holders), becomes the Beneficial Owner, directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of the Voting Stock of the Company, measured by voting power rather than number of shares.

**Commodity Agreement** means any oil or natural gas hedging agreement and other agreement or arrangement designed to protect the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary against or manage exposure to fluctuations in oil or natural gas prices and not for speculative purposes.

**Consolidated Net Income** means, with respect to any specified Person for any period, the aggregate of the net income of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, on a consolidated basis, determined in accordance with GAAP; provided that there shall be excluded therefrom:

- (1) the net income (or loss) of any Person that is not a Restricted Subsidiary or that is accounted for by the equity method of accounting, except to the extent of the amount of dividends or distributions paid in cash to the specified Person or a Restricted Subsidiary thereof;
- (2) the net income of any Restricted Subsidiary that is not a Subsidiary Guarantor to the extent that the declaration or payment of dividends or similar distributions by that Restricted Subsidiary of that net income is not at the date of determination permitted without any prior governmental approval (that has not been obtained) or, directly or indirectly, by operation of the terms of its charter or any agreement, instrument, judgment, decree, order, statute, rule or governmental regulation applicable to that Restricted Subsidiary or its stockholders;
- (3) the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principles;
- (4) any write-downs or impairments of non-current assets;
- (5) any unrealized non-cash gains or losses or charges in respect of hedge or non-hedge derivatives (including those resulting from the application of ASC 815);
- (6) any gain (or loss), together with any related provision for taxes on such gain (or loss), realized in connection with: (a) any Asset Sale or (b) the disposition of any securities by such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries or the extinguishment of any Indebtedness of such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries;
- (7)

any extraordinary or non-recurring gain (or loss), together with any related provision for taxes on such extraordinary or non-recurring gain (or loss); and

- (8) any non-cash compensation charge arising from any grant or vesting of stock, stock options or other equity-based awards.

**Credit Agreement** means the Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of September 28, 2012, among MRC Energy Company, as borrower, Royal Bank of Canada, as Administrative Agent, and the other lenders party thereto, including any related notes, guarantees, collateral documents, instruments and agreements executed in connection therewith, and in each case as amended, restated, modified, supplemented, extended, renewed, refunded, replaced or refinanced in whole or in part from time to time.

**Credit Facilities** means, with respect to the Company or any Guarantor, one or more credit facilities, debt facilities, indentures or commercial paper facilities (including, without limitation, the Credit Agreement), in each case with banks or other financial institutions or lenders or investors, providing for revolving credit loans, term loans, private placements, debt securities, receivables financings (including through the sale of receivables to

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such lenders or to special purpose entities formed to borrow from such lenders against such receivables) or letters of credit or letter of credit guarantees, in each case, as amended, restated, modified, supplemented, extended, renewed, refunded, replaced or refinanced in whole or in part from time to time.

***Currency Agreements*** means, at any time as to the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries, any foreign currency exchange agreement, option or future contract or other similar agreement or arrangement designed to protect against or manage the Company's or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries' exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates and not for speculative purposes.

***Customary Recourse Exceptions*** means, with respect to any Non-Recourse Debt of an Unrestricted Subsidiary, exclusions from the exculpation provisions with respect to such Non-Recourse Debt for the voluntary bankruptcy of such Unrestricted Subsidiary, fraud, misapplication of cash, environmental claims, waste, willful destruction and other circumstances customarily excluded by lenders from exculpation provisions or included in separate indemnification agreements in non-recourse financings.

***Default*** means any event that is, or with the passage of time or the giving of notice or both would be, an Event of Default.

***Disinterested Member*** means, with respect to any transaction, a member of the Company's Board of Directors who does not have any material direct or indirect financial interest (other than as an owner of Equity Interests in the Company or as an officer, manager or employee of the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary) in or with respect to such transaction and is not an Affiliate, or an officer, director, member of a supervisory, executive or management board or employee of any Person (other than the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary), who has any direct or indirect financial interest in or with respect to such transaction.

***Disqualified Stock*** means any Capital Stock that, by its terms (or by the terms of any security into which it is convertible, or for which it is exchangeable, in each case at the option of the holder thereof), or upon the happening of any event, matures or is mandatorily redeemable, for any consideration (other than Capital Stock) pursuant to a sinking fund obligation or otherwise, or is redeemable for any consideration (other than Capital Stock) at the option of the holder thereof, in whole or in part, on or prior to the date that is 91 days after the date on which the Notes mature. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, any Capital Stock that would constitute Disqualified Stock solely because the holders thereof have the right to require the Company to repurchase such Capital Stock upon the occurrence of a change of control or an asset sale shall not constitute Disqualified Stock if the terms of such Capital Stock provide that the Company may not repurchase or redeem any such Capital Stock pursuant to such provisions unless such repurchase or redemption complies with the covenant described above under the caption "Certain Covenants Restricted Payments."

***Dollar-Denominated Production Payments*** mean production payment obligations recorded as liabilities in accordance with GAAP, together with all undertakings and obligations in connection therewith.

***Domestic Subsidiary*** means any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company that is formed under the laws of the United States or any state of the United States or the District of Columbia.

***EBITDA*** means, with respect to any Person for any period, without duplication, the Consolidated Net Income of such Person for such period,

(i) plus the sum of the following, without duplication and to the extent deducted (and not added back) in calculating such Consolidated Net Income:

- (1) provision for taxes based on income or profits of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period;

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- (2) Fixed Charges of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period;
  - (3) depreciation, depletion, amortization (including amortization of goodwill and other intangibles but excluding amortization of prepaid cash expenses that were paid in a prior period), accretion, impairment and other non-cash expenses (excluding any such non-cash expense to the extent that it represents an accrual of or reserve for cash expenses in any future period or amortization of a prepaid cash expense that was paid in a prior period other than non-cash charges resulting from the application of ASC 410) of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period; and
  - (4) if such Person accounts for its oil and natural gas operations using successful efforts or a similar method of accounting, consolidated exploration and abandonment expense of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries;
- (ii) and minus the sum of:

- (1) non-cash items increasing such Consolidated Net Income for such period, other than items that were accrued in the ordinary course of business, in each case, on a consolidated basis and determined in accordance with GAAP; and
- (2) (to the extent included in determining Consolidated Net Income) the sum of (a) the amount of deferred revenues that are amortized during the period and are attributable to reserves that are subject to Volumetric Production Payments; and (b) amounts recorded in accordance with GAAP as repayments of principal and interest pursuant to Dollar-Denominated Production Payments.

**Equity Interests** mean Capital Stock and all warrants, options or other rights to acquire Capital Stock (but excluding any debt security that is convertible into, or exchangeable for, Capital Stock).

**Equity Offering** means any public or private sale after the date of the Indenture of Capital Stock (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company or any contribution to the capital of the Company in respect of Capital Stock (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company, other than issuances to any Subsidiary of the Company.

**Existing Indebtedness** means Indebtedness outstanding on the Issue Date, other than under the Credit Agreement.

**Fair Market Value** means, with respect to any Asset Sale (or Permitted Asset Exchange) or Restricted Payment (or Investment or Permitted Investment), the price that would be negotiated in an arm's length transaction between a willing seller and a willing and able buyer, neither of which is under any compulsion to complete the transaction, as such price is determined in good faith by the Board of Directors of the Company in the case of amounts of \$50.0 million or more and otherwise by an officer of the Company.

**Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio** means, with respect to any specified Person for any period, the ratio of the EBITDA of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period to the Fixed Charges of such Person for such period. In the event that the specified Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries incurs, assumes, Guarantees, redeems or repays any Indebtedness (other than revolving credit borrowings unless, in connection with any such repayment, the commitments to lend associated with such revolving credit borrowings are permanently reduced or canceled) or issues or redeems preferred stock subsequent to the commencement of the period for which the Fixed Charge Coverage

Ratio is being calculated but prior to the date on which the event for which the calculation of the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio is made (the Calculation Date ), then the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio shall be calculated giving pro forma effect to such incurrence, assumption, Guarantee, redemption or repayment of Indebtedness, or such issuance or redemption of preferred stock, as if the same had occurred at the beginning of the applicable four-quarter reference period.

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In addition, for purposes of calculating the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio:

- (1) acquisitions that have been made by the specified Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, including through mergers or consolidations and including any related financing transactions, and increases in ownership of Restricted Subsidiaries, during the four-quarter reference period or subsequent to such reference period and on or prior to the Calculation Date shall be given pro forma effect as if they had occurred on the first day of the four-quarter reference period;
- (2) the EBITDA attributable to discontinued operations, as determined in accordance with GAAP, and operations or businesses (and ownership interests therein) disposed of prior to the Calculation Date, shall be excluded;
- (3) the Fixed Charges attributable to discontinued operations, as determined in accordance with GAAP, and operations or businesses (and ownership interests therein) disposed of prior to the Calculation Date, shall be excluded, but only to the extent that the obligations giving rise to such Fixed Charges will not be obligations of the specified Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries following the Calculation Date;
- (4) any Person that is a Restricted Subsidiary on the Calculation Date will be deemed to have been a Restricted Subsidiary at all times during such four-quarter period; and
- (5) any Person that is not a Restricted Subsidiary on the Calculation Date will be deemed not to have been a Restricted Subsidiary at all times during such four-quarter period.

For purposes of this definition, whenever pro forma effect is to be given to any calculation under this definition, the pro forma calculations will be determined in good faith by a responsible financial or accounting officer of the Company; provided that such officer may in his or her discretion include any reasonably identifiable and factually supportable pro forma changes to EBITDA, including any pro forma expenses and cost reductions, that have occurred or in the judgment of such officer are reasonably expected to occur within 12 months of the date of the applicable transaction (regardless of whether such expense or cost reduction or any other operating improvements could then be reflected properly in pro forma financial statements prepared in accordance with Regulation S-X under the Securities Act or any other regulation or policy of the SEC). If any Indebtedness bears a floating rate of interest and is being given pro forma effect, the interest expense on such Indebtedness will be calculated as if the average rate in effect from the beginning of such period to the date of determination had been the applicable rate for the entire period (taking into account any Interest Rate Agreement applicable to such Indebtedness, but if the remaining term of such Interest Rate Agreement is less than 12 months, then such Interest Rate Agreement shall only be taken into account for that portion of the period equal to the remaining term thereof). If any Indebtedness that is being given pro forma effect bears an interest rate at the option of the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary, the interest rate shall be calculated by applying such optional rate chosen by the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary. Interest on Indebtedness that may optionally be determined at an interest rate based upon a factor of a prime or similar rate, a Eurocurrency interbank offered rate, or other rate, shall be deemed to have been based upon the rate actually chosen, or, if none, then based upon such optional rate chosen as the Company may designate.

***Fixed Charges*** means, with respect to any Person for any period, the sum, without duplication, of:

- (1) the consolidated interest expense of such Person and its Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, whether paid or accrued and whether or not capitalized, including, without limitation, amortization of original issue discount, non-cash interest payments (other than amortization of debt issuance costs or debt extinguishment costs), the interest component of any deferred payment obligations, the interest component of all payments associated with Capital Lease Obligations, commissions, discounts, and other fees and charges incurred in respect of letters of credit or bankers acceptance financings, and net payments, if any, pursuant to Interest Rate Agreements; plus

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- (2) any interest expense on Indebtedness of another Person that is Guaranteed by such Person or one of its Restricted Subsidiaries or secured by a Lien on assets of such Person or one of its Restricted Subsidiaries, whether or not such Guarantee or Lien is called upon; plus
  
- (3) all dividend payments, whether or not in cash, on any series of Disqualified Stock of such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, or preferred stock of any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, in each case other than dividend payments on Equity Interests payable solely in Equity Interests of the Company (other than Disqualified Stock) or to the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company.

**GAAP** means accounting principles generally accepted in the United States set forth in the opinions and pronouncements of the Accounting Principles Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and statements and pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board or in such other statements by such other entities as have been approved by a significant segment of the accounting profession, which are in effect from time to time.

**Guarantee** means, without duplication, any obligation, contingent or otherwise, of any Person directly or indirectly guaranteeing any Indebtedness of any other Person and any other obligation, direct or indirect, contingent or otherwise, of such Person:

- (a) to purchase or pay (or advance or supply funds for the purchase or payment of) such Indebtedness of such other Person, or
  
- (b) entered into for the purpose of assuring in any other manner the obligee of such Indebtedness of the payment therefor to protect such obligee against loss in respect thereof (in whole or in part); *provided, however*, that the term **Guarantee** shall not include endorsements for collection or deposit in the ordinary course of business. The term **Guarantee** used as a verb has a corresponding meaning.

**Guarantors** means each Subsidiary that executes the Indenture as an initial Subsidiary Guarantor, any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company that becomes a Subsidiary Guarantor in accordance with the provisions of the Indenture, and their respective successors and assigns.

**Hedging Obligations** means, with respect to any Person, the obligations of such Person under Currency Agreements, Interest Rate Agreements and Commodity Agreements.

**Holder** means a person in whose name a Note is registered on the Registrar's books.

**Indebtedness** means, with respect to any specified Person, without duplication,

- (a) all obligations of such Person, whether or not contingent, in respect of:
  - (i) the principal of and premium, if any, in respect of outstanding (A) Indebtedness of such Person for money borrowed and (B) Indebtedness evidenced by Notes, debentures, bonds or other similar

instruments for the payment of which such Person is responsible or liable;

- (ii) all Capital Lease Obligations of such Person;
- (iii) the deferred purchase price of property, which purchase price is due more than six months after the date of taking delivery of title to such property, including all obligations of such Person for the deferred purchase price of property under any title retention agreement, but excluding accrued expenses and trade accounts payable arising in the ordinary course of business; and
- (iv) the reimbursement obligation of any obligor for the principal amount of any letter of credit, banker's acceptance or similar transaction (excluding obligations with respect to letters of credit securing obligations (other than obligations described in clauses (i) through (iii) above) entered into in the ordinary course of business of such Person to the extent such letters of credit are not

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drawn upon or, if and to the extent drawn upon, such drawing is reimbursed no later than the tenth Business Day following receipt by such Person of a demand for reimbursement following payment on the letter of credit);

- (b) all liabilities of others of the kind described in the preceding clause (a) that such Person has Guaranteed or that are otherwise its legal liability;
- (c) with respect to any Production Payment and Reserve Sale, any warranties or guaranties of production or payment by such Person with respect to such Production Payment and Reserve Sale but excluding other contractual obligations of such Person with respect to such Production Payment and Reserve Sale;
- (d) Indebtedness (as otherwise defined in this definition) of another Person secured by a Lien on any asset of such Person, whether or not such Indebtedness is assumed by such Person, the amount of such obligations being deemed to be the lesser of:
  - (i) the full amount of such obligations so secured; and
  - (ii) the fair market value of such asset as determined in good faith by such specified Person;
- (e) Disqualified Stock of such Person or a Restricted Subsidiary in an amount equal to the greater of the maximum mandatory redemption or repurchase price (not including, in either case, any redemption or repurchase premium) or the liquidation preference thereof; and
- (f) the aggregate preference in respect of amounts payable on the issued and outstanding shares of preferred stock of any of the Company's Restricted Subsidiaries in the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up (excluding any such preference attributable to such shares of preferred stock that are owned by such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries; *provided*, that if such Person is the Company, such exclusion shall be for such preference attributable to such shares of preferred stock that are owned by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries), if and to the extent that any of the preceding items (other than in respect of letters of credit) would appear as a liability upon a balance sheet of the specified Person prepared in accordance with GAAP.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Indebtedness shall not include:

- (1) accrued expenses, royalties and trade payables;
- (2) contingent obligations incurred in the ordinary course of business;

- (3) asset-retirement obligations or obligations in respect of reclamation and workers compensation (including pensions and retiree medical care) that are not overdue by more than 90 days;
- (4) except as provided in clause (d) above, Production Payments and Reserve Sales;
- (5) in-kind obligations relating to net oil or natural gas balancing positions arising in the ordinary course of business;
- (6) any obligation of a Person in respect of a farm-in agreement or similar arrangement whereby such Person agrees to pay all or a share of the drilling, completion or other expenses of an exploratory or development well (which agreement may be subject to a maximum payment obligation, after which expenses are shared in accordance with the working or participation interest therein or in accordance with the agreement of the parties) or perform the drilling, completion or other operation on such well in exchange for an ownership interest in an oil or natural gas property; and
- (7) any repayment or reimbursement obligation of such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries with respect to Customary Recourse Exceptions, unless and until an event or circumstance occurs that triggers the Person's or such Restricted Subsidiary's direct repayment or reimbursement obligation (as

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opposed to contingent or performance obligations) to the lender or other Person to whom such obligation is actually owed, in which case the amount of such direct payment or reimbursement obligation shall constitute Indebtedness.

For purposes hereof, the maximum fixed repurchase price of any Disqualified Stock which does not have a fixed repurchase price shall be calculated in accordance with the terms of such Disqualified Stock as if such Disqualified Stock were purchased on any date on which Indebtedness shall be required to be determined pursuant to the Indenture, and if such price is based upon, or measured by, the fair market value of such Disqualified Stock, such fair market value to be determined in good faith by the Board of Directors of the issuer of such Disqualified Stock.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Indebtedness shall not include any indebtedness that has been defeased or discharged in accordance with GAAP or defeased or discharged pursuant to the deposit of cash, U.S. government obligations and Cash Equivalents (sufficient to satisfy all obligations relating thereto at maturity or redemption, as applicable) in a trust or account created or pledged for the sole benefit of the holders of such indebtedness, in accordance with the terms of the instruments governing such indebtedness.

***Interest Rate Agreements*** means, with respect to the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries, interest rate agreements, interest rate cap agreements and interest rate collar agreements and other agreements or arrangements designed to protect such Person against fluctuations in or manage exposure to interest rates, with respect to any Indebtedness that is permitted to be incurred under the Indenture.

***Investment Grade Rating*** means a rating equal to or higher than:

(1) Baa3 (or the equivalent) with a stable or better outlook by Moody's; and

(2) BBB- (or the equivalent) with a stable or better outlook by S&P, or, if either such entity ceases to make a rating on the Notes publicly available for reasons outside of the Company's control, the equivalent investment grade credit rating from any other rating agency.

***Investment Grade Rating Event*** means the first day on which the Notes have an Investment Grade Rating from each of S&P and Moody's, and no Default has occurred and is then continuing under the Indenture.

***Investments*** means, with respect to any Person, all investments by such Person in other Persons (including Affiliates) in the forms of loans (including Guarantees of Indebtedness or other obligations), advances or capital contributions (excluding commission, travel and similar advances to officers and employees made in the ordinary course of business), purchases or other acquisitions for consideration of Indebtedness, Equity Interests or other securities, together with all items that are or would be classified as investments on a balance sheet prepared in accordance with GAAP. If the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company sells or otherwise disposes of any Equity Interests of any direct or indirect Restricted Subsidiary of the Company such that, after giving effect to any such sale or disposition, such Person is no longer a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company, the Company shall be deemed to have made an Investment on the date of any such sale or disposition equal to the Fair Market Value of the Equity Interests of such Restricted Subsidiary not sold or disposed of.

***Issue Date*** means April 14, 2015.

***Joint Venture Subsidiary*** means Fulcrum Delaware Water Resources, LLC.

***Lien*** means, with respect to any asset, any mortgage, lien, pledge, charge, encumbrance for security purposes, or security interest of any kind in respect of such asset, whether or not filed, recorded or otherwise perfected under applicable law, including any conditional sale or other title retention agreement, any lease in the nature thereof, any option or other agreement to sell or give a security interest in any assets and any filing of or agreement to give any financing statement under the Uniform Commercial Code (or equivalent statutes) of any jurisdiction.

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***Make Whole Premium*** means, with respect to a Note at any time, the excess, if any, of (a) the present value at such time of (i) the redemption price of such note at April 15, 2018 set forth in the table under *Optional Redemption* plus (ii) any required interest payments due on such note through April 15, 2018 (except for currently accrued and unpaid interest), discounted to the redemption date on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) using a discount rate equal to the Treasury Rate plus 50 basis points, over (b) the principal amount of such Note.

***Midstream Assets*** means (i) assets used primarily for gathering, transmission, compression, storage, disposal, processing, treating, marketing, fractionation, dehydration, stabilization or treatment of natural gas, natural gas liquids, oil or other hydrocarbons, carbon dioxide or water and (ii) Equity Interests of any Person whose assets primarily consist of assets referred to in clause (i).

***Moody's*** means Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and any successor to its rating agency business.

***Net Cash Proceeds*** means, with respect to any issuance or sale of Capital Stock or the sale or incurrence of any Indebtedness, the cash proceeds of such issuance or sale net of attorneys' fees, accountants' fees, underwriters' or placement agents' fees, listing fees, discounts or commissions and brokerage, consultant and other fees and charges actually incurred in connection with such issuance or sale and net of taxes paid or payable as a result of such issuance or sale.

***Net Proceeds*** means the aggregate cash proceeds received by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries in respect of any Asset Sale (including, without limitation, any cash received upon the sale or other disposition of any non-cash consideration received in any Asset Sale), net of, without duplication:

- (1) the direct costs relating to such Asset Sale, including, without limitation, legal, title, engineering, environmental, accounting and investment banking fees, and sales commissions, and any relocation expenses incurred as a result thereof;
- (2) taxes paid or payable as a result thereof;
- (3) amounts required to be applied to the repayment of Indebtedness secured by a Lien on the asset or assets that were the subject of such Asset Sale;
- (4) any reserve established in accordance with GAAP against liabilities associated with such Asset Sale or any amount placed in escrow for adjustment in respect of the purchase price of such Asset Sale, until such time as such reserve is reversed or such escrow arrangement is terminated, in which case Net Proceeds shall be increased by the amount of the reserve so reversed or the amount returned to the Company or its Restricted Subsidiaries from such escrow arrangement, as the case may be; and
- (5) any distributions and other payments required to be made to minority interest holders in any Restricted Subsidiaries as a result of such Asset Sale.

**Net Working Capital** means (a) all current assets of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries except current assets from Commodity Agreements, less (b) all current liabilities of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries, except (i) current liabilities included in Indebtedness, (ii) current liabilities associated with asset retirement obligations relating to oil and gas properties and (iii) any current liabilities from Commodity Agreements, in each case as set forth in the consolidated financial statements of the Company prepared in accordance with GAAP (excluding any adjustments made pursuant to FASB ASC 815).

**Non-Recourse Debt** means Indebtedness:

- (1) as to which neither the Company nor any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (a) provides credit support of any kind (including any undertaking, agreement or instrument that would constitute Indebtedness) or (b) is directly or indirectly liable as a guarantor or otherwise, in each case except for Customary Recourse Exceptions; and

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- (2) no default with respect to which (including any rights that the holders thereof may have to take enforcement action against an Unrestricted Subsidiary) would permit upon notice, lapse of time or both any holder of any other Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to declare a default on such other Indebtedness or cause the payment thereof to be accelerated or payable prior to its Stated Maturity.

***Oil and Gas Business*** means:

- (1) the business of acquiring, exploring, exploiting, developing, producing, operating and disposing of interests in oil, natural gas, liquefied natural gas and other hydrocarbons, mineral or renewable energy properties or products produced in association with any of the foregoing;
- (2) the business of gathering, marketing, distributing, treating, processing, storing, refining, selling and transporting any production from such interests or properties and products produced in association therewith and the marketing of oil, natural gas, other hydrocarbons, minerals and renewable energy;
- (3) any other related energy business, directly or indirectly, from oil, natural gas and other hydrocarbons, minerals and renewable energy produced substantially from properties in which the Company or its Restricted Subsidiaries, directly or indirectly, participate;
- (4) any business relating to oil field sales and service or drilling rigs; and
- (5) any business or activity relating to, arising from, or necessary, appropriate or incidental to the activities described in the foregoing clauses (1) through (4) of this definition.

***Oil and Gas Liens*** means:

- (1) Liens on any specific property or any interest therein, construction thereon or improvement thereto to secure all or any part of the costs incurred for surveying, exploration, drilling, extraction, development, operation, production, construction, alteration, repair or improvement of, in, under or on such property and the plugging and abandonment of wells located thereon (it being understood that, in the case of oil and gas producing properties, or any interest therein, costs incurred for development will include costs incurred for all facilities relating to such properties or to projects, ventures or other arrangements of which such properties form a part or that relate to such properties or interests);
- (2) Liens on an oil or gas producing property to secure obligations incurred or Guarantees of obligations incurred in connection with or necessarily incidental to commitments for the purchase or sale of, or the transportation or distribution of, the products derived from such property;
- (3) Liens arising under partnership agreements, oil and gas leases, overriding royalty agreements, net profits agreements, production payment agreements, royalty trust agreements, incentive compensation programs on

terms that are reasonably customary, in the Oil and Gas Business for geologists, geophysicists and other providers of technical services to the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary, farm-out agreements, farm-in agreements, division orders, contracts for the sale, purchase, exchange, transportation, gathering or processing of oil, gas or other hydrocarbons, unitizations and pooling designations, declarations, orders and agreements, development agreements, operating agreements, production sales contracts, area of mutual interest agreements, gas balancing or deferred production agreements, injection, repressuring and recycling agreements, salt water or other disposal agreements, seismic or geophysical permits or agreements, and other agreements that are customary in the Oil and Gas Business; provided, however, that in all instances such Liens are limited to the assets that are the subject of the relevant agreement, program, order or contract;

- (4) Liens securing Production Payments and Reserve Sales; provided that such Liens are limited to the property that is subject to such Production Payments and Reserve Sales, and such Production Payments and Reserve Sales; and
  
- (5) Liens on pipelines or pipeline facilities that arise by operation of law.

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***Permitted Acquisition Indebtedness*** means Indebtedness (including Disqualified Stock) of the Company or any of the Restricted Subsidiaries to the extent such Indebtedness was Indebtedness:

- (1) of an acquired Person prior to the date on which such Person became a Restricted Subsidiary as a result of having been acquired and not incurred in contemplation of such acquisition; or
- (2) of a Person that was merged, consolidated or amalgamated with or into the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary that was not incurred in contemplation of such merger, consolidation or amalgamation, *provided* that on the date such Person became a Restricted Subsidiary or the date such Person was merged, consolidated and amalgamated with or into the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary, as applicable, after giving pro forma effect thereto,
  - (a) the Company would be permitted to incur at least \$1.00 of additional Indebtedness pursuant to the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test described under Certain Covenants Incurrence of Indebtedness, or
  - (b) the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio for the Company would be not less than the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio for the Company immediately prior to such transaction.

***Permitted Business Investments*** means Investments made in the ordinary course of, and of a nature that is or shall have become customary in, the Oil and Gas Business, including through agreements, transactions, interests or arrangements that permit one to share risk or costs, comply with regulatory requirements regarding local ownership or satisfy other objectives customarily achieved through the conduct of the Oil and Gas Business jointly with third parties, including without limitation:

- (1) ownership of oil, natural gas, other related hydrocarbon, water and mineral properties or any interest therein or gathering, transportation, processing, treating, storage, disposal or related systems; and
- (2) the entry into operating agreements, joint ventures, processing agreements, working interests, royalty interests, mineral leases, farm-in agreements, farm-out agreements, development agreements, production sharing agreements, area of mutual interest agreements, contracts for the sale, transportation, disposal or exchange of oil and natural gas and related hydrocarbons, water and minerals, unitization agreements, pooling arrangements, joint bidding agreements, service contracts, partnership agreements (whether general or limited), limited liability company agreements or other similar or customary agreements, transactions, properties, interests or arrangements, and Investments and expenditures in connection therewith or pursuant thereto, in each case made or entered into in the ordinary course of the Oil and Gas Business, excluding, however, Investments in corporations and publicly-traded limited partnerships.

***Permitted Holders*** means, collectively, (1) Joseph Wm. Foran, (2) any family member, heir or estate of the foregoing, (3) any trust directly or indirectly controlled by or for the benefit of any of the foregoing, and (4) any other Persons directly or indirectly controlled by any of the foregoing.

***Permitted Investments*** means:

- (1) any Investment in the Company or in a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company;
- (2) any Investment in Cash Equivalents;
- (3) any Investment by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company in a Person if as a result of such Investment:
  - (a) such Person becomes a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company; or
  - (b) such Person is merged, consolidated or amalgamated with or into, or transfers or conveys substantially all of its assets to, or is liquidated into, the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company;

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or any Investment held by such Person at the time of such transaction, *provided* such Investment was not made in contemplation of such transaction;

- (4) any Investment made as a result of the receipt of non-cash consideration from an Asset Sale (or other disposition excluded from the definition thereof) that was made pursuant to and in compliance with the covenant described above under the caption **Repurchase at the Option of Holders Asset Sales** ;
- (5) any Investment to the extent made in exchange for the issuance of Equity Interests (other than Disqualified Stock) of the Company;
- (6) receivables owing to the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary created or acquired in the ordinary course of business and payable or dischargeable in accordance with customary trade terms; *provided, however*, that such trade terms may include such concessionary trade terms as the Company or any such Restricted Subsidiary deems reasonable under the circumstances;
- (7) payroll, travel, relocation and similar advances to officers, directors and employees to cover matters that are expected at the time of such advances ultimately to be treated as expenses for accounting purposes and that are made in the ordinary course of business;
- (8) loans or advances to employees made in the ordinary course of business of the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary made for bona fide business purposes;
- (9) Capital Stock, obligations or securities received in settlement of debts created in the ordinary course of business and owing to the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary or in satisfaction of judgments or pursuant to any plan of reorganization or similar arrangement upon the bankruptcy or insolvency of a debtor or received in connection with a work-out or recapitalization of the issuer or as a result of a foreclosure or other transfer of title or perfection or enforcement of any lien with respect to any secured Investment in default;
- (10) Hedging Obligations;
- (11) Permitted Business Investments and/or Permitted Other Business Investments;
- (12) Investments in accounts receivable, prepaid expenses, negotiable instruments held for collection and lease, utility and worker's compensation, performance and other similar deposits provided to third parties and endorsements for collection or deposit arising in the ordinary course of business;
- (13) advances, deposits and prepayments for purchases of any assets, including any Equity Interests;

- (14) any Investment existing on the Issue Date and any Investment that replaces, refinances or refunds an existing Investment; *provided* that the new Investment is in an amount that does not exceed the amount replaced, refinanced or refunded, and is made in the same Person as the Investment replaced, refinanced or refunded;
- (15) Investments arising from agreements of the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary providing for indemnification, adjustment of purchase price, earn-outs or similar obligations, in each case incurred or assumed in connection with the disposition or acquisition of any business, assets or a Restricted Subsidiary in accordance with the Indenture; and
- (16) other Investments in any Person having an aggregate Fair Market Value (measured on the date each such Investment was made and without giving effect to subsequent changes in value), when taken together with all other Investments made pursuant to this clause (16) since the Issue Date, not to exceed the greater of \$75.0 million and 5.0% of ACNTA determined at the time of such Investment; *provided, however*, that if any Investment pursuant to this clause (16) is made in any Person that is not the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary at the date of the making of such Investment and such Person becomes the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary after such date, such Investment shall thereafter be deemed to have been made pursuant to clause (1) above and shall cease to have been made pursuant to this clause (16) for so long as such Person continues to be the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary.

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In connection with any assets or property contributed or transferred to any Person as an Investment, such property and assets shall be equal to the Fair Market Value at the time of the Investment, without regard to subsequent changes in value.

With respect to any Investment, the Company may, in its sole discretion, allocate or re-allocate all or any portion of any Investment to one or more of the above clauses so that the entire Investment is a Permitted Investment.

***Permitted Liens*** means:

- (1) Liens on any property or assets of the Company and any Restricted Subsidiary securing Indebtedness and other obligations under Credit Facilities that were permitted by the terms of the Indenture to be incurred;
- (2) Liens in favor of the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary;
- (3) Liens on any property or assets of a Person existing at the time such Person becomes a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company or is merged with or into or consolidated with the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company, *provided* that such Liens were in existence prior to the contemplation of such Person becoming a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company or such merger or consolidation and do not extend to any property or assets other than those of the Person that becomes a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company or is merged into or consolidated with the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company;
- (4) Liens on any property or assets existing at the time of acquisition thereof by the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary of the Company, *provided* that such Liens were not incurred in contemplation of such acquisition;
- (5) Liens to secure the performance of statutory obligations, surety or appeal bonds, performance bonds or other obligations of a like nature incurred in the ordinary course of business;
- (6) Liens existing on the Issue Date;
- (7) Liens arising from Uniform Commercial Code financing statement filings regarding operating leases entered into by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business;
- (8) Liens securing Indebtedness incurred to refinance Indebtedness that was previously so secured, *provided* that (i) the amount of such Indebtedness is not increased except as necessary to pay premiums or expenses incurred in connection with such refinancing and (ii) any such Lien is limited to all or part of the same property or assets (plus improvements, accessions, proceeds or dividends or distributions in respect thereof) that secured (or, under the written arrangements under which the original Lien arose, could secure) the Indebtedness being refinanced or is in respect of property that is the security for a Permitted Lien hereunder;

- (9) Liens securing Hedging Obligations of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries;
- (10) Liens for the purpose of securing the payment of all or a part of the purchase price of, or Capital Lease Obligations, purchase money obligations or other payments incurred to finance the acquisition, lease, improvement or construction of or repairs or additions to, assets or property acquired, leased or constructed in the ordinary course of business; *provided* that:
- (a) the aggregate principal amount of Indebtedness secured by such Liens is otherwise permitted to be incurred under the Indenture and does not exceed the cost of the assets or property so acquired or constructed; and
  - (b) such Liens are created within 180 days of the later of the acquisition, lease, completion of improvements, construction, repairs or additions or commencement of full operation of the assets or property subject to such Lien and do not encumber any other assets or property of the Company

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or any Restricted Subsidiary other than such assets or property (plus improvements, accessions, proceeds, insurance, and dividends or distributions in respect thereof);

- (11) any Lien incurred in the ordinary course of business incidental to the conduct of the business of the Company or any of the Restricted Subsidiaries or the ownership of their property (including (a) easements, rights of way, minor defects and irregularities in title and similar encumbrances, (b) rights or title of lessors under leases (other than Capital Lease Obligations), (c) rights of collecting banks having rights of setoff, revocation, refund or chargeback with respect to money or instruments of the Company or the Restricted Subsidiaries on deposit with or in the possession of such banks, (d) Liens imposed by law, including Liens under workers' compensation or similar legislation and mechanics', carriers', warehousemen's, materialmen's, suppliers' and vendors' Liens, (e) Liens incurred to secure performance of obligations with respect to statutory or regulatory requirements, performance or return-of-money bonds, surety bonds or other obligations of a like nature and incurred in a manner consistent with industry practice, (f) Liens on insurance policies and proceeds thereof, or other deposits, to secure insurance premium financing and (g) Oil and Gas Liens, in each case which are not incurred in connection with the borrowing of money, the obtaining of advances or credit or the payment of the deferred purchase price of property (other than trade accounts payable arising in the ordinary course of business));
- (12) Liens for taxes, assessments and governmental charges not yet due or the validity of which are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings and for which adequate reserves have been established to the extent required by GAAP as in effect at such time;
- (13) Liens on the Capital Stock of any Unrestricted Subsidiary to the extent securing Indebtedness of Unrestricted Subsidiaries;
- (14) any extension, renewal, refinancing or replacement, in whole or in part, of any Lien described in the foregoing clauses so long as (x) no additional collateral is granted as security thereby and (y) the Indebtedness secured by the new Lien is not increased to any amount greater than the sum of (i) the outstanding principal amount, or, if greater, committed amount, of the Indebtedness renewed, refunded, refinanced, replaced, defeased or discharged with such Indebtedness and (ii) an amount necessary to pay any fees and expenses, including premiums, related to such renewal, refunding, refinancing, replacement, defeasance or discharge;
- (15) Liens created for the benefit of (or to secure) all of the Notes (including Additional Notes) issued under the Indenture;
- (16) Liens on cash, Cash Equivalents and other property arising in connection with the defeasance, discharge or redemption of Indebtedness; and
- (17) in addition to the foregoing, Liens securing obligations the outstanding principal amount of which does not, taken together with the principal amount of all other obligations secured by Liens Incurred under this clause

(17) that are at that time outstanding, exceed the greater of \$75.0 million and 5.0% of ACNTA at the time of incurrence.

**Permitted MLP Securities** means equity securities (including incentive distribution rights) of a master limited partnership (or limited liability company or similar business entity with pass-through treatment for U.S. Federal income tax purposes) that has a class of equity securities traded on the New York Stock Exchange, the NYSE AMEX Equities or the Nasdaq Stock Market (or any successor thereof).

**Permitted Other Business Investments** means Investments by the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries in any Person (including in any Unrestricted Subsidiary or joint venture of the Company), provided that:

- (1) at the time of such Investment and immediately thereafter, the Company could incur \$1.00 of additional Indebtedness under the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test set forth in the first paragraph of the covenant described under the caption Certain Covenants Incurrence of Indebtedness ;

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- (2) if such Person has outstanding Indebtedness at the time of such Investment, either (a) all such Indebtedness is Non-Recourse Debt or (b) any such Indebtedness of such Person that is recourse to the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (which shall include, without limitation, all Indebtedness of such Person for which the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries may be directly or indirectly, contingently or otherwise, obligated to pay, whether pursuant to the terms of such Indebtedness, by law or pursuant to any guarantee, including, without limitation, any clawback, make-well or keep-well arrangement) could, at the time such Investment is made, be incurred at that time by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries under the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio test set forth in the first paragraph of the covenant described under the caption Certain Covenants Incurrence of Indebtedness ; and
- (3) such Person is not engaged, in any material respect, in any business other than the Oil and Gas Business.
- Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness*** means any Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries issued in exchange for, or the Net Cash Proceeds of which are used to extend, refinance, renew, replace, defease or refund other Indebtedness of the Company or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries (other than intercompany Indebtedness); *provided* that:
- (1) the principal amount (or accreted value, if applicable) of such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness does not exceed the principal amount of, plus premium, if any, and accrued and unpaid interest on the Indebtedness so extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded (plus the amount of reasonable expenses incurred in connection therewith);
- (2) the Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness has a final maturity date no earlier than the earlier of the final maturity date of the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, deferred or refunded or 91 days after the final maturity date of the Notes;
- (3) the Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness has a Weighted Average Life to Maturity at the time such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness is incurred that is equal to or greater than the shorter of (A) the Weighted Average Life to Maturity of the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, deferred or refunded and (B) 91 days after the Weighted Average Life to Maturity of the Notes;
- (4) if the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded is subordinated in right of payment to the Notes or a Subsidiary Guarantee, such Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness is subordinated in right of payment to the Notes or such Subsidiary Guarantee on terms at least as favorable, taken as a whole, to the Holders of Notes as those contained in the documentation governing the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded; and
- (5) such Indebtedness is not incurred by a Restricted Subsidiary if the Company is the obligor on the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded; *provided, however*, that a Restricted Subsidiary that is also a Guarantor may Guarantee Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness incurred by the Company, whether or not such Restricted Subsidiary was an obligor or guarantor of the Indebtedness being extended, refinanced, renewed, replaced, defeased or refunded; *provided further, however*, that if such

Permitted Refinancing Indebtedness is subordinated to the Notes, such Guarantee shall be subordinated to such Restricted Subsidiary's Subsidiary Guarantee to at least the same extent.

**Person** means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, association, joint stock company, trust, unincorporated organization, government or any agency or political subdivision thereof or any other entity.

**Production Payments** means, collectively, Dollar-Denominated Production Payments and Volumetric Production Payments.

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***Production Payment and Reserve Sales*** means the grant or transfer by the Company or a Restricted Subsidiary to any Person of a royalty, overriding royalty, net profits interest or Production Payment in oil and natural gas properties, reserves or the right to receive all or a portion of the production or the proceeds from the sale of production attributable to such properties where, in the case of each of the foregoing, the holder of such interest has recourse solely to such production or proceeds of production for the recovery of its investment in such interest, subject to the obligation of the grantor or transferor to operate and maintain, or cause the subject interests to be operated and maintained, in a reasonably prudent manner or other customary standard and subject to the obligation of the grantor or transferor to indemnify for environmental, title or other matters customary with respect to the foregoing interests.

***Reporting Default*** means a Default described in clause (4) under Events of Default and Remedies.

***Restricted Subsidiary*** of a Person means any Subsidiary of the referenced Person that is not an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

***S&P*** means Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and any successor to its rating agency business.

***Significant Subsidiary*** means any Subsidiary that would be a significant subsidiary as defined in Article 1, Rule 1-02 of Regulation S-X, promulgated pursuant to the Securities Act, as such Regulation is in effect on the Issue Date.

***Stated Maturity*** means, with respect to any installment of interest or principal on any series of Indebtedness, the date on which such payment of interest or principal was scheduled to be paid in the documentation governing such Indebtedness, and shall not include any contingent obligations to repay, redeem or repurchase any such interest or principal prior to the date originally scheduled for the payment thereof.

***Subordinated Indebtedness*** means Indebtedness of the Company (or a Guarantor) that is expressly subordinated or junior in right of payment to the Notes (or a Subsidiary Guarantee, as appropriate) pursuant to a written agreement to that effect.

***Subsidiary*** means any subsidiary of the Company. A subsidiary of any Person means:

- (1) a corporation a majority of whose Voting Stock is at the time, directly or indirectly owned by such Person, by one or more subsidiaries of such Person or by such Person and one or more subsidiaries of such Person; or
- (2) a partnership, joint venture, limited liability company or similar entity, in which such Person or a subsidiary of such Person is, at the date of determination, either entitled to receive more than 50 percent of the assets of such entity upon its dissolution, or in the case of a limited partnership or limited liability company, is the controlling general partner or managing or controlling member, as applicable.

***Subsidiary Guarantee*** means a Guarantee by a Subsidiary Guarantor of the Company's obligations with respect to the Notes.

***Treasury Rate*** means the yield to maturity at the time of computation of United States Treasury securities with a constant maturity (as compiled and published in the most recent Federal Reserve Statistical Release H.15 (519) which has become publicly available at least two Business Days prior to the date fixed for redemption (or, if such Statistical

Release is no longer published, any publicly available source of similar market data)) most nearly equal to the period from the redemption date to April 15, 2018; provided, however, that if such period is not equal to the constant maturity of a United States Treasury security for which a weekly average yield is given, the Company shall obtain the Treasury Rate by linear interpolation (calculated to the nearest one-twelfth of a

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year) from the weekly average yields of United States Treasury securities for which such yields are given, except that if the period from the redemption date to April 15, 2018 is less than one year, the weekly average yield on actually traded United States Treasury securities adjusted to a constant maturity of one year shall be used. The Company will (a) calculate the Treasury Rate on the second Business Day preceding the applicable redemption date and (b) prior to such redemption date file with the Trustee an officers' certificate setting forth the Make Whole Premium and the Treasury Rate and showing the calculation of each in reasonable detail.

***Unrestricted Subsidiary*** means any of (i) the Joint Venture Subsidiary and (ii) any Subsidiary of the Company that is designated by the Board of Directors as an Unrestricted Subsidiary pursuant to a Board Resolution, but only to the extent that such Subsidiary:

- (1) has no Indebtedness other than Non-Recourse Debt, except as permitted under clause (2)(b) of the definition of Permitted Other Business Investments ;
- (2) is not party to any agreement, contract, arrangement or understanding with the Company or any Restricted Subsidiary or the Company unless the terms of any such agreement, contract, arrangement or understanding are no less favorable to the Company or such Restricted Subsidiary than those that might be obtained at the time from Persons who are not Affiliates of the Company, except as permitted under the covenant described under the caption Certain Covenants Transactions with Affiliates ; and
- (3) is a Person with respect to which neither the Company nor any of its Restricted Subsidiaries has any obligation (a) to subscribe for additional Equity Interests or (b) to maintain or preserve such Person's financial condition.

The Board of Directors may designate any Restricted Subsidiary to be an Unrestricted Subsidiary if that designation is in compliance with the next succeeding sentence and would not otherwise cause a Default. If a Restricted Subsidiary is designated as an Unrestricted Subsidiary, such designation shall be deemed an Investment in the Subsidiary so designated and all outstanding Investments owned by the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries in the Subsidiary so designated, shall be valued at their Fair Market Value at the time of such designation for purposes of determining compliance with the covenant described above under the caption Certain Covenants Restricted Payments ; *provided, however*, that such covenant need not be complied with if the Subsidiary to be so designated has total assets of \$1,000 or less. That designation will only be permitted if the amount of such Investment is either permitted as a Restricted Payment under the covenant described under Certain Covenants Restricted Payments or a Permitted Investment at that time and if such Restricted Subsidiary otherwise meets the definition of an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

Any designation of a Subsidiary of the Company as an Unrestricted Subsidiary shall be evidenced to the Trustee by filing with the Trustee a copy of the Board Resolution giving effect to such designation certified in an officers' certificate that also certifies that such designation complied with the preceding conditions and was permitted by the covenant described above under the caption Certain Covenants Restricted Payments in which case such designation shall be effective as of the date specified in such resolution. If, at any time, any Unrestricted Subsidiary would fail to meet the preceding requirements as an Unrestricted Subsidiary, it shall thereafter cease to be an Unrestricted Subsidiary for purposes of the Indenture and any Indebtedness of such Subsidiary shall be deemed to be incurred by a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company as of such date and, if such Indebtedness is not permitted to be incurred as of such date under the covenant described under the caption Certain Covenants Incurrence of Indebtedness, the Company shall be in default of such covenant.

The Board of Directors of the Company may at any time designate any Unrestricted Subsidiary to be a Restricted Subsidiary; *provided* that such designation shall be deemed to be an incurrence of Indebtedness by a Restricted Subsidiary of the Company of any outstanding Indebtedness of such Unrestricted Subsidiary and such designation shall only be permitted if (1) such Indebtedness is permitted under the covenant described under the caption Certain Covenants Incurrence of Indebtedness, calculated on a pro forma basis as if such

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designation had occurred at the beginning of the four-quarter reference period; and (2) no Default or Event of Default would be in existence following such designation.

All Subsidiaries of an Unrestricted Subsidiary shall also be Unrestricted Subsidiaries.

***Volumetric Production Payments*** mean production payment obligations recorded as deferred revenue in accordance with GAAP, together with all undertakings and obligations in connection therewith.

***Voting Stock*** of any Person as of any date means the Capital Stock of such Person that is at the time entitled (without reference to the occurrence of any contingency) to vote in the election of the directors, managers or trustees of such Person.

***Weighted Average Life to Maturity*** means, when applied to any Indebtedness at any date, the number of years obtained by dividing:

- (1) the sum of the products obtained by multiplying (a) the amount of each then remaining installment, sinking fund, serial maturity or other required payments of principal, including payment at final maturity, in respect thereof, by (b) the number of years (calculated to the nearest one-twelfth) that will elapse between such date and the making of such payment; by
- (2) the then outstanding principal amount of such Indebtedness.

**Book-Entry, Delivery and Form**

The exchange notes initially will be represented by one or more notes in registered, global form without interest coupons (collectively, the ***Global Notes*** ). The Global Notes will be deposited upon issuance with the trustee as custodian for The Depository Trust Company ( ***DTC*** ), and registered in the name of DTC or its nominee, in each case, for credit to an account of a direct or indirect participant in DTC as described below. Beneficial interests in the Global notes may be held through the Euroclear System ( ***Euroclear*** ) and Clearstream Banking, S.A. ( ***Clearstream*** ) (as indirect participants in DTC).

Ownership of beneficial interests in a Global Note will be limited to persons who have accounts with DTC ( ***participants*** ) or persons who hold interests through participants.

Ownership of beneficial interests in a Global Note will be shown on, and the transfer of that ownership will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC or its nominee (with respect to interests of participants) and the records of participants (with respect to interests of persons other than participants). Indirect access to the DTC system is available to organizations such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly ( ***indirect participants*** ).

So long as DTC, or its nominee, is the registered owner or holder of a Global Note, DTC or such nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the Notes represented by such Global Note for all purposes under the Indenture and the Note. No beneficial owner of an interest in a Global Note will be able to transfer that interest except in accordance with DTC's applicable procedures, in addition to those provided for under the Indenture and, if applicable, those of Euroclear and Clearstream.

All payments on a Global Note will be made to DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered owner thereof. Neither the Company, the Guarantors, the Trustee nor any Paying Agent will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in a Global Note or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.

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The Company expects that DTC or its nominee, upon receipt of any payment in respect of a Global Note, will credit participants' accounts on the applicable payment date with payments in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in the principal amount of such Global Note as shown on the records of DTC. The Company also expects that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in a Global Note held through such participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers registered in the names of nominees for such customers. Such payments will be the responsibility of the participants.

Transfers between participants in DTC will be effected in the ordinary way in accordance with DTC rules and will be settled in same-day funds. Transfers between participants in Euroclear and Clearstream will be effected in the ordinary way in accordance with their respective rules and operating procedures.

The Company expects that DTC will take any action permitted to be taken by a holder of Notes (including the presentation of Notes for exchange as described below) only at the direction of one or more participants to whose account DTC interests in a Global Note are credited and only in respect of such portion of the aggregate principal amount of Notes as to which such participant or participants has or have given such direction. However, if there is an Event of Default under the Notes, DTC reserves the right to exchange the applicable Global Note for Notes in certificated form ( *Certificated Notes* ), which it will distribute to its participants and which may be legended as set forth under the heading "Transfer Restrictions."

The Company understands that: DTC is a limited purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York, a banking organization within the meaning of New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the Uniform Commercial Code and a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC was created to hold securities for its participants and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between participants through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of its participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates.

Although DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream are expected to follow the foregoing procedures described in this section of the prospectus in order to facilitate transfers of interests in a Global Note among participants of DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, they are under no obligation to perform or continue to perform such procedures, and such procedures may be discontinued at any time. Neither the Company, the Guarantors, the Trustee nor any Paying Agent will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream or their respective participants or indirect participants of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations.

### **Exchange of Global Notes for Certificated Notes**

A Global Note is exchangeable for Certificated Notes if:

- (1) DTC (a) notifies the Company that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depository for the Global Notes or (b) has ceased to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act and in either event the Company fails to appoint a successor depository within 90 days; or
- (2) there has occurred and is continuing an Event of Default and DTC notifies the Trustee of its decision to exchange the Global Notes for Certificated Notes.

In all cases, Certificated Notes delivered in exchange for any Global Note or beneficial interests in Global Notes will be registered in the names, and issued in any approved denominations, requested by or on behalf of DTC (in accordance with its customary procedures).



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**CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The following discussion is a summary of the material U.S. federal income tax considerations relevant to the exchange of 2016 senior notes for exchange notes, but does not purport to be a complete analysis of all potential tax effects. The discussion is based upon the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the *Code*), Treasury Regulations, Internal Revenue Service rulings and pronouncements and judicial decisions now in effect, all of which may be subject to change at any time by legislative, judicial or administrative action. These changes may be applied retroactively in a manner that could adversely affect a holder of exchange notes. Some holders, including financial institutions, insurance companies, regulated investment companies, tax-exempt organizations, dealers in securities or currencies, persons whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar, or persons who hold the notes as part of a hedge, conversion transaction, straddle or other risk reduction transaction may be subject to special rules not discussed below.

**We recommend that each holder consult its own tax advisor as to the particular tax consequences of exchanging such holder's 2016 senior notes for exchange notes, including the applicability and effect of any foreign, state, local or other tax laws or estate or gift tax considerations.**

The exchange of 2016 senior notes for exchange notes pursuant to the exchange offer will not constitute a taxable event for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, (1) a holder will not recognize a taxable gain or loss as a result of exchanging such holder's 2016 senior notes for exchange notes, (2) the holding period of the exchange notes will include the holding period of the 2016 senior notes exchanged therefor and (3) the adjusted tax basis of the exchange notes will be the same as the adjusted tax basis of the 2016 senior notes exchanged therefor immediately before such exchange. The U.S. federal income tax consequences of holding and disposing of an exchange note will be the same as the U.S. federal income tax consequences of holding and disposing of a 2016 senior note.

Moreover, we believe that, because the exchange offer does not constitute a taxable event and the 2016 senior notes were issued in a qualified reopening of the initial notes, the exchange notes offered hereby will be deemed to be part of the same issue as the initial notes and will have the same issue date and same issue price as the initial notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

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**PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

Based on interpretations by the staff of the SEC in no-action letters issued to third parties, we believe that you may transfer exchange notes issued under the exchange offer in exchange for the 2016 senior notes if:

any exchange notes to be received by you will be acquired in the ordinary course of your business; and

you have no arrangement or understanding with any person or entity to participate in the distribution (within the meaning of the Securities Act) of the exchange notes in violation of the provisions of the Securities Act.

You may not participate in the exchange offer unless:

you are not an affiliate, as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act, of us or our subsidiary guarantors; and

if you are a broker-dealer that will receive exchange notes for your own account in exchange for 2016 senior notes that were acquired as a result of market-making or other trading activities, then you agree to deliver this prospectus (or, to the extent permitted by law, make this prospectus available to purchasers) in connection with any resale of the exchange notes.

Each broker-dealer that receives exchange notes for its own account pursuant to the exchange offer must acknowledge that it will deliver this prospectus in connection with any resale of such exchange notes. To date, the staff of the SEC has taken the position that broker-dealers may fulfill their prospectus delivery requirements with respect to transactions involving an exchange of securities such as this exchange offer, other than a resale of an unsold allotment from the original sale of the 2016 senior notes, with this prospectus. This prospectus, as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, may be used by a broker-dealer in connection with resales of exchange notes received for their own account in exchange for 2016 senior notes where such 2016 senior notes were acquired as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities. We have agreed that, for a period ending on November 20, 2017, we will make this prospectus, as amended or supplemented, available to any broker-dealer for use in connection with any such resale. In addition, until August 22, 2017, all dealers effecting transactions in exchange notes may be required to deliver this prospectus.

We are entitled under the registration rights agreements to suspend the use of this prospectus by broker-dealers if, in our good faith determination, the continued effectiveness of the registration statement and the use of this prospectus would require the public disclosure of material non-public information.

If we suspend the use of this prospectus, the period referred to above during which we have agreed to make this prospectus, as amended or supplemented, available to any broker-dealer for use in connection with certain resales, will be extended by a number of days equal to the period of the suspension and we and the Guarantors will pay additional interest, if required, pursuant to the registration rights agreements.

If you wish to exchange notes for your 2016 senior notes in the exchange offer, you will be required to make representations to us as described in [The Exchange Offer Procedures for Tendering Your Representations to Us](#) in this

prospectus. As indicated in the letter of transmittal, you will be deemed to have made these representations by tendering your 2016 senior notes in the exchange offer. In addition, if you are a broker-dealer who receives exchange notes for your own account in exchange for 2016 senior notes that were acquired by you as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities, you will be required to acknowledge, in the same manner, that you will deliver this prospectus in connection with any resale by you of such exchange notes.

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We will not receive any proceeds from any sale of exchange notes by broker-dealers. Exchange notes received by broker-dealers for their own account pursuant to the exchange offer may be sold from time to time in one or more transactions:

in the over-the-counter market;

in negotiated transactions;

through the writing of options on the exchange notes; or

a combination of such methods of resale; at market prices prevailing at the time of resale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices.

Any such resale may be made directly to purchasers or to or through brokers or dealers who may receive compensation in the form of commissions or concessions from any such broker-dealer or the purchasers of any such exchange notes. Any broker-dealer that resells exchange notes that were received by it for its own account pursuant to the exchange offer and any broker or dealer that participates in a distribution of such exchange notes may be deemed to be an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act. Each letter of transmittal states that by acknowledging that it will deliver and by delivering this prospectus, a broker-dealer will not be deemed to admit that it is an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act.

For a period of 180 days after the consummation of the exchange offer, the Company will promptly send additional copies of this prospectus and any amendment or supplement to this prospectus to any broker-dealer that requests such documents as provided in the Letter of Transmittal. The Company has agreed to pay all expenses incident to the exchange offer (including the expenses of one counsel for the Holders of the 2016 senior notes) other than commissions or concessions of any brokers or dealers and will indemnify the Holders of the 2016 senior notes (including any broker-dealers) against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

Baker Botts L.L.P. has issued an opinion about the legality of the exchange notes.

## **EXPERTS**

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

Certain information with respect to our proved oil and natural gas reserves and future net revenues included and incorporated by reference herein has been audited by Netherland, Sewell & Associates, Inc., independent reservoir engineers. Such information is included and incorporated herein in reliance on the authority of such firm as experts in reservoir engineering.



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**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

Matador Resources Company is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and in accordance therewith files reports, proxy or information statements and other information with the SEC. Such reports, proxy statements and other information can be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. The phone number is 1-800-732-0330. In addition, the SEC maintains a website that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the SEC. The address of the SEC's website is <http://www.sec.gov>.

Matador Resources Company has filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-4 under the Securities Act with respect to the securities being offered hereby. As permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC, this prospectus does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules thereto. For further information with respect to Matador Resources Company and the securities offered hereby, reference is made to the registration statement, and such exhibits and schedules. A copy of the registration statement, and the exhibits and schedules thereto, may be inspected without charge at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at the addresses set forth above, and copies of all or any part of the registration statement may be obtained from such offices upon payment of the fees prescribed by the SEC. In addition, the registration statement may be accessed at the SEC's website. Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete and, in each instance, reference is made to the copy of such contract or document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, each such statement being qualified in all respects by such reference.

In addition, our filings are available on our website at <http://www.matadorresources.com>. Information on our web site or any other web site is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus and is not a part of this prospectus.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we have filed with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information we incorporate by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings (excluding information furnished pursuant to Items 2.02 and 7.01 of Form 8-K) we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act subsequent to the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of the offering:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, as filed with the SEC on March 1, 2017; and

our Current Reports on Form 8-K, as filed with the SEC on January 9, 2017, February 21, 2017, February 24, 2017 and March 9, 2017.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for all purposes to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or in any other subsequently filed document which is also incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference, modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus. You may request a copy of these filings (other than an exhibit to a filing unless that exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference into that filing) at no cost by writing or telephoning us at the

following address and telephone number:

Matador Resources Company

Attention: Investor Relations

5400 LBJ Freeway

Suite 1500

Dallas, TX 75240

(972) 371-5200

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**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Certain statements in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. Additionally, forward-looking statements may be made orally or in press releases, conferences, reports, on our website or otherwise, in the future, by us or on our behalf. Such statements are generally identifiable by the terminology used such as anticipate, believe, continue, could, estimate, expect, forecasted, hypothetical, intend, may, potential, predict, project, should or other similar words.

By their very nature, forward-looking statements require us to make assumptions that may not materialize or that may not be accurate. Forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, levels of activity and achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such statements. Such factors include, among others: general economic conditions, changes in oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids prices and the demand for oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids, the success of our drilling program, the timing of planned capital expenditures, the sufficiency of our cash flow from operations together with available borrowing capacity under our credit agreement, uncertainties in estimating proved reserves and forecasting production results, operational factors affecting the commencement or maintenance of producing wells, the condition of the capital markets generally, as well as our ability to access them, the proximity to our properties and capacity of transportation facilities, availability of acquisitions, our ability to integrate acquisitions with our business, weather and environmental conditions, uncertainties regarding environmental regulations or litigation and other legal or regulatory developments affecting our business, and the other factors discussed below and elsewhere in this prospectus and in other documents that we file with or furnish to the SEC, all of which are difficult to predict. Forward-looking statements may include statements about:

our business strategy;

our reserves;

our technology;

our cash flows and liquidity;

our financial strategy, budget, projections and operating results;

our oil and natural gas realized prices;

the timing and amount of future production of oil and natural gas;

the availability of drilling and production equipment;

the availability of oil field labor;

the amount, nature and timing of capital expenditures, including future exploration and development costs;

the availability and terms of capital;

our drilling of wells;

our ability to negotiate and consummate acquisition and divestiture opportunities;

government regulation and taxation of the oil and natural gas industry;

our marketing of oil and natural gas;

our exploitation projects or property acquisitions;

the integration of acquisitions with our business;

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our ability and the ability of our midstream joint venture to construct and operate midstream facilities, including the expansion of our Black River cryogenic natural gas processing plant and the drilling of additional salt water disposal wells;

our costs of exploiting and developing our properties and conducting other operations;

general economic conditions;

competition in the oil and natural gas industry, including in both the explorations and production and midstream segments;

the effectiveness of our risk management and hedging activities;

environmental liabilities;

counterparty credit risk;

developments in oil-producing and natural gas-producing countries;

our future operating results;

estimated future reserves and the present value thereof;

our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions contained in this prospectus that are not historical; and

other factors discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

Although we believe that the expectations conveyed by the forward-looking statements are reasonable based on information available to us on the date such forward-looking statements were made, no assurances can be given as to future results, levels of activity, achievements or financial condition.

You should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statement and should recognize that the statements are predictions of future results, which may not occur as anticipated. Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements and from historical results, due to the risks and uncertainties described above, as well as others not now anticipated. The impact of any one factor on a particular forward-looking statement is not determinable with certainty as such factors are interdependent upon other factors. The foregoing statements are not exclusive and further information concerning us, including factors that potentially could materially affect our financial results, may emerge from time to time. We do not intend to update forward-looking statements to reflect actual results

or changes in factors or assumptions affecting such forward-looking statements, except as required by law, including the securities laws of the United States and the rules and regulations of the SEC.

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**ANNEX A**

**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL**

**To Tender**

**Outstanding 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023**

**Issued on December 9, 2016**

**of**

**MATADOR RESOURCES COMPANY**

**Pursuant to the Exchange Offer and Prospectus dated April 26, 2017**

*The Exchange Agent for the Exchange Offer is:*

By Registered or Certified Mail

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

Corporate Trust Operations

MAC N9300-070

P.O. Box 1517

Minneapolis, MN 55480

By Air Courier Service

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

Corporate Trust Operations

MAC N9300-070

600 Fourth Street South, 7th Floor

Minneapolis, MN 55479

Facsimile Transmission

612-667-6282

Attn: Corporate Trust Operations

Confirm by Telephone:

1-800-344-5128

IF YOU WISH TO EXCHANGE CURRENTLY OUTSTANDING 6.875% SENIOR NOTES DUE 2023 ISSUED ON DECEMBER 9, 2016 FOR AN EQUAL AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF 6.875% SENIOR NOTES DUE 2023 PURSUANT TO THE EXCHANGE OFFER, YOU MUST VALIDLY TENDER (AND NOT WITHDRAW) OUTSTANDING NOTES TO THE EXCHANGE AGENT PRIOR TO 5:00 P.M. NEW YORK CITY TIME ON MAY 23, 2017 BY CAUSING AN AGENT'S MESSAGE TO BE RECEIVED BY THE EXCHANGE AGENT PRIOR TO SUCH TIME.

The undersigned hereby acknowledges receipt of the prospectus, dated April 26, 2017 (the Prospectus), of Matador Resources Company, a Texas corporation (the Company), and this Letter of Transmittal (the Letter of Transmittal), which together describe the Company's offer (the Exchange Offer) pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), to exchange its issued and outstanding 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023 issued on December 9, 2016 (the 2016 Senior Notes) for a like principal amount of its 6.875% Senior Notes due 2023 (the Exchange Notes).

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The Company reserves the right, at any time or from time to time, to extend the Exchange Offer at its discretion, in which event the term "Expiration Time" shall mean the latest time and date to which the Company extends the Exchange Offer. To extend the Exchange Offer, the Company will notify the Exchange Agent of any extension. The Company will notify the holders of 2016 Senior Notes of the extension via a press release issued no later than 9:00 a.m. New York City time on the business day after the previously scheduled Expiration Time.

This Letter of Transmittal is to be used by holders of the 2016 Senior Notes. Tender of 2016 Senior Notes is to be made according to the Automated Tender Offer Program ("ATOP") of The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") pursuant to the procedures set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "The Exchange Offer Procedures for Tendering." DTC participants that are accepting the Exchange Offer must transmit their acceptance to DTC, which will verify the acceptance and execute a book-entry delivery to the Exchange Agent's DTC account. DTC will then send a computer-generated message known as an "agent's message" to the exchange agent for its acceptance. For you to validly tender your 2016 Senior Notes in the Exchange Offer, the Exchange Agent must receive, prior to the Expiration Time, an "agent's message" under the ATOP procedures that confirms that:

DTC has received your instructions to tender your 2016 Senior Notes; and

you agree to be bound by the terms of this Letter of Transmittal.

By using the ATOP procedures to tender 2016 Senior Notes, you will not be required to deliver this Letter of Transmittal to the Exchange Agent. However, you will be bound by its terms, and you will be deemed to have made the acknowledgments and the representations and warranties it contains, just as if you had signed it.

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PLEASE READ THE ACCOMPANYING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

1. By tendering 2016 Senior Notes in the Exchange Offer, you acknowledge receipt of the Prospectus and this Letter of Transmittal.
2. By tendering 2016 Senior Notes in the Exchange Offer, you represent and warrant that you have full authority to tender the 2016 Senior Notes described above and will, upon request, execute and deliver any additional documents deemed by the Company to be necessary or desirable to complete the tender of 2016 Senior Notes.
3. The tender of the 2016 Senior Notes pursuant to all of the procedures set forth in the Prospectus will constitute an agreement between you and the Company as to the terms and conditions set forth in the Prospectus.
4. The Exchange Offer is being made in reliance upon interpretations contained in no-action letters issued to third parties by the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission), including Exxon Capital Holdings Corp., Commission No-Action Letter (available May 13, 1988), Morgan Stanley & Co., Inc., Commission No-Action Letter (available June 5, 1991) and Shearman & Sterling, Commission No-Action Letter (available July 2, 1993), that the Exchange Notes issued in exchange for the 2016 Senior Notes pursuant to the Exchange Offer may be offered for resale, resold and otherwise transferred by holders thereof (other than a broker-dealer who purchased 2016 Senior Notes exchanged for such Exchange Notes directly from the Company to resell pursuant to Rule 144A or any other available exemption under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act) and any such holder that is an affiliate of the Company within the meaning of Rule 405 under the Securities Act), without compliance with the registration and prospectus delivery provisions of the Securities Act, provided that such Exchange Notes are acquired in the ordinary course of such holders' business and such holders are not participating in, and have no arrangement with any person to participate in, the distribution of such Exchange Notes.
5. By tendering 2016 Senior Notes in the Exchange Offer, you represent and warrant that:
  - a. the Exchange Notes acquired pursuant to the Exchange Offer are being obtained in the ordinary course of your business, whether or not you are the holder;
  - b. neither you nor any such other person is engaging in or intends to engage in a distribution of such Exchange Notes;
  - c. neither you nor any such other person has an arrangement or understanding with any person to participate in the distribution of such Exchange Notes;
  - d. neither you nor any such other person is an affiliate, as such term is defined under Rule 405 promulgated under the Securities Act, of the Company or the Guarantors; and
  - e. if you are a broker-dealer that will receive Exchange Notes for your own account in exchange for 2016 Senior Notes, you acquired those 2016 Senior Notes as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities and you will deliver the prospectus, as required by law, in connection with any resale of the Exchange Notes.
6. If you are a broker-dealer that will receive Exchange Notes for your own account in exchange for 2016 Senior Notes that were acquired as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities, you acknowledge, by tendering 2016 Senior Notes in the Exchange Offer, that you will deliver a prospectus meeting the requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any resale of such Exchange Notes; however, by so



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acknowledging and by delivering a prospectus, you will not be deemed to admit that you are an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act. If you are a broker-dealer and 2016 Senior Notes held for your own account were not acquired as a result of market-making or other trading activities, such 2016 Senior Notes cannot be exchanged pursuant to the Exchange Offer.

7. Any of your obligations hereunder shall be binding upon your successors, assigns, executors, administrators, trustees in bankruptcy and legal and personal representatives.

CHECK HERE IF YOU ARE A BROKER-DEALER AND WISH TO RECEIVE 10 ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE PROSPECTUS AND 10 COPIES OF ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS THERETO.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

**FORMING PART OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE EXCHANGE OFFER**

**1. Book-Entry Confirmations.**

Any confirmation of a book-entry transfer to the Exchange Agent's account at DTC of 2016 Senior Notes tendered by book-entry transfer (a Book-Entry Confirmation), as well as an agent's message, and any other documents required by this Letter of Transmittal, must be received by the Exchange Agent at its address set forth herein prior to 5:00 P.M. New York City time on May 23, 2017.

**2. Partial Tenders.**

Tenders of 2016 Senior Notes will be accepted only in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. The entire principal amount of 2016 Senior Notes delivered to the Exchange Agent will be deemed to have been tendered unless otherwise communicated to the Exchange Agent. If the entire principal amount of all 2016 Senior Notes is not tendered, then 2016 Senior Notes for the principal amount of 2016 Senior Notes not tendered and Exchange Notes issued in exchange for any 2016 Senior Notes accepted will be delivered to the holder via the facilities of DTC promptly after the 2016 Senior Notes are accepted for exchange.

**3. Validity of Tenders.**

The Company will determine in its sole discretion all questions as to the validity, form, eligibility, time of receipt, acceptance of tendered 2016 Senior Notes and withdrawal of tendered 2016 Senior Notes. The Company's determination will be final and binding. The Company reserves the absolute right to reject any 2016 Senior Notes not properly tendered or any 2016 Senior Notes the Company's acceptance of which might, in the opinion of counsel for the Company, be unlawful. The Company also reserves the absolute right to waive any defect, irregularities or conditions of tender as to particular 2016 Senior Notes. The Company's interpretation of the terms and conditions of the Exchange Offer (including the instructions on this Letter of Transmittal) will be final and binding on all parties. Unless waived, all defects or irregularities in connection with tenders of 2016 Senior Notes must be cured within such time as the Company shall determine. Although the Company intends to notify holders of defects or irregularities with respect to tenders of 2016 Senior Notes, neither the Company, the Exchange Agent, nor any other person will incur any liability for failure to give such notification. Tenders of 2016 Senior Notes will not be deemed made until such defects or irregularities have been cured or waived. Any 2016 Senior Notes received by the Exchange Agent that are not properly tendered and as to which the defects or irregularities have not been cured or waived will be returned by the Exchange Agent to the tendering holder promptly following the Expiration Time.

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**\$175,000,000 in Aggregate Principal Amount of  
6.875% Senior Notes due 2023**

**PROSPECTUS**

**April 26, 2017**

Until August 22, 2017, all dealers that effect transactions in these securities, whether or not participating in this offering, may be required to deliver a prospectus. This is in addition to the dealers' obligation to deliver a prospectus when acting as underwriters and with respect to their unsold allotments or subscriptions.