

ATLAS PIPELINE PARTNERS LP  
Form 424B3  
March 30, 2010  
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File Number 333-160037

PROSPECTUS

**348,620 Common Units**

# **ATLAS PIPELINE PARTNERS, L.P.**

This prospectus relates to the sale of up to 348,620 common units representing limited partner interests for the account of the selling unitholders named in this prospectus. The common units may be sold in the open market, on the New York Stock Exchange, in privately negotiated transactions or a combination of these methods. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of the common units covered by this prospectus.

Our common units are quoted on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol APL. The last reported sales price of our common units was \$14.45 per unit on March 29, 2010.

**Investing in our common units involves risks. You should carefully consider the risks described under Risk Factors on page 1 of this prospectus before you make an investment in our securities.**

Our principal executive offices are located at Westpointe Corporate Center One, 1550 Coraopolis Heights Road, Moon Township, PA 15108. Our telephone number is (412) 262-2830.

**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.**

**Prospectus dated March 30, 2010**

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*No dealer, salesperson or other individual has been authorized to give any information or make any representations not contained in this prospectus in connection with the offering made by this prospectus. If given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by us. This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any of our securities in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so, or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation. Neither the delivery of this prospectus nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create an implication that there has not been any change in the facts set forth in this prospectus or in the affairs of our company since the date hereof.*

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**GUIDE TO READING THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, utilizing a shelf registration process or continuous offering process. Under this shelf registration process, the selling unitholders may, from time to time, sell the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities which may be offered by the selling unitholders. Additional information, including our financial statements and the notes thereto, is incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our reports filed with the SEC. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#). You are urged to read this prospectus, including the [Risk Factors](#), and our SEC reports in their entirety.

The following information should help you understand some of the terms used in this prospectus. Unless the context indicates otherwise:

the terms [the Partnership](#), [we](#), [our](#) and [us](#) refer to Atlas Pipeline Partners, L.P. and its subsidiaries;

the term [our general partner](#) refers to Atlas Pipeline Partners GP, LLC; and

[we](#) refer to natural gas liquids, such as ethane, propane, normal butane, isobutane and natural gasoline, as [NGLs](#).

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**RISK FACTORS**

*You should carefully consider the specific risks described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, the risk factors described under the caption Risk Factors in any applicable prospectus supplement and any risk factors set forth in our other filings with the SEC before making an investment decision. See Where You Can Find More Information.*

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**INFORMATION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

The matters discussed or incorporated by reference in this prospectus may include forward-looking statements. These statements may be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as anticipate, believe, continue, could, estimate, expect, intend, may, might, potential, predict, should, or will, or the negative thereof or other variations thereon or comparable terminology. In particular, statements about our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions or future events or performance contained in this report are forward-looking statements. We have based these forward-looking statements on our current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections. While we believe these expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections are reasonable, such forward-looking statements are only predictions and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control. These and other important factors may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Some of the key factors that could cause actual results to differ from our expectations include:

the demand for natural gas and NGLs;

the price volatility of natural gas and NGLs;

our ability to connect new wells to our gathering systems;

adverse effects of governmental and environmental regulation;

limitations on our access to capital or on the market for our common units; and

the strength and financial resources of our competitors.

Other factors that could cause actual results to differ from those implied by the forward-looking statements combined herein or incorporated by reference are more fully described in the Risk Factors section of this prospectus. Given these risks and uncertainties, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus are made only as of the date hereof. We do not undertake and specifically decline any obligation to update any such statements or to publicly announce the results of any revisions to any of these statements to reflect future events or developments.

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**USE OF PROCEEDS**

This prospectus relates to our common units that may be offered and sold from time to time by the selling unitholders referred to in this prospectus. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of the common units contemplated by this prospectus.

**DESCRIPTION OF COMMON UNITS**

We describe our common units under the heading Our Partnership Agreement.

**Table of Contents****SELLING UNITHOLDERS**

The selling unitholders may from time to time offer and sell any or all of the common units set forth below pursuant to this prospectus. When we refer to selling unitholders in this prospectus, we mean those persons listed in the table below, and the pledges, donees, permitted transferees, assignees, successors and others who later come to hold any of the selling unitholders' interests in our common units other than through a public sale.

The following table sets forth, as of the date of this prospectus, the name of each selling unitholder for whom we are registering units for resale to the public, and the number of common units that each selling unitholder may offer pursuant to this prospectus. The common units being offered by the selling unitholders were acquired from us in private placements that were exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Except as noted below, none of the selling unitholders is or was affiliated with registered broker-dealers.

Based on the information provided to us at the time of the initial filing of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part by each selling unitholder and as of the date the same was provided to us, assuming that the selling unitholders sell all of the common units beneficially owned by them that have been registered by us and do not acquire any additional units during the offering, each selling unitholder will not own any units other than those appearing in the column entitled "Number of common units owned after the offering." We cannot advise you as to whether the selling unitholders will in fact sell any or all of such common units. In addition, the selling unitholders may have sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of, or may sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of, at any time and from time to time, the common unit in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act after the date on which they provided the information set forth on the table below.

<b>Name of selling unitholder</b>	<b>Number of common units owned before the offering</b>	<b>Number of common units being registered</b>	<b>Number of common units owned after the offering<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Percentage of common units owned after the offering</b>
Robert R. Firth <sup>(2)</sup>	139,448	139,448	0	
David Hall <sup>(2)</sup>	122,017	122,017	0	
Tom B. Williams	69,724	69,724	0	
Mark B. Wade	17,431	17,431	0	

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\* Less than 1%.

- (1) Assumes the selling unitholder sells all of the common units he is offering pursuant to this prospectus.
- (2) Until March 3, 2009, Mr. Firth was Chief Operating Officer and President of Atlas Pipeline Mid-Continent, LLC, our mid-continent subsidiary, and until April 17, 2009, Mr. Hall was its Chief Financial Officer.



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### **OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

The following is a summary of our partnership agreement, as amended through the date of this prospectus. The limited partnership agreement defines the rights and obligations pertaining to our units.

#### **Organization and Duration**

We were formed in May 1999. We will dissolve on December 31, 2098, unless sooner dissolved under the terms of our partnership agreement.

#### **Purpose**

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

operations as conducted on February 2, 2000, including the ownership and operation of our gathering systems;

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

any activity that enhances the operations described above.

#### **The Units**

*Common Units.* Our common units represent limited partner interests in us. The holders of common units are entitled to participate in partnership distributions and exercise the rights or privileges available to limited partners under our partnership agreement. However, we were restricted under the terms of our revolving credit and term loan facility from paying distributions on our common units for the remainder of 2009. Commencing with the first fiscal quarter of 2010, we may pay distributions and purchase or redeem equity only if, pro forma for such payment, our Senior Secured Leverage Ratio is less than or equal to 2.75 to 1.00 and our Minimum Liquidity is at least \$50 million. Senior Secured Leverage Ratio is the ratio of our consolidated senior secured funded debt (defined generally as total secured funded debt that is not subordinated to the credit facility) to Consolidated EBITDA (as defined in the credit agreement). Minimum Liquidity means:

the total amount classified as cash and cash equivalents on the Partnership's consolidated balance sheet less amount classified as restricted cash plus

any amounts available for borrowing under the revolver portion of the credit facility.

*Class B Preferred Units.* In December 2008, we sold 10,000 12.0% cumulative convertible Class B preferred units of limited partner interests to Atlas Pipeline Holdings, L.P., the parent of our general partner, for cash consideration of \$1,000 per unit. On March 30, 2009, Atlas Pipeline Holdings, pursuant to its right within the Class B preferred unit purchase agreement, purchased an additional 5,000 Class B preferred units at \$1,000 per unit.

The Class B preferred units receive distributions of 12.0% per annum, paid quarterly on the same date as the distribution payment date for our common units. The record date of determination for holders entitled to receive distributions of the Class B preferred units will be the same as the record date of determination for common unit holders entitled to receive quarterly distributions. However, we are restricted under the terms of our revolving credit and term loan facility from paying distributions for the remainder of 2009. Commencing with the first fiscal quarter of 2010, we may pay distributions and purchase or redeem equity only if, pro forma for such payment, our Senior Secured Leverage Ratio is less than or equal to 2.75 to 1.00 and our Minimum Liquidity is at least \$50 million. The Class B preferred units are not convertible into our common units.

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The certificate of designation also gives us the right at any time to redeem some or all of the outstanding Class B preferred units for cash at an amount equal to the Class B preferred unit liquidation value being redeemed, provided that such redemption must be exercised for no less than the lesser of 2,500 Class B preferred units or the number of remaining outstanding Class B preferred units.

Distributions paid on the Class B preferred units and the premium paid upon the redemption of the Class B preferred units, if any, will be recognized as a reduction of our net income (loss) in determining net income (loss) attributable to common unitholders and the general partner. The Class B preferred units are reflected on our consolidated balance sheet as Class B preferred equity within partners' capital.

### **Limited Voting Rights**

Holders of our units have limited voting rights and generally are entitled to vote only with respect to the following matters:

a sale or exchange of all or substantially all of our assets;

our dissolution or reconstitution;

our merger; and

termination or material modification of the omnibus agreement or master natural gas gathering agreement with Atlas America. Removal of our general partner requires a two-thirds vote of all outstanding common units, excluding those held by our general partner and its affiliates. Our partnership agreement permits our general partner generally to make amendments to it that do not materially adversely affect unitholders without the approval of any unitholders.

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### **Cash Distribution Policy**

*Quarterly Distributions of Available Cash.* Our operating partnership is required by the operating partnership agreement to distribute to us, within 45 days of the end of each fiscal quarter, all of its available cash for that quarter. We, in turn, distribute to our partners all of the available cash received from our operating partnership for that quarter.

Available cash generally means, for any of our fiscal quarters, all cash on hand at the end of the quarter less cash reserves that our general partner determines are appropriate to provide for our operating costs, including potential acquisitions, and to provide funds for distributions to the partners for any one or more of the next four quarters. We generally make distributions of all available cash within 45 days after the end of each quarter to holders of record on the applicable record date. However, we are restricted under the terms of our revolving credit and term loan facility from paying distributions for the remainder of 2009. Commencing with the first fiscal quarter of 2010, we may pay distributions and purchase or redeem equity only if, pro forma for such payment, our Senior Secured Leverage Ratio is less than or equal to 2.75 to 1.00 and our Minimum Liquidity is at least \$50 million.

*Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus.* Cash distributions are characterized as distributions from either operating surplus or capital surplus. This distinction affects the amounts distributed to unitholders relative to our general partner.

Operating surplus means:

our cash balance, excluding cash constituting capital surplus, less

all of our operating expenses, debt service payments, maintenance costs, capital expenditures and reserves established for future operations.

Capital surplus means capital generated only by borrowings other than working capital borrowings, sales of debt and equity securities and sales or other dispositions of assets for cash, other than inventory, accounts receivable and other assets disposed of in the ordinary course of business.

We treat all available cash distributed from any source as distributed from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed since we began operations equals our total operating surplus from the date we began operations until the end of the quarter that immediately preceded the distribution. This method of cash distribution avoids the difficulty of trying to determine whether available cash is distributed from operating surplus or capital surplus. We treat any excess available cash, irrespective of its source, as capital surplus, which would represent a return of capital, and we will distribute it accordingly. For a discussion of distributions of capital surplus, see *Distributions of Capital Surplus* below.

We distribute available cash from operating surplus for any quarter in the following manner:

first, 98% to the common units, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we have distributed \$.42 for each outstanding common unit, which we refer to as the minimum quarterly distribution; and

after that, in the manner described in *Incentive Distribution Rights* below.

The 2% allocation of available cash from operating surplus to our general partner includes our general partner's percentage interest in distributions from us and our operating partnership on a combined basis.

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Adjusted operating surplus for any period generally means operating surplus generated during that period, less:

any net increase in working capital borrowings during that period and

any net reduction in cash reserves for operating expenditures during that period not relating to an operating expenditure made during that period,

and plus:

any net decrease in working capital borrowings during that period and

any net increase in cash reserves for operating expenditures during that period required by any debt instrument for the repayment of principal, interest or premium.

Operating surplus generated during a period is equal to the difference between:

the operating surplus determined at the end of that period and

the operating surplus determined at the beginning of that period.

*Incentive Distribution Rights.* By incentive distribution rights we mean our general partner's right to receive an increasing percentage of quarterly distributions of available cash from operating surplus after we have made the minimum quarterly distributions and we have met specified target distribution levels, as described below. Our general partner may transfer its incentive distribution rights separately from its general partner interest without the consent of the unitholders.

We make incentive distributions to our general partner for any quarter in which we have distributed available cash from operating surplus to the common unitholders in an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution plus amounts necessary to eliminate any cumulative arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units. If this condition is satisfied, the remaining available cash will be distributed as follows:

first, 85% to all units, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner, until each unitholder has received a total of \$.52 per unit for that quarter;

second, 75% to all units, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner, until each unitholder has received a total of \$.60 per unit for that quarter; and

after that, 50% to all units, pro rata, and 50% to our general partner.

The distributions to our general partner that exceed its aggregate 2% general partner interest represent the incentive distribution rights.

In connection with our private placement in July 2007, we amended our partnership agreement to subordinate incentive distributions as follows:

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For each quarter from the quarter beginning July 1, 2007 until the quarter ending December 31, 2007, after the holders of the incentive distribution rights have

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received an aggregate of \$3.7 million with respect to those rights, they will not be entitled to further distributions with respect to those rights until the amount distributable, but for the application of this provision, to the holders of the incentive distribution rights would have been \$8.7 million.

For each quarter from the quarter beginning January 1, 2008 until the quarter ending June 30, 2009, after the holders of the incentive distribution rights have received an aggregate of \$7.0 million with respect to those rights, they will not be entitled to further distributions with respect to those rights until the amount distributable, but for the application of this provision, to the holders of the incentive distribution rights would have been \$12.0 million.

For each quarter from and after the quarter beginning July 1, 2009, after the holders of the incentive distribution rights have received an aggregate of \$7.0 million with respect to those rights, they will not be entitled to further distributions with respect to those rights until the amount distributable, but for the application of this provision, to the holders of the incentive distribution rights would have been \$10.75 million.

Any amounts not distributed to the holders of incentive distribution rights because of the operation of these provisions will be distributed 1.0101% to our general partner and 98.9899% to all unitholders.

*Distributions from Capital Surplus.* We distribute available cash from capital surplus in the following manner:

first, 98% to all units, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until each common unit has received distributions equal to \$13.00 per unit; and

after that, we will distribute all available cash from capital surplus, as if it were from operating surplus.

When we make a distribution from capital surplus, we will treat it as if it were a repayment of your investment in your common units. For these purposes, the partnership agreement deems the investment to be \$13.00 per common unit, which is the unit price from our initial public offering, regardless of the price you actually pay for your common units in this offering. To reflect this repayment, we will reduce the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution and the distribution levels at which our general partner's incentive distribution rights begin, which we refer to in this prospectus as target distribution levels, by multiplying each amount by a fraction, determined as follows:

the numerator is \$13.00 less all distributions from capital surplus including the distribution just made, and

the denominator is \$13.00 less all distributions from capital surplus excluding the distribution just made.

We refer to the initial public offering price of \$13.00 per common unit, less any distributions from capital surplus, as the unrecovered unit price.

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After the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels have been reduced to zero, we will treat all distributions of available cash from all sources as if they were from operating surplus. Because the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels will have been reduced to zero, our general partner will then be entitled to receive 48% of all distributions of available cash in its capacity as general partner and holder of the incentive distribution rights, in addition to any distributions to which it may be entitled as a holder of units.

Distributions from capital surplus will not reduce the minimum quarterly distribution or target distribution levels for the quarter in which they are distributed.

*Adjustment of Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels.* In addition to adjustments made upon a distribution of available cash from capital surplus, we will proportionately adjust each of the following upward or downward, as appropriate, if any combination or subdivision of units occurs:

the minimum quarterly distribution,

the target distribution levels,

the unrecovered unit price,

the number of common units issuable upon conversion of the subordinated units, and

other amounts calculated on a per unit basis.

For example, if a two-for-one split of the common units occurs, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution, the target distribution levels and the unrecovered initial unit price of the common units to 50% of their initial levels.

We will not make any adjustment for the issuance of additional common units for cash or property.

We may also adjust the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels if legislation is enacted or if existing law is modified or interpreted in a manner that causes us or our operating partnership to become taxable as a corporation or otherwise subject to taxation as an entity for federal, state or local income tax purposes. In this event, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels for each quarter after that time to amounts equal to the product of:

the minimum quarterly distribution and each of the target distribution levels multiplied by

one minus the sum of:

the highest marginal federal income tax rate which could apply to the partnership that is taxed as a corporation plus

any increase in the effective overall state and local income tax rate that would have been applicable in the preceding calendar year as a result of the new imposition of the entity level tax, after taking into account the benefit of any deduction allowable for federal income tax purposes for the payment of state and local income taxes, but only to the extent of the increase in rates resulting from that legislation or interpretation.





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For example, assuming we are not previously subject to state and local income tax, if we became taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes and subject to a maximum marginal federal, and effective state and local, income tax rate of 40%, then we would reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels to 60% of the amount immediately before the adjustment.

*Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation.* When we commence dissolution and liquidation, we will sell or otherwise dispose of our assets and adjust the partners' capital account balances to reflect any resulting gain or loss. We will first apply the proceeds of liquidation to the payment of our creditors in the order of priority provided in our partnership agreement and by law. After that, we will distribute the proceeds to the unitholders and our general partner in accordance with their capital account balances, as so adjusted.

We maintain capital accounts in order to ensure that the partnership's allocations of income, gain, loss and deduction are respected under the Internal Revenue Code. The balance of a partner's capital account also determines how much cash or other property the partner will receive on liquidation of the partnership. A partner's capital account is credited with (increased by) the following items:

the amount of cash and fair market value of any property (net of liabilities) contributed by the partner to the partnership, and

the partner's share of book income and gain (including income and gain exempt from tax).

A partner's capital account is debited with (reduced by) the following items:

the amount of cash and fair market value (net of liabilities) of property distributed to the partner, and

the partner's share of loss and deduction (including some items not deductible for tax purposes).

Partners are entitled to liquidating distributions in accordance with their capital account balances.

Upon our liquidation, any gain, or unrealized gain attributable to assets distributed in kind, will be allocated to the partners in the following manner:

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

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

the unrecovered unit price, and

the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs.

third, 85% to all units, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner, until there has been allocated under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

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the excess of the \$.52 target distribution per unit over the minimum quarterly distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence less

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

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fourth, 75% to all units, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner, until there has been allocated under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

the excess of the \$.60 target distribution per unit over the \$.52 target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence less

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

after that, 50% to all units, pro rata, and 50% to our general partner.

Upon our liquidation, any loss will generally be allocated to our general partner and the unitholders in the following manner:

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

after that, 100% to our general partner.

In addition, we will make interim adjustments to the capital accounts at the time we issue additional equity interests or make distributions of property. We will base these adjustments on the fair market value of the interests or the property distributed and we will allocate any gain or loss resulting from the adjustments to the unitholders and our general partner in the same manner as we allocate gain or loss upon liquidation. In the event that we make positive interim adjustments to the capital accounts, we will allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional equity interests, our distributions of property, or upon our liquidation, in a manner which results, to the extent possible, in the capital account balances of our general partner equaling the amount which would have been our general partner's capital account balances if we had not made any earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts.

**Power of Attorney**

Each limited partner, and each person who acquires a unit from a unitholder and executes and delivers a transfer application, grants to our general partner and, if appointed, a liquidator, a power of attorney to, among other things, execute and file documents required for our qualification, continuance or dissolution and the amendment of our partnership agreement, and to make consents and waivers under our partnership agreement.

**Capital Contributions**

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

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### **Limited Liability**

So long as a limited partner does not participate in the control of our business within the meaning of the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act and otherwise acts in conformity with the provisions of our partnership agreement, the limited partner's liability under the Delaware Act will be limited to the amount of capital he is obligated to contribute to us for his common units plus his share of any undistributed profits and assets. If it were determined that a limited partner participated in the control of our business, then the limited partner could be held personally liable for our obligations under Delaware law to the same extent as our general partner. This liability would extend only to persons who transact business with us who reasonably believe that the limited partner is a general partner. However, what constitutes participating in the control of a limited partnership's business has not been clearly established in all states. If it were determined, for example, that the right, or exercise of a right, by the limited partners to:

remove our general partner,

approve some amendments to our partnership agreement, or

take other action under our partnership agreement

constituted participation in the control of our business, then limited partners could be held liable for our obligations to the same extent as our general partner.

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

Our operating partnership currently conducts business in Kansas, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Texas. The limitations on the liability of limited partners for the obligations of a limited partnership have not been clearly established in many jurisdictions. If it were determined that we were, by virtue of our limited partner interest in our operating partnership or otherwise, conducting business in any state under the applicable limited partnership statute, or that the right or exercise of the right by the limited partners as a group to remove or replace our general partner, to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement, or to take other action under our partnership agreement constituted participation in the control of our business for purposes of the statutes of any relevant jurisdiction, then the limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under the law of that jurisdiction to the same extent as our general partner. We operate in a manner our general partner considers reasonable and appropriate to preserve the limited liability of the limited partners.

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### **Transfer Agent and Registrar**

American Stock Transfer and Trust Company is the registrar and transfer agent for our common units. We pay all fees charged by the transfer agent for transfers of common units, except that the following fees must be paid by unitholders:

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

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

other similar fees or charges.

There is no charge to unitholders for disbursements of cash distributions.

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

### **Transfer of Common Units**

The transfer agent will not record a transfer of common units, and we will not recognize the transfer, unless the transferee executes and delivers a transfer application. The form of transfer application appears on the reverse side of the certificates representing the common units. By executing and delivering a transfer application, the transferee of common units:

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

automatically requests admission as a substituted limited partner;

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

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

grants powers of attorney to officers of our general partner and, if one is ever appointed, our liquidator, as specified in our partnership agreement; and

makes the consents and waivers contained in our partnership agreement.

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

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



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

the right to assign the common units to a purchaser or other transferee and

the right to transfer the right to seek admission as a substituted limited partner.

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

cash distributions or federal income tax allocations unless the common units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application and

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

The transferor of common units must provide the transferee with all information necessary to transfer the common units. The transferor will not be required to insure the execution of the transfer application by the transferee and will have no liability or responsibility if the transferee neglects or chooses not to execute and forward the transfer application to the transfer agent. See Status as Limited Partner or Assignee.

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

## **Issuance of Additional Securities**

Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of additional limited partner interests, debt and other securities for the consideration and on the terms and conditions established by our general partner in its sole discretion without the approval of any limited partners. We have funded, and will likely continue to fund, acquisitions through the issuance of additional common units or other equity securities and debt securities. Holders of any additional common units we issue will be entitled to share equally with the then-existing holders of common units in our distributions of available cash. In addition, the issuance of additional common units may dilute the value of the interests of the then-existing holders of common units in our net assets.

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

Upon issuance of additional partnership securities, our general partner must make additional capital contributions to the extent necessary to maintain its combined 2% general partner interest in us and in our operating partnership. Moreover, our general partner will have the right, which it may from time to time assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates, to purchase common units, subordinated units or other equity securities whenever, and on the same terms

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that, we issue those securities to persons other than our general partner and its affiliates, to the extent necessary to maintain its percentage interest that existed immediately before each issuance. The holders of common units will not have preemptive rights to acquire additional common units or other partnership interests.

### **Amendment of Our Partnership Agreement**

Amendments to our partnership agreement may be proposed only by or with the consent of our general partner, which it may withhold in its sole discretion. In order to adopt a proposed amendment, other than the amendments discussed in **No Unitholder Approval** below, our general partner must seek written approval of the holders of the number of units required to approve the amendment or call a meeting of the limited partners to consider and vote upon the proposed amendment.

*Prohibited Amendments.* No amendment may be made that would:

change the percentage of outstanding units required to take partnership action, unless approved by the affirmative vote of unitholders constituting at least the voting requirement sought to be reduced;

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

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

change our term;

provide that we are not dissolved upon the expiration of our term or upon an election to dissolve us by our general partner that is approved by holders of a majority of the units of each class; or

give any person the right to dissolve us other than our general partner's right to dissolve us with the approval of holders of a majority of the units of each class.

The provision of our partnership agreement preventing the amendments having the effects described above can be amended upon the approval of the holders of at least 90% of the outstanding common units.

*No Unitholder Approval.* Our general partner may amend our partnership agreement, without the approval of the unitholders, to:

change our name, the location of our principal place of business, our registered agent or registered office;

reflect the admission, substitution, withdrawal or removal of partners in accordance with our partnership agreement;

qualify us or continue our qualification as a limited partnership under the laws of any state or to ensure that neither we nor our operating partnership will be taxed as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for federal income tax purposes;





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prevent us or our general partner, or its directors, officers, agents or trustees, from being subject to the provisions of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 or plan asset regulations adopted under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974;

authorize additional limited or general partner interests;

reflect changes required by a merger agreement that has been approved under the terms of our partnership agreement;

permit us to form or invest in any entity, other than the operating partnership, permitted by our partnership agreement;

change our fiscal year or taxable year; and

make other changes substantially similar to any of the matters described above.

In addition, our general partner may amend our partnership agreement, without the approval of the unitholders, if those amendments:

do not adversely affect the limited partners in any material respect;

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