

HESS CORP
Form 424B5
February 04, 2016
Table of Contents

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
Registration No. 333-202379

The information in this prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are part of an effective registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED FEBRUARY 4, 2016

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To Prospectus Dated February 27, 2015)

10,000,000 Depositary Shares

Each Representing a 1/20th Interest in a Share of

Series A Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock

Hess Corporation

% Series A Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock

We are offering 10,000,000 depositary shares, each of which represents a 1/20th interest in a share of our % Series A Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock, \$1.00 par value per share, which we refer to in this prospectus supplement as our mandatory convertible preferred stock. The shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock will be deposited with Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as bank depositary, pursuant to a deposit agreement. Holders of the depositary shares will be entitled to a proportional fractional interest in the rights and preferences of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, including conversion, dividend, liquidation and voting rights, subject to the provisions of such deposit agreement.

Dividends on our mandatory convertible preferred stock will be payable on a cumulative basis when, as and if declared by our board of directors, or an authorized committee of our board of directors, at an annual rate of % on the liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share. We may pay declared dividends in cash or, subject to certain limitations, in shares of our common stock, par value \$1.00 per share, or in any combination of cash and common stock on February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1 of each year, commencing on May 1, 2016 and ending on, and including, February 1, 2019.

Each share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock has a liquidation preference of \$1,000 (and, correspondingly, each depositary share represents a liquidation preference of \$50). Unless earlier converted, each share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock will automatically convert on the third business day immediately following the last trading day of the final averaging period into between and shares of our common stock, subject to anti-dilution adjustments. The number of shares of our common stock issuable on conversion will be determined based on the average VWAP (as defined herein) of our common stock over the 20 trading day period beginning on, and including, the 23rd scheduled trading day prior to February 1, 2019, which we refer to herein as the final averaging period. At any time prior to February 1, 2019, a holder of 20 depositary shares may cause the bank depositary to convert one share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, on such holder's behalf, into a number of shares of our common stock equal to the minimum conversion rate of , subject to anti-dilution adjustments. If a holder of 20 depositary shares causes the bank depositary to convert one share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, on such holder's behalf, during a specified period beginning on the effective date of a fundamental change (as described herein), the conversion rate will be adjusted under certain circumstances, and such holder will also be entitled to a make-whole dividend amount (as described herein).

Concurrently with this offering, we are also making a public offering of 25,000,000 shares of our common stock, par value \$1.00 per share. The common stock will be offered pursuant to a separate prospectus supplement. The public offering price of our common stock is \$ per share. In that offering, we have granted the underwriters of that offering an option to purchase up to an additional 3,750,000 shares of our common stock. The closing of our offering of the depositary shares is not conditioned upon the closing of the concurrent offering of our common stock, and the closing of the concurrent offering of our common stock is not conditioned upon the closing of this offering of the depositary shares.

Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for the depositary shares. We intend to apply to list the depositary shares on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HES.PRA. Our common stock is listed on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HES.

Investing in the depositary shares involves risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page S-16 of this prospectus supplement and on page 14 of the Annual Report on Form 10-K incorporated by reference herein to read about important facts you should consider before buying depositary shares.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$ 50	\$ 500,000,000
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to Hess Corporation	\$	\$

We have granted the underwriters an option to purchase, exercisable within 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, up to an additional 1,500,000 depositary shares, at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount.

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

The underwriters expect to deliver the depositary shares to investors on or about _____, 2016.

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Prospectus Supplement dated _____, 2016.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT</u>	S-ii
<u>FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION</u>	S-iii
<u>OUR COMPANY</u>	S-1
<u>RECENT DEVELOPMENTS</u>	S-2
<u>THE OFFERING</u>	S-6
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	S-16
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	S-24
<u>CAPITALIZATION</u>	S-25
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS</u>	S-26
<u>PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDENDS DECLARED</u>	S-27
<u>DESCRIPTION OF MANDATORY CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED STOCK</u>	S-28
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES</u>	S-51
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPPED CALL TRANSACTIONS</u>	S-58
<u>UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS</u>	S-59
<u>UNDERWRITING</u>	S-68
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	S-76
<u>EXPERTS</u>	S-77
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	S-78
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u>	S-79

Prospectus

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	3
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u>	3
<u>OUR COMPANY</u>	5
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	5
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS</u>	5
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE DEBT SECURITIES</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE WARRANTS</u>	16
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON STOCK</u>	18
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED STOCK</u>	20
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE DEPOSITARY SHARES</u>	22
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE PURCHASE CONTRACTS</u>	26
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE UNITS</u>	27
<u>HEDGING IN CONNECTION WITH DISTRIBUTIONS</u>	29
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	29
<u>VALIDITY OF THE SECURITIES</u>	29

EXPERTS

S-i

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part, the prospectus supplement, including the documents incorporated by reference therein, describes the specific terms of this offering and certain matters relating to us. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference therein, provides more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. The accompanying prospectus was filed as part of our registration statement on Form S-3ASR (Registration No. 333-202379) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) on February 27, 2015, as part of a shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may sell any combination of debt securities, warrants, common stock, preferred stock, depository shares, purchase contracts and units in one or more offerings. Generally, when we refer to this prospectus supplement, we are referring to both parts of this document combined. We urge you to read carefully this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, the information incorporated by reference herein and therein, and any free writing prospectus that we authorize to be distributed to you before buying any of the securities being offered under this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement may supplement, update or change information contained in the accompanying prospectus. To the extent that any statement that we make in this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with statements made in the accompanying prospectus or any documents incorporated by reference therein, the statements made in this prospectus supplement will be deemed to modify or supersede those made in the accompanying prospectus and such documents incorporated by reference therein.

Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different from that contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus or in any free writing prospectus we may authorize to be delivered or made available to you. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. If information in this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on this prospectus supplement. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer of these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information provided by this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference herein or therein is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates of such documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

Before you invest in our preferred stock, you should carefully read the registration statement described in the accompanying prospectus (including the exhibits thereto) of which this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus form a part, as well as this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein. The documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement are described under **Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference**.

In this prospectus supplement, we, us, our, the Company and Hess refer to Hess Corporation and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, as the context requires.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

Some statements contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including information incorporated by reference, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and are intended to be covered by the safe harbor created by those sections. In particular, such statements are included in references to our future results of operations and financial position, liquidity and capital resources, capital expenditures, asset sales, oil and gas production, tax rates, debt repayment, hedging, derivatives, market risk and environmental disclosures, off-balance sheet arrangements and contractual obligations and contingencies. Words such as expect(s), feel(s), believe(s), will, may, anticipate(s), estimate(s), plan(s), intend(s), forecast(s), guidance, could, would and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Our forward-looking statements are based on our current understanding and assessment of relevant factors and reasonable assumptions about the future. They are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties, including commodity risks related to the change in price of crude oil and natural gas, as well as to changes in market conditions, interest rates, foreign currency values, tax rates, government regulations and other factors, including those described in Risk Factors included or incorporated by reference herein, which could cause actual results to differ materially from future results expressed or implied by those forward-looking statements.

Given these uncertainties, investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. Investors are also urged to carefully review and consider the various disclosures we make, which attempt to advise interested parties of the factors that affect our business, including the Risk Factors included or incorporated by reference herein and the reports we file with the SEC from time to time, specifically our Annual Report on Form 10-K, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and our Current Reports on Form 8-K. Except to the extent otherwise required by federal securities laws, we disclaim any intent or obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements set forth in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, or incorporated by reference herein or therein, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Table of Contents

OUR COMPANY

We are a global Exploration and Production (E&P) company that explores for, develops, produces, purchases and sells crude oil, natural gas liquids, and natural gas with production operations primarily in the United States (U.S.), Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, the Joint Development Area of Malaysia/Thailand, Malaysia, and Norway. Our Bakken Midstream operating segment, which was established in the second quarter of 2015, provides fee-based services including crude oil and natural gas gathering, processing of natural gas and the fractionation of natural gas liquids, transportation of crude oil by rail car, terminaling and loading crude oil and natural gas and the storage and terminaling of propane, primarily in the Bakken shale play of North Dakota.

We are a Delaware corporation. Our principal executive offices are located at 1185 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036, our operating headquarters are located at 1501 McKinney Street, Houston, Texas 77010 and our telephone number is (212) 997-8500. We maintain a website at <http://www.hess.com> where general information about us is available. We are not incorporating the contents of the website into this prospectus supplement.

To find more information about us, please see the sections entitled **Where You Can Find More Information** and **Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference**.

Table of Contents**RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

On January 27, 2016, we issued a press release reporting our estimated fourth quarter results, including an adjusted net loss, which excludes items affecting comparability, of \$396 million or \$1.40 per common share, for the fourth quarter of 2015, compared with adjusted net income of \$53 million or \$0.18 per share in the fourth quarter of 2014. Lower realized selling prices reduced adjusted net income by approximately \$420 million compared with the prior-year quarter. On an unadjusted basis, we reported a net loss of \$1,821 million for the fourth quarter of 2015 compared with a net loss of \$8 million in the fourth quarter of 2014. Fourth quarter 2015 results included noncash goodwill and other impairment related charges totaling \$1,359 million after tax. The after-tax results by major operating activity were as follows:

	Three Months Ended December 31, (unaudited)		Year Ended December 31, (unaudited)	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
(In millions, except per share amounts)				
Net Income (Loss) Attributable to Hess Corporation:				
Exploration and Production	\$ (1,713)	\$ 83	\$ (2,717)	\$ 2,086
Bakken Midstream	11	8	86	10
Corporate, Interest and Other	(111)	(96)	(377)	(404)
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	(1,813)	(5)	(3,008)	1,692
Discontinued operations	(8)	(3)	(48)	625
Net income (loss) attributable to Hess Corporation	\$ (1,821)	\$ (8)	\$ (3,056)	\$ 2,317
Net income (loss) per share (diluted)	\$ (6.43)	\$ (0.03)	\$ (10.78)	\$ 7.53
Adjusted Net Income (Loss) Attributable to Hess Corporation:				
Exploration and Production	\$ (328)	\$ 138	\$ (866)	\$ 1,544
Bakken Midstream	11	8	86	10
Corporate, Interest and Other	(79)	(93)	(333)	(330)
Adjusted net income (loss) from continuing operations	(396)	53	(1,113)	1,224
Discontinued operations				84
Adjusted net income (loss) attributable to Hess Corporation ⁽¹⁾	\$ (396)	\$ 53	\$ (1,113)	\$ 1,308
Adjusted net income (loss) per share (diluted)	\$ (1.40)	\$ 0.18	\$ (3.93)	\$ 4.25
Weighted average number of shares (diluted)	283.2	289.0	283.6	307.7

(1) We refer to the term adjusted net income (loss) in this prospectus supplement. Adjusted net income (loss) is a non-GAAP (as defined herein) financial measure, which we define as reported net income (loss) attributable to

Hess Corporation excluding items identified as affecting comparability of earnings between periods. A reconciliation of the differences between adjusted net income (loss) and the most comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) is below under *Reconciliation of U.S. GAAP to Non-GAAP Measures*. Management believes that this non-GAAP financial measure provides an additional means of analyzing our results. However, it should be viewed in addition to, and not as a substitute for, our reported results prepared in accordance with GAAP and should be read only in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP. Management uses this supplemental non-GAAP financial measure internally to understand, manage and evaluate our financial performance and make operating decisions.

S-2

Table of Contents*Exploration and Production:*

The Exploration and Production adjusted net loss in the fourth quarter of 2015 was \$328 million compared with adjusted net income of \$138 million in the fourth quarter of 2014. On an unadjusted basis, Exploration and Production had a net loss of \$1,713 million in the fourth quarter of 2015, compared with net income of \$83 million in the fourth quarter of 2014. Our average worldwide crude oil selling price, including the effect of hedging, was down 42 percent to \$43.73 per barrel in the fourth quarter of 2015 from \$75.34 per barrel in the fourth quarter of 2014. The average worldwide natural gas liquids selling price was \$9.61 per barrel, down from \$22.37 per barrel in the year-ago quarter while the average worldwide natural gas selling price was \$3.44 per mcf in the fourth quarter of 2015 compared with \$5.24 per mcf in the fourth quarter a year ago.

Excluding production from assets sold and Libya, pro forma net production in the fourth quarter of 2015 was 358,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day (boepd), up 4 percent from 343,000 boepd in the fourth quarter of 2014. Production growth at the Utica shale play (17,000 boepd), the Bakken shale play (7,000 boepd) and the Gulf of Mexico (5,000 boepd) was offset by lower production from the Joint Development area of Malaysia/Thailand (10,000 boepd) and Denmark (5,000 boepd). Our Algeria operations, which had production of 10,000 boepd in the fourth quarter of 2015 (9,000 boepd in the fourth quarter of 2014) were sold in December. We expect 2016 net production to be lower than 2015 net production. In addition, selling prices have declined thus far in 2016.

Oil and Gas Reserve Estimates:

Oil and gas proved reserves were 1,086 million barrels of oil equivalent (boe) at December 31, 2015, compared with 1,431 million boe at December 31, 2014. Lower crude oil prices and reduced drilling plans resulted in negative revisions to proved reserves of 282 million boe. Proved reserve additions and other technical revisions added 84 million boe in 2015, primarily from Bakken drilling activity in 2015. Proved developed reserves at December 31, 2015 were 795 million boe, up from 762 million boe at December 31, 2014.

Bakken Midstream:

Our Bakken Midstream segment had net income of \$11 million in the fourth quarter of 2015 compared to \$8 million in the prior-year quarter.

Capital and Exploratory Expenditures:

Exploration and Production capital and exploratory expenditures were \$943 million in the fourth quarter of 2015 down from \$1,575 million in the prior-year quarter reflecting reduced activities primarily in the United States, Norway and Equatorial Guinea Full year 2016 E&P capital and exploratory expenditures are forecast to be \$2.4 billion or 40 percent lower than 2015.

Bakken Midstream capital expenditures were \$103 million in the fourth quarter of 2015 and \$133 million in the year-ago quarter. In 2016, the Bakken Midstream capital budget is \$340 million up from full year 2015 capital expenditures of \$296 million.

Liquidity:

Cash provided by operating activities was \$623 million in the fourth quarter of 2015, compared with \$1,074 million in the fourth quarter of 2014. At December 31, 2015, cash and cash equivalents, excluding Bakken Midstream, were \$2,713 million compared with \$2,444 million at December 31, 2014. Total debt, excluding Bakken Midstream, was

\$5,920 million at December 31, 2015 compared with \$5,987 million at December 31, 2014. Our debt to capitalization ratio, excluding Bakken Midstream, at December 31, 2015 was 24.4 percent. The debt to capitalization ratio at December 31, 2014 was 21.2 percent.

S-3

Table of Contents*Reconciliation of U.S. GAAP to Non-GAAP Measures:*

The following table reconciles reported net income (loss) attributable to Hess Corporation and adjusted net income (loss):

	Three Months Ended December 31, (unaudited)		Year Ended December 31, (unaudited)	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	(In millions)			
Net income (loss) attributable to Hess Corporation	\$ (1,821)	\$ (8)	\$ (3,056)	\$ 2,317
Less: Total items affecting comparability of earnings between periods	(1,425)	(61)	(1,943)	1,009
Adjusted net income (loss) attributable to Hess Corporation	\$ (396)	\$ 53	\$ (1,113)	\$ 1,308

Items Affecting Comparability of Earnings Between Periods:

The following table reflects the total after-tax income (expense) of items affecting comparability of earnings between periods:

	Three Months Ended December 31, (unaudited)		Year Ended December 31, (unaudited)	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	(In millions)			
Exploration and Production	\$ (1,385)	\$ (55)	\$ (1,851)	\$ 542
Bakken Midstream				
Corporate, Interest and Other	(32)	(3)	(44)	(74)
Discontinued operations	(8)	(3)	(48)	541
Total items affecting comparability of earnings between periods	\$ (1,425)	\$ (61)	\$ (1,943)	\$ 1,009

Fourth quarter 2015 Exploration and Production results contained noncash charges of \$1,359 million resulting from the low commodity price environment, including a nontaxable goodwill impairment charge related to the E&P segment of \$1,098 million that was allocated in our financial results to U.S. and international operations. In addition, exploration costs include charges totaling \$178 million after tax (\$271 million pre tax) for the write-off of previously capitalized gas wells in Ghana, three previously capitalized wells in Australia that are not included in the most recent development concept, and the impairment of certain leasehold costs in the Gulf of Mexico. We also recognized an asset impairment charge of \$83 million after tax (\$133 million pre tax) associated with our legacy conventional assets in North Dakota.

Corporate, Interest and Other fourth quarter results include after tax charges of \$41 million (\$66 million pre tax) for our estimated liability resulting from HOVENSA LLC's bankruptcy settlement.

Our estimated fourth quarter results are subject to completion of audit procedures which could result in revising the information provided above.

Concurrent Common Stock Offering

Concurrently with this offering, we are offering, by means of a separate prospectus supplement, 25 million shares of our common stock (or 28.75 million shares, if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase up to an additional 3.75 million shares of our common stock in full) for cash. We estimate that the net proceeds from the concurrent common stock offering, after reflecting the underwriting discount and estimated offering

Table of Contents

expenses, will be approximately \$ million (or \$ million if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares of our common stock in full). There can be no assurance that the concurrent common stock offering will be completed.

The offering of depositary shares pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is not contingent upon the closing of our concurrent common stock offering, and the concurrent offering of our common stock is not contingent upon the closing of the offering of depositary shares hereunder.

This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any common stock being offered in the concurrent common stock offering.

Credit Ratings

Due to recent significant decreases in crude oil and U.S. natural gas prices, credit rating agencies are currently reviewing many companies in the industry, including us. On February 2, 2016, our corporate credit rating was downgraded by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services to BBB- (stable) from BBB (stable) and we anticipate that Moody's Investor Services, Inc. and Fitch Ratings are also likely to review our ratings and may decrease our ratings and outlook in the near term. Any rating downgrades will likely increase our future cost of financing and have a negative effect on the value of our indebtedness.

Table of Contents**THE OFFERING**

The summary below describes the principal terms of the depositary shares and our mandatory convertible preferred stock. Certain of the terms and conditions described below are subject to important limitations and exceptions. Refer to the section of the accompanying prospectus entitled "Description of the Preferred Stock," as supplemented by the "Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock" section of this prospectus supplement, for a more detailed description of the terms of the mandatory convertible preferred stock. As used in this section, the terms "Hess," "us," "we," or "our" refer to Hess Corporation and not to any of its subsidiaries.

Securities we are offering	10,000,000 depositary shares, each of which represents a 1/20th interest in a share of our % Series A Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock, \$1.00 par value per share, which we refer to in this prospectus supplement as our mandatory convertible preferred stock. Each depositary share entitles the holder of such depositary share, through the bank depositary, to a proportional fractional interest in the rights and preferences of such share of mandatory convertible preferred stock, including conversion, dividend, liquidation and voting rights, subject to the terms of the deposit agreement.
Underwriters' option	We have granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to 1,500,000 additional depositary shares, at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount.
Public offering price	\$50 per depositary share.
Liquidation preference	\$1,000 per share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock (equivalent to \$50 per depositary share).
Dividends	% of the liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock per year. Dividends will accumulate from the initial issue date (as defined below) and, to the extent that we are legally permitted to pay dividends and our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, declares a dividend payable with respect to our mandatory convertible preferred stock, we will pay such dividends in cash or, subject to certain limitations, by delivery of shares of our common stock or through any combination of cash and shares of our common stock, as determined by us in our sole discretion; <i>provided</i> that any unpaid dividends will continue to accumulate. Dividends that are declared will be payable on the dividend payment dates (as described below) to holders of record on the January 15, April 15, July 15 or October 15, as the case may be, immediately preceding the relevant dividend payment date (each, a

record date), whether or not such holders convert their depositary shares, or such depositary shares are automatically converted, after a record date and on or prior to the immediately succeeding dividend payment date. The expected dividend payable on the first dividend payment date is approximately \$ per share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock (equivalent to \$ per depositary share). Each subsequent dividend is expected to be approximately \$ per share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock

Table of Contents

(equivalent to \$ per depositary share). See Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Dividends.

If we elect to make any payment of a declared dividend, or any portion thereof, in shares of our common stock, such shares shall be valued for such purpose at the average VWAP per share (as defined under

Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Definitions), of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on the second trading day immediately preceding the applicable dividend payment date (the five-day average price), *multiplied by 97%*.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event will the number of shares of our common stock delivered in connection with any declared dividend exceed a number equal to the total dividend payment *divided by* \$, which amount represents approximately 35% of the initial price (as defined below), subject to adjustment in a manner inversely proportional to any adjustment to each fixed conversion rate (such dollar amount, as adjusted, the floor price). To the extent that the amount of the declared dividend as to which we have elected to deliver shares of our common stock in lieu of paying cash exceeds the product of the number of shares of common stock delivered in connection with such declared dividend and 97% of the five-day average price, we will, if we are legally able to do so, notwithstanding any notice by us to the contrary, pay such excess amount in cash.

The initial price equals \$1,000, *divided by* the maximum conversion rate (as defined below), rounded to the nearest \$0.0001, and is approximately equal to the per share public offering price of our common stock in the concurrent offering of our common stock (or, if such concurrent offering does not price, the closing price of our common stock on February , 2016).

Dividend payment dates

February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1 of each year, commencing on May 1, 2016 and ending on, and including, February 1, 2019.

Redemption

Neither the depositary shares nor our mandatory convertible preferred stock is redeemable.

Mandatory conversion date

The third business day immediately following the last trading day of the final averaging period (as defined below). The mandatory conversion date is expected to be February 1, 2019.

Mandatory conversion

On the mandatory conversion date, each outstanding share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, unless previously converted, will automatically convert into a number of shares of our common stock equal to the conversion rate as described below, and each depositary share will automatically convert into a number of shares of common stock equal to a proportionate fractional interest in such shares of common stock.

S-7

Table of Contents

If we declare a dividend for the dividend period ending on February 1, 2019, we will pay such dividend to the holders of record on the applicable record date, as described above. If, on or prior to January 15, 2019, we have not declared all or any portion of all accumulated and unpaid dividends on the mandatory convertible preferred stock, the conversion rate will be adjusted so that holders receive an additional number of shares of common stock equal to the amount of accumulated and unpaid dividends that have not been declared (the additional conversion amount), *divided by* the greater of (i) the floor price and (ii) 97% of the five-day average price. To the extent that the additional conversion amount exceeds the product of such number of additional shares and 97% of the five-day average price, we will, if we are legally able to do so, pay such excess amount in cash.

Conversion rate

Upon conversion on the mandatory conversion date, the conversion rate for each share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock will be not more than _____ shares of common stock and not less than _____ shares of common stock (respectively, the maximum conversion rate and the minimum conversion rate), depending on the applicable market value of our common stock, as described below and subject to certain anti-dilution adjustments. Correspondingly, the conversion rate per depositary share will be not more than _____ shares of common stock and not less than _____ shares of common stock.

The applicable market value of our common stock is the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the final averaging period. The final averaging period is the 20 consecutive trading day period beginning on, and including, the 23rd scheduled trading day immediately preceding February 1, 2019. The conversion rate will be calculated as described under Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Mandatory Conversion. The following table illustrates the conversion rate per share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, subject to certain anti-dilution adjustments.

Applicable market value	Conversion rate per share
of our common stock	of mandatory convertible
Greater than the threshold	preferred stock
<p>appreciation price</p> <p>Equal to or less than the threshold appreciation price but greater than or equal to the initial price</p>	<p>_____ shares of common stock</p> <p>Between _____ and _____ shares of common stock, determined by dividing \$1,000 by _____</p>

Less than the initial price	the applicable market value shares of common stock
-----------------------------	---

Table of Contents

The following table illustrates the conversion rate per depositary share, subject to certain anti-dilution adjustments:

Applicable market value of our common stock	Conversion rate per depositary share
Greater than the threshold appreciation price	shares of common stock
Equal to or less than the threshold appreciation price but greater than or equal to the initial price	Between and shares of common stock, determined by dividing \$50 by the applicable market value
Less than the initial price	shares of common stock

The threshold appreciation price equals \$1,000, *divided by* the minimum conversion rate, rounded to the nearest \$0.0001, and represents an approximately % appreciation over the initial price.

Conversion at the option of the holder

Other than during a fundamental change conversion period (as defined below), at any time prior to February 1, 2019, a holder of mandatory convertible preferred stock may elect to convert such holder's shares of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, in whole or in part, at the minimum conversion rate of shares of common stock per share of mandatory convertible preferred stock (equivalent to shares of common stock per depositary share) as described under Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Conversion at the Option of the Holder. This minimum conversion rate is subject to certain anti-dilution and other adjustments. Because each depositary share represents a 1/20th fractional interest in a share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, a holder of depositary shares may convert its depositary shares only in lots of 20 depositary shares.

If, as of the effective date of any early conversion (the early conversion date), we have not declared all or any portion of the accumulated and unpaid dividends for all full dividend periods ending on the dividend payment date prior to such early conversion date, the conversion rate will be adjusted so that converting holders receive an additional number of shares of common stock equal to such amount of accumulated and unpaid dividends that have not been declared for such full dividend periods (the early conversion additional conversion amount), *divided by* the greater of (i) the floor price and (ii) the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the 20 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the third trading day immediately preceding the early

conversion date (the early conversion average price). To the extent that the early conversion additional conversion amount exceeds the product of such number of additional shares and the early conversion average price, we will not have any obligation to pay the shortfall in cash.

Table of Contents

Conversion at the option of the holder upon a fundamental change; fundamental change dividend make-whole amount

If a fundamental change (as defined under Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount) occurs on or prior to February 1, 2019, holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will have the right to convert their shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock, in whole or in part, into shares of common stock at the fundamental change conversion rate during the period beginning on, and including, the effective date of such fundamental change and ending on, and including, the date that is 20 calendar days after such effective date (or, if later, the date that is 20 calendar days after holders receive notice of such fundamental change, but in no event later than February 1, 2019). The fundamental change conversion rate will be determined based on the effective date of the fundamental change and the price paid (or deemed paid) per share of our common stock in such fundamental change. Holders who convert shares of our mandatory convertible preferred stock during that period will also receive (1) a fundamental change dividend make-whole amount equal to the present value (calculated using a discount rate of % per annum) of all dividend payments on such shares (excluding any accumulated and unpaid dividends for any dividend period prior to the effective date of the fundamental change, including for the partial dividend period, if any, from, and including, the dividend payment date immediately preceding the effective date to, but excluding, the effective date (collectively, the accumulated dividend amount)) for all the remaining full dividend periods and for the partial dividend period from, and including, the effective date to, but excluding, the next dividend payment date, and (2) to the extent that there is any accumulated dividend amount, the accumulated dividend amount (clauses (1) and (2), together, the make-whole dividend amount), in the case of clauses (1) and (2), subject to our right to deliver shares of our common stock in lieu of all or part of such make-whole dividend amount; *provided* that if the effective date or the conversion date falls after the record date for a declared dividend and prior to the next dividend payment date, such dividend will be paid on such dividend payment date to the holders as of such record date, such dividend will not be included in the accumulated dividend amount, and the fundamental change dividend make-whole amount will not include the present value of the payment of such dividend. Because each depositary share represents a 1/20th fractional interest in a share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, a holder of depositary shares may convert its depositary shares upon a fundamental change only in lots of 20 depositary shares.

If we elect to make any payment of the make-whole dividend amount, or any portion thereof, in shares of our common stock, such shares shall be valued for such purpose at 97% of the price paid (or deemed

S-10

Table of Contents

paid) per share of our common stock in the fundamental change. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event will the number of shares of our common stock that we deliver in lieu of paying all or a portion of the make-whole dividend amount in cash exceed a number equal to the portion of the make-whole dividend amount to be paid by the delivery of common stock *divided by* the greater of (i) the floor price and (ii) 97% of the price paid (or deemed paid) per share of our common stock in the fundamental change. To the extent that the portion of the make-whole dividend amount as to which we have elected to deliver shares of common stock in lieu of paying cash exceeds the product of the number of shares of common stock delivered in respect of such portion of the make-whole dividend amount and 97% of the price paid (or deemed paid) per share of our common stock in the fundamental change, we will, if we are legally able to do so, notwithstanding any notice by us to the contrary, pay such excess amount in cash.

In addition, if we are prohibited from paying or delivering, as the case may be, the make-whole dividend amount (whether in cash or in shares of our common stock), in whole or in part, due to limitations of applicable Delaware law, the conversion rate will instead be increased by a number of shares of common stock equal to the cash amount of the aggregate unpaid and undelivered make-whole dividend amount, *divided by* the greater of (i) the floor price and (ii) 97% of the price paid (or deemed paid) per share of our common stock in the fundamental change. To the extent that the cash amount of the aggregate unpaid and undelivered make-whole dividend amount exceeds the product of such number of additional shares and 97% of the price paid (or deemed paid) per share of our common stock in the fundamental change, we will not have any obligation to pay the shortfall in cash.

See Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount.

Anti-dilution adjustments

The conversion rate may be adjusted in the event of, among other things: (1) stock dividends or distributions; (2) certain distributions to holders of our common stock of rights or warrants to purchase our common stock; (3) subdivisions or combinations of our common stock; (4) certain distributions to holders of our common stock of evidences of our indebtedness, shares of capital stock, securities, rights to acquire our capital stock, cash or other assets, including by spin-off; (5) certain distributions to holders of our common stock of cash; and (6) certain tender or exchange offers by us or one of our subsidiaries for our common stock, in each case subject to certain exceptions. See Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Anti-dilution

Adjustments.

Voting rights

Except as specifically required by Delaware law or our Restated Certificate of Incorporation, which will include the certificate of

S-11

Table of Contents

designations for the mandatory convertible preferred stock, the holders of mandatory convertible preferred stock will have no voting rights.

Whenever dividends on shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock have not been declared and paid for six or more dividend periods (including, for the avoidance of doubt, the dividend period beginning on, and including, the initial issue date and ending on, but excluding, May 1, 2016), whether or not consecutive, the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, voting together as a single class with holders of all other preferred stock of equal rank having similar voting rights, will be entitled at our next special or annual meeting of stockholders to vote for the election of a total of two additional members of our board of directors, subject to certain limitations.

We will not, without the affirmative vote or consent of holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock and all other preferred stock of equal rank having similar voting rights, voting together as a single class, (1) authorize or create, or increase the authorized amount of, any specific class or series of stock ranking senior to the mandatory convertible preferred stock; (2) amend, alter or repeal the provisions of our Restated Certificate of Incorporation so as to adversely affect the rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers of the mandatory convertible preferred stock; or (3) consummate a binding share exchange or reclassification involving shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock or a merger or consolidation of us with another entity unless the mandatory convertible preferred stock remains outstanding or is replaced by preference securities with terms no less favorable to holders in any material respect, in each case, subject to certain exceptions.

See Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Voting Rights and Description of Depositary Shares Voting the Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock.

Ranking

The mandatory convertible preferred stock will rank with respect to dividend rights and/or rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution, as applicable:

senior to (i) our common stock and (ii) each other class or series of capital stock issued after the original issue date of the mandatory convertible preferred stock (which we refer to as the initial issue date) the terms of which do not expressly provide that such capital stock ranks either (x) senior to the mandatory convertible preferred stock as

to dividend rights or rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution or (y) on a parity with the mandatory convertible preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution (which we refer to collectively as "junior stock");

S-12

Table of Contents

on a parity with any class or series of capital stock issued after the initial issue date the terms of which expressly provide that such capital stock will rank on a parity with the mandatory convertible preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution (which we refer to collectively as parity stock);

junior to each class or series of capital stock issued after the initial issue date the terms of which expressly provide that such capital stock will rank senior to the mandatory convertible preferred stock as to dividend rights or rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution (which we refer to collectively as senior stock); and

junior to our existing and future indebtedness.

In addition, the mandatory convertible preferred stock, with respect to dividend rights and rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution, will be structurally subordinated to existing and future indebtedness of our subsidiaries as well as the capital stock of our subsidiaries held by third parties.

At September 30, 2015, we had total outstanding consolidated debt of approximately \$6,552 million and no outstanding shares of preferred stock.

Related party purchases

John B. Hess, our Chief Executive Officer, and certain Hess family trusts have indicated their intention to purchase in the aggregate of our depositary shares for an aggregate purchase price of \$ million in this offering, and to purchase in the aggregate shares of our common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$ million in the concurrent common stock offering.

Use of proceeds

We expect to receive net proceeds from this offering of approximately \$ million (or approximately \$ million if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional depositary shares in full), after deducting the underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses. We expect to enter into capped call transactions with one or more of the underwriters or their affiliates (the option counterparties). We intend to use approximately \$ million of the net proceeds from this offering to pay the cost of the capped call transactions. The remaining net proceeds from this offering, as well as the net proceeds from the concurrent common stock offering will strengthen our balance sheet and will be used for general corporate purposes, including funding

our longer term capital needs. See Use of Proceeds.

S-13

Table of Contents

If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional depositary shares, we expect to use a portion of the net proceeds from the sale of the additional depositary shares to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties and for general corporate purposes.

Material U.S. federal tax consequences

The material U.S. federal income tax consequences of purchasing, owning and disposing of the depositary shares and any common stock received upon their conversion are described under United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.

Capped call transactions

In connection with the pricing of the depositary shares, we expect to enter into capped call transactions with the option counterparties. The capped call transactions are expected generally to reduce potential dilution to our common stock upon any conversion of mandatory convertible preferred stock, with such reduction subject to a cap. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional depositary shares, we expect to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties.

In connection with establishing their initial hedge of the capped call transactions, the option counterparties or affiliates thereof expect to enter into various derivative transactions with respect to our common stock concurrently with or shortly after the pricing of the depositary shares. This activity could increase (or reduce the size of any decrease in) the market price of our common stock or the depositary shares at that time.

In addition, the option counterparties or affiliates thereof may modify their hedge positions by entering into or unwinding various derivatives with respect to our common stock and/or purchasing or selling our common stock or other securities of ours in secondary market transactions following the pricing of the depositary shares and prior to the mandatory conversion date (and are likely to do so during the final averaging period). This activity could also cause or avoid an increase or a decrease in the market price of our common stock or the depositary shares, which could affect the value of the shares of our common stock that you will receive upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and, to the extent the activity occurs during the final averaging period, it could also affect the number of shares of our common stock that you will receive upon conversion.

Listing

We intend to apply to list the depositary shares on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HES.PRA. Our common stock is listed on

The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HES.

Concurrent offering of common stock Concurrently with this offering, we are also making a public offering of 25 million shares of our common stock pursuant to a separate

S-14

Table of Contents

prospectus supplement. In that offering, we have granted the underwriters of that offering an option to purchase up to an additional 3.75 million shares of our common stock. The closing of our offering of the depositary shares is not conditioned upon the closing of the concurrent offering of our common stock, and the closing of the concurrent offering of our common stock is not conditioned upon the closing of this offering of the depositary shares.

Transfer agent and registrar

Computershare Trust Company, N.A. is the transfer agent and registrar for the mandatory convertible preferred stock and our common stock.

Risk factors

See **Risk Factors** beginning on page S-16 of this prospectus supplement for a discussion of risks you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in the depositary shares.

As of January 31, 2016, 286,005,295 shares of common stock were outstanding, which excludes 6,911,378 shares of common stock upon exercise of outstanding options issuable under our equity compensation plans, 14,160,713 shares reserved for future issuance under such plans, our concurrent offering of common stock and _____ shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of our mandatory convertible preferred stock (or _____ shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of our mandatory convertible preferred stock if the underwriters exercise their option in respect of this offering in full), in each case, subject to anti-dilution, make-whole and other adjustments.

Table of Contents**RISK FACTORS**

You should carefully consider the risks described below together with the risk factors described in reports we file with the SEC and incorporated by reference into the accompanying prospectus, as well as all of the other information in, and incorporated by reference into, this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, before you decide to invest in our depositary shares. If any of the risks actually occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could suffer. In that event, you may lose all or part of your investment in the depositary shares.

Risks Related to the Depositary Shares and Our Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock

You are making an investment decision in the depositary shares as well as in our mandatory convertible preferred stock.

As described in this prospectus supplement, you are investing in depositary shares that represent fractional interests in our mandatory convertible preferred stock. The bank depositary will rely solely on the dividend payments and other distributions on the mandatory convertible preferred stock it receives from us to fund all dividend payments and other distributions on the depositary shares.

You will bear the risk of a decline in the market price of our common stock between the pricing date for the depositary shares and the mandatory conversion date.

The number of shares of our common stock that you would receive upon mandatory conversion of our mandatory convertible preferred stock (and the related conversion of the depositary shares) is not fixed, but instead will depend on the applicable market value, which is the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the final averaging period, which is the 20 consecutive trading day period beginning on, and including, the 23rd scheduled trading day immediately preceding February 1, 2019, which is the scheduled mandatory conversion date. The aggregate market value of the shares of our common stock that you would receive upon mandatory conversion may be less than the aggregate liquidation preference of the mandatory convertible preferred stock represented by your depositary shares. Specifically, if the applicable market value of our common stock is less than the initial price of \$ (which is approximately equal to the per share public offering price of our common stock in the concurrent offering of our common stock (or, if such concurrent offering does not price, the closing price of our common stock on February , 2016)), subject to certain anti-dilution adjustments, the market value of the shares of our common stock that you would receive upon mandatory conversion of each share of mandatory convertible preferred stock will be less than the \$1,000 liquidation preference per share of mandatory convertible preferred stock (and, accordingly the market value of shares of our common stock that you would receive upon mandatory conversion of each depositary share will be less than the \$50 liquidation preference per depositary share), and an investment in the depositary shares would result in a loss. Accordingly, you will bear the entire risk of a decline in the market price of our common stock. Any such decline could be substantial.

In addition, because the number of shares delivered to you upon mandatory conversion will be based upon the applicable market value, which is the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the final averaging period, the shares of common stock you receive upon mandatory conversion may be worth less than the shares of common stock you would have received had the applicable market value been equal to the VWAP per share of our common stock on the mandatory conversion date or the average VWAP of our common stock over a different period of days.

Purchasers of the depositary shares may not realize any or all of the benefit of an increase in the market price of shares of our common stock.

The aggregate market value of the shares of our common stock that you will receive upon mandatory conversion of each share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock (and the related conversion of the

S-16

Table of Contents

depository shares) on the mandatory conversion date will only exceed the liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share of mandatory convertible preferred stock (and the liquidation preference of \$50 per depository share) if the applicable market value of our common stock exceeds the threshold appreciation price of \$, subject to certain anti-dilution adjustments. The threshold appreciation price represents an appreciation of approximately % over the initial price. If the applicable market value of our common stock exceeds the threshold appreciation price, you will receive on the mandatory conversion date approximately % (which percentage is approximately equal to the initial price *divided by* the threshold appreciation price) of the value of our common stock that you would have received if you had made a direct investment in our common stock on the date of this prospectus supplement. This means that the opportunity for equity appreciation provided by an investment in the depository shares (and the underlying mandatory convertible preferred stock) is less than that provided by a direct investment in shares of our common stock.

In addition, if the market value of our common stock appreciates and the applicable market value of our common stock is equal to or greater than the initial price but less than or equal to the threshold appreciation price, the aggregate market value of the shares of our common stock that you would receive upon mandatory conversion will only be equal to the aggregate liquidation preference of the mandatory convertible preferred stock (and, correspondingly, the aggregate market value of our common stock that you would receive upon the related mandatory conversion of the depository shares will only be equal to the aggregate liquidation preference of the depository shares), and you will realize no equity appreciation on our common stock.

The market price of our common stock, which may fluctuate significantly, will directly affect the market price for the depository shares.

We expect that, generally, the market price of our common stock will affect the market price of the depository shares more than any other single factor. This may result in greater volatility in the market price of the depository shares than would be expected for nonconvertible preferred stock or depository shares representing nonconvertible preferred stock. The market price of our common stock could fluctuate significantly in response to a number of factors, including the market prices of crude oil, natural gas liquids and natural gas, which are influenced by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), worldwide supply and demand, exploration, development and production costs, the price and availability of alternative fuels or energy and conservation and environmental protection efforts, among other factors, the successful replacement of our oil and gas production and reserves, changing laws and regulations that may impact our business, our ability to obtain financing on satisfactory terms, changes in recommendations by financial analysts as well as economic, financial, political and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. For more information regarding such factors, see the section of this prospectus supplement below entitled **Risks Related to Ownership of Our Common Stock** and **Risk Factors** in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

In addition, we expect that the market price of the depository shares will be influenced by yield and interest rates in the capital markets, the time remaining to the mandatory conversion date, our creditworthiness and the occurrence of certain events affecting us that do not require an adjustment to the fixed conversion rates. Fluctuations in yield rates in particular may give rise to arbitrage opportunities based upon changes in the relative values of the depository shares and our common stock. Any such arbitrage could, in turn, affect the market prices of our common stock and the depository shares. The market price of our common stock could also be affected by possible sales of our common stock by investors who view the depository shares as a more attractive means of equity participation in us and by hedging or arbitrage trading activity that we expect to develop involving our common stock. This trading activity could, in turn, affect the market price of the depository shares.

Recent regulatory actions may adversely affect the trading price and liquidity of the depository shares.

We expect that many investors in, and potential purchasers of, the depositary shares will employ, or seek to employ, a convertible arbitrage strategy with respect to the depositary shares. Investors would typically implement such a strategy by selling short the common stock underlying the convertible securities and

S-17

Table of Contents

dynamically adjusting their short position while continuing to hold the securities. Investors may also implement this type of strategy by entering into swaps on our common stock in lieu of or in addition to short selling the common stock.

The SEC and other regulatory and self-regulatory authorities have implemented various rules and taken certain actions, and may in the future adopt additional rules and take other actions, that may impact those engaging in short selling activity involving equity securities (including our common stock). Such rules and actions include Rule 201 of SEC Regulation SHO, the adoption by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. and the national securities exchanges of a Limit Up-Limit Down program, the imposition of market-wide circuit breakers that halt trading of securities for certain periods following specific market declines, and the implementation of certain regulatory reforms required by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. Any governmental or regulatory action that restricts the ability of investors in, or potential purchasers of, the depositary shares to effect short sales of our common stock, borrow our common stock or enter into swaps on our common stock could adversely affect the trading price and the liquidity of the depositary shares.

The fundamental change conversion rate and the payment of the fundamental change dividend make-whole amount upon the occurrence of certain fundamental changes may not adequately compensate you for the lost option value and lost dividends as a result of early conversion upon a fundamental change.

If a fundamental change (as defined under Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount) occurs on or prior to February 1, 2019, the fundamental change conversion rate will apply to any shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock (and, accordingly, the depositary shares) converted during the fundamental change conversion period (as defined under Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount) unless the stock price is less than \$ or above \$ (in each case, subject to adjustment) and, with respect to those shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock (and, accordingly, those depositary shares) converted, you will also receive, among other consideration, a fundamental change dividend make-whole amount, subject to our right to deliver shares of common stock in lieu of all or part of such amount and subject to Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount. The number of shares of common stock to be issued upon conversion in connection with a fundamental change will be determined as described under Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount. Although the fundamental change conversion rate and the payment of the fundamental change dividend make-whole amount are generally designed to compensate you for the lost option value that you would suffer and lost dividends as a result of converting your depositary shares representing our mandatory convertible preferred stock upon a fundamental change, the fundamental change conversion rate is also designed to compensate us for the lost option value that we would suffer as a result of any such conversion. As a result, in many cases the fundamental change conversion rate will be less than the conversion rate that would apply upon mandatory conversion. The fundamental change conversion rate and fundamental change dividend make-whole amount are generally only an approximation of such lost option value and lost dividends and may not adequately compensate you for your actual loss. Furthermore, our obligation to deliver a number of shares of common stock, per share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock (and your corresponding right to receive a proportionate number of shares of our common stock per depositary share), equal to the fundamental change conversion rate and pay the fundamental change dividend make-whole amount (whether paid or delivered, as the case may be, in cash or shares of our common stock) upon a conversion during the fundamental change conversion period could be considered a penalty under state law, in which case the enforceability thereof would be subject to general principles of reasonableness of economic remedies.

Table of Contents

The fixed conversion rates of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and, in turn, the depositary shares may not be adjusted for all dilutive events that may adversely affect the market price of the depositary shares or the common stock issuable upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock.

The fixed conversion rates of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and, in turn, the depositary shares, are subject to adjustment only for share subdivisions and combinations, share dividends and specified other transactions. See Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Anti-dilution Adjustments for further discussion of anti-dilution adjustments. However, other events, such as grants under employee benefit or incentive plans, offerings of our common stock or securities convertible into common stock (other than those set forth under Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Anti-dilution Adjustments) for cash or in connection with acquisitions, regular quarterly cash dividends that do not exceed the initial dividend threshold (as defined under Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Anti-dilution Adjustments) or third-party tender or exchange offers, which may adversely affect the market price of our common stock, may not result in any adjustment. Further, if any of these other events adversely affects the market price of our common stock, it may also adversely affect the market price of the depositary shares. In addition, the terms of our mandatory convertible preferred stock and the depositary shares do not restrict our ability to offer common stock or securities convertible into common stock in the future, including offering a new series of preferred stock that ranks equally with our mandatory convertible preferred stock as to dividend payments and liquidation preference, or to engage in other transactions that could dilute our common stock. We have no obligation to consider the specific interests of the holders of our mandatory convertible preferred stock or the depositary shares in engaging in any such offering or transaction.

The concurrent offering of our common stock, and the possibility of the sale of our common stock in the future, could reduce the market price of our common stock and, in turn, the depositary shares.

Concurrently with this offering, we are offering 25 million shares of our common stock, plus up to 3.75 million additional shares of our common stock if the underwriters in that offering exercise their option to purchase such additional shares of our common stock in full. This offering is not conditioned on the closing of the concurrent offering of our common stock, and the concurrent offering of our common stock is not conditioned on the closing of this offering. In the future, we may sell additional shares of our common stock to raise capital or acquire interests in other companies by using a combination of cash and our common stock or just our common stock. Any of these events may dilute your ownership interest in our company and have an adverse impact on the price of our common stock and, in turn, the depositary shares. In addition, a substantial number of shares of our common stock is reserved for issuance upon the exercise of stock options and upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock. Furthermore, sales of a substantial amount of our common stock in the public market, or the perception that these sales may occur, could reduce the market price of our common stock and, in turn, the depositary shares. This could also impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of our securities.

You will have no rights with respect to our common stock until you convert your depositary shares, but you may be adversely affected by certain changes made with respect to our common stock.

You will have no rights with respect to our common stock, including voting rights, rights to respond to common stock tender offers, if any, and rights to receive dividends or other distributions on our common stock, if any, prior to the conversion date with respect to a conversion of your depositary shares, but your investment in the depositary shares may be negatively affected by these events. Upon conversion, you will be entitled to exercise the rights of a holder of common stock only as to matters for which the record date occurs on or after the conversion date. For example, in the event that an amendment is proposed to our Restated Certificate of Incorporation or our By-laws requiring stockholder approval and the record date for determining the stockholders of record entitled to vote on the amendment occurs prior to the conversion date, you will not be entitled to vote on the amendment, unless it would adversely affect the rights,

preferences, privileges and voting powers of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, although you will nevertheless be subject to any changes in the powers, preferences or rights of our common stock.

S-19

Table of Contents

You will have no voting rights except under limited circumstances, and you will need to act through the bank depositary to exercise voting rights with respect to our mandatory convertible preferred stock.

You do not have voting rights, except with respect to certain amendments to the terms of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, in the case of certain dividend arrearages, in certain other limited circumstances and except as specifically required by Delaware law. You will have no right to vote for any members of our board of directors except in the case of certain dividend arrearages. If dividends on any shares of the mandatory convertible preferred stock have not been declared and paid for the equivalent of six or more dividend periods (including, for the avoidance of doubt, the dividend period beginning on, and including, the initial issue date and ending on, but excluding, May 1, 2016), whether or not for consecutive dividend periods, the holders of shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock, voting together as a single class with holders of any and all other classes or series of our preferred stock ranking equally with the mandatory convertible preferred stock either as to dividends and the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up and having similar voting rights, will be entitled to vote for the election of a total of two additional members of our board of directors, subject to the terms and limitations described under

Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Voting Rights. Holders of depositary shares must act through the bank depositary to exercise any voting rights in respect of our mandatory convertible preferred stock.

Our mandatory convertible preferred stock will rank junior to all of our and our subsidiaries liabilities, as well as the capital stock of our subsidiaries held by third parties, in the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or winding up of our or our subsidiaries assets.

In the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or winding up, our assets will be available to make payments to holders of our mandatory convertible preferred stock only after all of our liabilities have been paid. In addition, our mandatory convertible preferred stock will rank structurally junior to all existing and future liabilities of our subsidiaries, as well as the capital stock of our subsidiaries held by third parties. Your rights to participate in the assets of our subsidiaries upon any liquidation or reorganization of any subsidiary will rank junior to the prior claims of that subsidiary's creditors and third party equity holders. In the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or winding up, there may not be sufficient assets remaining, after paying our and our subsidiaries liabilities, to pay any amounts to the holders of our mandatory convertible preferred stock then outstanding. At September 30, 2015, we and our subsidiaries had total outstanding consolidated debt of approximately \$6,552 million, and we had no outstanding shares of preferred stock.

Our ability to pay dividends on our mandatory convertible preferred stock may be limited.

Our payment of dividends on our mandatory convertible preferred stock in the future will be determined by our board of directors (or an authorized committee thereof) in its sole discretion and will depend on business conditions, our financial condition, earnings and liquidity, and other factors.

The agreements governing any future indebtedness of ours may limit our ability to pay cash dividends on our capital stock, including the mandatory convertible preferred stock. In the event that the agreements governing any such indebtedness restrict our ability to pay dividends in cash on the mandatory convertible preferred stock, we may be unable to pay dividends in cash on the mandatory convertible preferred stock unless we can refinance the amounts outstanding under such agreements.

In addition, under Delaware law, our board of directors (or an authorized committee thereof) may declare dividends on our capital stock (whether in cash or in shares of our common stock) only to the extent of our statutory surplus (which is defined as the amount equal to total assets minus total liabilities, in each case at fair market value, minus statutory capital), or if there is no such surplus, out of our net profits for the then current and/or immediately preceding fiscal year. Further, even if we are permitted under our contractual obligations and Delaware law to pay

cash dividends on the mandatory convertible preferred stock, we may not have sufficient cash to pay dividends in cash on the mandatory convertible preferred stock (and, in turn, on the depositary shares).

S-20

Table of Contents

If upon mandatory conversion or an early conversion at the option of a holder (other than during a fundamental change conversion period, except in limited circumstances) we have not declared all or any portion of the accumulated and unpaid dividends payable on the mandatory convertible preferred stock for specified periods, the applicable conversion rate will be adjusted so that converting holders receive an additional number of shares of common stock having a market value generally equal to the amount of such accumulated and unpaid dividends, subject to the limitations described under **Description of the Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock** **Mandatory Conversion** and **Conversion at the Option of the Holder**. If upon an early conversion during the fundamental change conversion period we have not declared all or any portion of the accumulated and unpaid dividends payable on the mandatory convertible preferred stock for specified periods, we will pay the amount of such accumulated and unpaid dividends in cash, shares of our common stock or any combination thereof, in our sole discretion (or, in certain circumstances, make a corresponding adjustment to the conversion rate), subject in each case to the limitations described under **Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount**. In the case of mandatory conversion or conversion upon a fundamental change, if these limits to the adjustment of the conversion rate or the amount of such dividends payable in shares, as applicable, are reached, we will pay the shortfall in cash if we are legally permitted to do so. We will not have an obligation to pay the shortfall in cash if these limits to the adjustment of the conversion rate are reached in the case of an early conversion at the option of the holder (or in the case of an early conversion during the fundamental change conversion period, if we are required to make an adjustment to the conversion rate in respect of any accumulated and unpaid dividends).

You may be subject to tax upon an adjustment to the conversion rate of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and the depositary shares even though you do not receive a corresponding cash distribution.

The conversion rate of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and the depositary shares is subject to adjustment in certain circumstances. Refer to **Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock** **Anti-dilution Adjustments**. If, as a result of an adjustment (or failure to make an adjustment), your proportionate interest in our assets or earnings and profits is increased, you may be deemed to have received for U.S. federal income tax purposes a taxable dividend without the receipt of any cash or property. If you are a non-U.S. holder (as defined under **United States Federal Income Tax Considerations**), such deemed dividend generally will be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax (currently at a 30% rate, or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable treaty), which may be set off against subsequent payments on the depositary shares. Refer to **United States Federal Income Tax Considerations** for a further discussion of U.S. federal tax implications for U.S. holders (as defined therein) and non-U.S. holders.

Non-U.S. holders may be subject to U.S. income tax with respect to gain on disposition of their depositary shares or common stock.

We have not determined whether we are a United States real property holding corporation (**USRPHC**). We can give no assurance that we are not or will not become one in the future. If we are or become a USRPHC, non-U.S. holders that own (or are treated as owning under constructive ownership rules) more than 5% of our depositary shares or common stock during a specified time period may be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a sale, exchange, conversion or other disposition of such depositary shares or common stock or distributions on our depositary shares that are treated as a return of capital and may be required to file a U.S. federal income tax return. See **United States Federal Income Tax Considerations** **Tax Consequences Applicable to Non-U.S. Holders**.

An active trading market for the depositary shares does not exist and may not develop.

The depositary shares are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We intend to apply to list the depositary shares on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol **HES.PRA**. Even if the depositary shares are approved for listing on The New York Stock Exchange, such listing does not guarantee that

Table of Contents

a trading market for the depositary shares will develop or, if a trading market for the depositary shares does develop, the depth or liquidity of that market or the ability of the holders to sell the depositary shares, or to sell the depositary shares at a favorable price.

The capped call transactions may affect the value of the depositary shares and our common stock.

In connection with the pricing of the depositary shares, we expect to enter into capped call transactions with the option counterparties. The capped call transactions are expected generally to reduce the potential dilution upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, with such reduction subject to a cap. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional depositary shares, we expect to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties.

In connection with establishing their initial hedge of the capped call transactions, the option counterparties or affiliates thereof expect to enter into various derivative transactions with respect to our common stock concurrently with or shortly after the pricing of the depositary shares. This activity could increase (or reduce the size of any decrease in) the market price of our common stock or the depositary shares at that time.

In addition, the option counterparties or affiliates thereof may modify their hedge positions by entering into or unwinding various derivatives with respect to our common stock and/or purchasing or selling our common stock or other securities of ours in secondary market transactions following the pricing of the depositary shares and prior to the mandatory conversion date (and are likely to do so during the final averaging period). This activity could also cause or avoid an increase or a decrease in the market price of our common stock or the depositary shares, which could affect the value of the shares of our common stock that you will receive upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and, to the extent the activity occurs during the final averaging period, it could also affect the number of shares of our common stock that you will receive upon conversion.

In addition, if any such capped call transactions fail to become effective, whether or not this offering of depositary shares is completed, the option counterparties may unwind their hedge positions with respect to our common stock, which could adversely affect the value of our common stock and, if the depositary shares have been issued, the value of the depositary shares.

Risks Related to Ownership of Our Common Stock

The market price of our common stock may be volatile or may decline and it may be difficult for you to resell shares of our common stock at prices you find attractive.

The market price of our common stock has historically experienced and may continue to experience volatility. The price of our common stock could be subject to wide fluctuations in the future in response to a number of events or factors, including, among others, (i) the market prices of crude oil, natural gas liquids and natural gas, which is influenced by OPEC, worldwide supply and demand, exploration, development and production costs, the price and availability of alternative fuels or energy and conservation and environmental protection efforts, among other factors; (ii) the successful replacement of our oil and gas production and reserves, including proved undeveloped reserves; (iii) the inherent uncertainties that exist in estimating quantities of proved reserves and future net revenues from those reserves, and actual quantities, which may be lower than estimated; (iv) decisions made under joint operating agreements, which we may not control, and the partners under such agreements failing to meet their obligations; (v) changing laws and regulations and other governmental actions, including environmental laws and regulations, and environmental risks; (vi) political instability in areas where we operate; (vii) competition from other companies in our industry; (viii) our failure to meet financial analysts' performance or financing expectations; (ix) changes in

recommendations by financial analysts; (x) our ability to obtain necessary financing on satisfactory terms, (xi) our ability to manage commodity price hedging and counterparty risk and (xii) changes in market valuations of other companies in our industry. For more information regarding such factors, see [Risk Factors](#) in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

S-22

Table of Contents

Other risks described elsewhere under "Risk Factors" in this prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus also could materially and adversely affect our stock price and, in turn, the market price of the depositary shares.

Anti-takeover provisions in our organizational documents and under Delaware law may impede or discourage a takeover, which could cause the market price of our common stock to decline.

We are a Delaware corporation, and the anti-takeover provisions of Delaware law impose various impediments to the ability of a third party to acquire control of us, even if a change in control would be beneficial to our existing stockholders, which, under certain circumstances, could reduce the market price of our common stock and the value of your depositary shares. In addition, protective provisions in our Restated Certificate of Incorporation and By-laws could prevent a takeover, which could harm our stockholders.

The mandatory convertible preferred stock and the depositary shares may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

The market price of our common stock is likely to be influenced by the mandatory convertible preferred stock and the depositary shares. For example, the market price of our common stock could become more volatile and could be depressed by:

investors' anticipation of the potential resale in the market of a substantial number of additional shares of our common stock received upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock (and, correspondingly, the depositary shares);

possible sales of our common stock by investors who view the depositary shares as a more attractive means of equity participation in us than owning shares of our common stock; and

hedging or arbitrage trading activity that may develop involving the depositary shares and our common stock.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We expect to receive net proceeds from this offering of approximately \$ million, or \$ million if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional depositary shares in full, after deducting the underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses. We expect to enter into capped call transactions with the option counterparties. We intend to use approximately \$ million of the net proceeds from this offering to pay the cost of the capped call transactions. See Description of Capped Call Transactions. The remaining net proceeds from this offering, as well as the net proceeds from the concurrent common stock offering will strengthen our balance sheet and will be used for general corporate purposes, including funding our longer term capital needs.

If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional depositary shares, we expect to use a portion of the net proceeds from the sale of the additional depositary shares to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties and for general corporate purposes.

The offering of depositary shares pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is not contingent upon the closing of our concurrent common stock offering, and the concurrent offering of our common stock is not contingent upon the closing of the offering of depositary shares hereunder.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our consolidated capitalization and cash and cash equivalents position as of September 30, 2015:

on an actual basis; and

as adjusted to give effect to the completion of this offering and the concurrent common stock offering, after deducting the underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses (assuming, in each case, no exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares).

You should read the following table in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our historical financial statements and the notes thereto that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

<i>(in millions)</i>	At September 30, 2015	
	Actual	As Adjusted⁽²⁾
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,013 ⁽¹⁾	\$
Total debt	6,552 ⁽¹⁾	6,552
Stockholders' equity		
% Series A Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock, par value \$1.00 per share, 20,000,000 shares authorized for issuance		
Common stock, par value \$1.00 per share, 600,000,000 shares authorized for issuance, 286,097,193 shares issued ⁽³⁾	286	
Capital in excess of par value	4,097	
Retained earnings	18,530	18,530
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(1,582)	(1,582)
Total Hess Corporation stockholders' equity	21,331	
Noncontrolling interests	1,032	1,032
Total equity	22,363	
Total capitalization	\$ 28,915	\$

(1) As of December 31, 2015, our cash and cash equivalents totaled \$2,716 million, and our total debt was \$6,630 million.

(2) The entry into the capped call transaction will result in a net decrease in additional paid-in capital and, therefore, a net decrease in total Hess Corporation stockholders' equity, total stockholders' equity and total capitalization,

which is not reflected in the amounts shown in the table above.

- (3) Actual common shares outstanding at September 30, 2015 do not reflect shares reserved for issuance in connection with 6,969,891 stock options, 842,878 performance share units, _____ shares that will be reserved for issuance upon conversion of the _____ % Series A Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock and 25,000,000 shares of common stock to be issued in our concurrent common stock offering.

S-25

Table of Contents**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS**

The ratio of earnings to fixed charges shows the coverage of earnings before income taxes to fixed charges, which consist primarily of interest expense. Our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated is as follows:

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	Year ended December 31,				
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges ⁽¹⁾	(2)	6.5	9.0	7.1	7.5	8.2

(1) No preferred stock was outstanding for any period presented in the table above and, accordingly, our ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends is the same as our ratio of earnings to fixed charges.

(2) The earnings to fixed charges ratio for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 was less than one. The deficiency to achieve a ratio of one was \$1,951 million that is comprised of a deficit of \$1,613 million and fixed charges of \$338 million.

We compute the ratio of earnings to fixed charges by dividing earnings by fixed charges. For purposes of this computation, fixed charges consist of interest expense, capitalized interest, amortization of debt discount and financing costs and the estimated interest portion of rental expense. Earnings are defined as consolidated income from continuing operations before income taxes, plus fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest), amortization of capitalized interest and distributed earnings of investees accounted for under the equity method, less earnings (losses) of equity method investees and pretax noncontrolling interests in consolidated subsidiaries with no fixed charges.

We compute the ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends by dividing earnings by the sum of fixed charges and dividends on our preferred stock. Preferred stock dividends are defined as earnings before tax required to pay the dividends on outstanding preferred stock.

Table of Contents**PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDENDS DECLARED**

Our common stock, par value \$1.00 per share, is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the trading symbol HES. The following table sets forth the high and low closing sales prices per share for the periods indicated below, together with the dividends declared per share for such periods.

	High	Low	Dividends Per Common Share
Fiscal Year 2016:			
Quarter ended March 31, 2016 (through February 3, 2016)	\$ 48.18	\$ 34.38	
Fiscal Year 2015:			
Quarter ended December 31, 2015	\$ 62.79	\$ 47.44	\$.25
Quarter ended September 30, 2015	\$ 65.71	\$ 48.26	\$.25
Quarter ended June 30, 2015	\$ 78.09	\$ 64.99	\$.25
Quarter ended March 31, 2015	\$ 77.34	\$ 65.70	\$.25
Fiscal Year 2014:			
Quarter ended December 31, 2014	\$ 91.59	\$ 65.45	\$.25
Quarter ended September 30, 2014	\$ 101.10	\$ 94.32	\$.25
Quarter ended June 30, 2014	\$ 98.89	\$ 83.58	\$.25
Quarter ended March 31, 2014	\$ 83.22	\$ 73.92	\$.25

On February 3, 2016, the closing sale price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$42.99 per share. At the close of business on February 3, 2016, there were 4,446 holders of record of our common stock.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF MANDATORY CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED STOCK

The following is a summary of certain terms of our % Series A Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock, par value \$1.00 per share, which we refer to in this prospectus supplement as our mandatory convertible preferred stock, but is not necessarily complete. The following summary supplements and, to the extent that it is inconsistent, replaces, the description of our preferred stock in the accompanying prospectus.

A copy of our Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as well as the certificate of designations for the mandatory convertible preferred stock, and the form of mandatory convertible preferred stock share certificate are available upon request from us at the address set forth under Where You Can Find More Information. The following summary of the terms of the mandatory convertible preferred stock is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the provisions of such documents.

The bank depositary will initially be the sole holder of our mandatory convertible preferred stock. However, the holders of depositary shares will be entitled, through the bank depositary, to exercise the rights, preferences, privileges and voting powers of the holders of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, subject to the terms of the deposit agreement and as described under Description of Depositary Shares below. Each depositary share represents a 1/20th interest in a share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock

As used in this section, the terms Hess, us, we or our refer to Hess Corporation and not any of its subsidiaries.

General

Under our Restated Certificate of Incorporation, our board of directors is authorized, without further stockholder action, to issue up to 20,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share, in one or more series, with such voting powers (if any), designation, powers, preferences, and relative, participating, optional or other rights, if any, and any qualifications, limitations or restrictions, as shall be set forth in the resolutions providing therefor. We do not currently have any shares of our preferred stock outstanding. At the consummation of this offering, we will issue 500,000 shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock in the form of 10,000,000 depositary shares. In addition, we have granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to 75,000 additional shares of our mandatory convertible preferred stock in the form of 1,500,000 depositary shares, in accordance with the procedures set forth under Underwriting.

When issued, the mandatory convertible preferred stock and any common stock issued upon the conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will be fully paid and nonassessable. The holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will have no preemptive or preferential rights to purchase or subscribe to stock, obligations, warrants or other securities of Hess of any class. Computershare Trust Company, N.A. is the transfer agent and registrar of our common stock and will serve as transfer agent, registrar, conversion and dividend disbursing agent for the mandatory convertible preferred stock.

We do not intend to list our mandatory convertible preferred stock on any securities exchange or any automated dealer quotation system, but we do intend to apply to list the depositary shares on The New York Stock Exchange as described under Description of Depositary Shares Listing.

Ranking

The mandatory convertible preferred stock, with respect to dividend rights and/or rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution, as applicable, ranks:

senior to (i) our common stock and (ii) each other class or series of capital stock issued after the initial issue date the terms of which do not expressly provide that such capital stock ranks either (x) senior to

S-28

Table of Contents

the mandatory convertible preferred stock as to dividend rights or rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution or (y) on a parity with the mandatory convertible preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution (which we refer to collectively as "junior stock");

on a parity with any class or series of capital stock issued after the initial issue date the terms of which expressly provide that such capital stock will rank on a parity with the mandatory convertible preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution (which we refer to collectively as "parity stock");

junior to each class or series of capital stock issued after the initial issue date the terms of which expressly provide that such capital stock will rank senior to the mandatory convertible preferred stock as to dividend rights or rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution (which we refer to collectively as "senior stock"); and

junior to our existing and future indebtedness.

In addition, the mandatory convertible preferred stock, with respect to dividend rights and rights upon our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution, will be structurally subordinated to existing and future indebtedness of our subsidiaries as well as the capital stock of our subsidiaries held by third parties.

At September 30, 2015, we had total outstanding consolidated debt of approximately \$6,552 million and no outstanding shares of preferred stock.

Dividends

Subject to the rights of holders of any class of capital stock ranking senior to the mandatory convertible preferred stock with respect to dividends, holders of shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock will be entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, out of funds legally available for payment, cumulative dividends at the rate per annum of % on the liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share of mandatory convertible preferred stock (equivalent to \$ per annum per share), payable in cash, by delivery of shares of our common stock or through any combination of cash and shares of our common stock, as determined by us in our sole discretion (subject to the limitations described below). See Method of Payment of Dividends. Declared dividends on the mandatory convertible preferred stock will be payable quarterly on February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1 of each year to, and including, February 1, 2019, commencing May 1, 2016 (each, a dividend payment date), at such annual rate, and dividends shall accumulate from the most recent date as to which dividends shall have been paid or, if no dividends have been paid, from the initial issue date of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, whether or not in any dividend period or periods there have been funds legally available for the payment of such dividends. Declared dividends will be payable on the relevant dividend payment date to holders of record as they appear on our stock register at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the January 15, April 15, July 15 or October 15, as the case may be, immediately preceding the relevant dividend payment date (each, a record date), whether or not such holders convert their shares, or such shares are automatically converted, after a record date and on or prior to the immediately succeeding dividend payment date. These record dates will apply regardless of whether a particular record date is a business day. A business day means any day other than a Saturday or Sunday or other day on which commercial banks in New York City are authorized or required by law or executive order to close. If a dividend payment date is not a business day, payment will be made on the next succeeding business day, without any interest or other payment in lieu of interest accruing with respect to this delay.

A full dividend period is the period from, and including, a dividend payment date to, but excluding, the next dividend payment date, except that the initial dividend period will commence on, and include, the initial issue date of our mandatory convertible preferred stock and will end on, and exclude, the May 1, 2016 dividend payment date. The amount of dividends payable on each share of mandatory convertible preferred stock for each

Table of Contents

full dividend period (after the initial dividend period) will be computed by dividing the annual dividend rate by four. Dividends payable on the mandatory convertible preferred stock for the initial dividend period and any partial dividend period will be computed based upon the actual number of days elapsed during the period over a 360-day year (consisting of twelve 30-day months). Accordingly, the dividend on the mandatory convertible preferred stock for the first dividend period, assuming the initial issue date is February , 2016, will be approximately \$ per share (based on the annual dividend rate of % and a liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share) and will be payable, when, as and if declared, on May 1, 2016. The dividend on the mandatory convertible preferred stock for each subsequent full dividend period, when, as and if declared, will be approximately \$ per share (based on the annual dividend rate of % and a liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share). Accumulated dividends will not bear interest if they are paid subsequent to the applicable dividend payment date.

No dividend will be declared or paid upon, or any sum or number of shares of common stock set apart for the payment of dividends upon, any outstanding share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock with respect to any dividend period unless all dividends for all preceding dividend periods have been declared and paid upon, or a sufficient sum or number of shares of common stock have been set apart for the payment of such dividends upon, all outstanding shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock.

Our ability to declare and pay cash dividends and make other distributions with respect to our capital stock, including the mandatory convertible preferred stock, may be limited by the terms of any future indebtedness. In addition, our ability to declare and pay dividends may be limited by applicable Delaware law. See Risk Factors Risks Related to the Depositary Shares and Our Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Our ability to pay dividends on our mandatory convertible preferred stock may be limited.

So long as any share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock remains outstanding, no dividend or distribution shall be declared or paid on the common stock or any other shares of junior stock, and no common stock or other junior stock or parity stock shall be, directly or indirectly, purchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us or any of our subsidiaries unless all accumulated and unpaid dividends for all preceding dividend periods have been declared and paid upon, or a sufficient sum or number of shares of common stock have been set apart for the payment of such dividends upon, all outstanding shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock. The foregoing limitation shall not apply to: (i) a dividend payable on any common stock or other junior stock in shares of any common stock or other junior stock; (ii) the acquisition of shares of any common stock or other junior stock in exchange for shares of any common stock or other junior stock and the payment of cash in lieu of any fractional share; (iii) purchases of fractional interests in shares of any common stock or other junior stock pursuant to the conversion or exchange provisions of such shares of other junior stock or any securities exchangeable for or convertible into such shares of common stock or other junior stock; (iv) redemptions, purchases or other acquisitions of shares of common stock or other junior stock in connection with the administration of any employee benefit plan in the ordinary course of business, including, without limitation, the forfeiture of unvested shares of restricted stock or share withholdings upon exercise, delivery or vesting of equity awards granted to officers, directors and employees and the payment of cash in lieu of any fractional share; (v) any dividends or distributions of rights or common stock or other junior stock in connection with a stockholders' rights plan or any redemption or repurchase of rights pursuant to any stockholders' rights plan, and the payment of cash in lieu of fractional shares; (vi) the acquisition by us or any of our subsidiaries of record ownership in common stock or other junior stock or parity stock for the beneficial ownership of any other persons (other than us or any of our subsidiaries), including as trustees or custodians; (vii) the exchange or conversion of junior stock for or into other junior stock; and (viii) the exchange or conversion of parity stock for or into other parity stock (with the same or lesser aggregate liquidation amount) or junior stock and the payment of cash in lieu of fractional shares.

When dividends on shares of the mandatory convertible preferred stock have not been paid in full on any dividend payment date or declared and a sum or number of shares of common stock sufficient for payment thereof set aside for the benefit of the holders thereof on the applicable record date, no dividends may be declared

S-30

Table of Contents

or paid on any parity stock unless dividends are declared on the mandatory convertible preferred stock such that the respective amounts of such dividends declared on the mandatory convertible preferred stock and each such other class or series of parity stock shall bear the same ratio to each other as all accumulated and unpaid dividends per share on the shares of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and such class or series of parity stock (subject to their having been declared by the board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, out of legally available funds) bear to each other, in proportion to their respective liquidation preferences; *provided* that any unpaid dividends will continue to accumulate.

Subject to the foregoing, and not otherwise, such dividends (payable in cash, securities or other property) as may be determined by the board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, may be declared and paid on any securities, including common stock and other junior stock, from time to time out of any funds legally available for such payment, and holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock shall not be entitled to participate in any such dividends.

If we (or an applicable withholding agent) are required to withhold on distributions of common stock to a holder (see United States Federal Income Tax Considerations) and pay the applicable withholding taxes, we may, at our option, or an applicable withholding agent may, withhold such taxes from payments of cash or shares of common stock payable to such holder.

Method of Payment of Dividends

Subject to the limitations described below, we may pay any declared dividend (or any portion of any declared dividend) on the mandatory convertible preferred stock (whether or not for a current dividend period or any prior dividend period), determined in our sole discretion:

by paying cash;

by delivering shares of our common stock; or

through any combination of paying cash and delivering shares of our common stock.

We will make each payment of a declared dividend on the mandatory convertible preferred stock in cash, except to the extent we elect to make all or any portion of such payment in shares of our common stock. We will give the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock notice of any such election, and the portion of such payment that will be made in cash and the portion that will be made in common stock, on the earlier of the date we declare such dividend and the tenth scheduled trading day (as defined below) immediately preceding the dividend payment date for such dividend.

If we elect to make any payment of a declared dividend, or any portion thereof, in shares of our common stock, such shares shall be valued for such purpose at the average VWAP per share (as defined below) of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on the second trading day immediately preceding the applicable dividend payment date (the five-day average price), *multiplied by 97%*.

No fractional shares of common stock will be delivered to the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock in respect of dividends. We will instead pay a cash adjustment to each holder that would otherwise be entitled to a fraction of a share of common stock based on the five-day average price.

To the extent a shelf registration statement is required in our reasonable judgment in connection with the issuance of or for resales of common stock issued as payment of a dividend, including dividends paid in connection with a conversion, we will, to the extent such a registration statement is not currently filed and effective, use our commercially reasonable efforts to file and maintain the effectiveness of such a shelf registration statement until the earlier of such time as all such shares of common stock have been resold thereunder and such time as all such shares are freely tradable without registration by holders other than our

S-31

Table of Contents

affiliates (as such term is defined under the Securities Act). To the extent applicable, we will also use our commercially reasonable efforts to have the shares of common stock qualified or registered under applicable state securities laws, if required, and approved for listing on The New York Stock Exchange (or if our common stock is not listed on The New York Stock Exchange, on the principal other U.S. national or regional securities exchange on which our common stock is then listed).

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event will the number of shares of our common stock delivered in connection with any declared dividend exceed a number equal to the total dividend payment *divided by* \$, which amount represents approximately 35% of the initial price (as defined below), subject to adjustment in a manner inversely proportional to any anti-dilution adjustment to each fixed conversion rate as set forth below under Anti-dilution Adjustments (such dollar amount, as adjusted, the floor price). To the extent that the amount of the declared dividend as to which we have elected to deliver shares of our common stock in lieu of paying cash exceeds the product of the number of shares of common stock delivered in connection with such declared dividend and 97% of the five-day average price, we will, if we are legally able to do so, notwithstanding any notice by us to the contrary, pay such excess amount in cash.

Redemption

The mandatory convertible preferred stock will not be redeemable. However, at our option, we may purchase the mandatory convertible preferred stock or depository shares from time to time in the open market, by tender offer or otherwise.

Liquidation Preference

In the event of our voluntary or involuntary liquidation, winding-up or dissolution, each holder of mandatory convertible preferred stock will be entitled to receive a liquidation preference in the amount of \$1,000 per share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock (the liquidation preference), *plus* an amount equal to accumulated and unpaid dividends on the shares to, but excluding, the date fixed for liquidation, winding-up or dissolution to be paid out of our assets available for distribution to our stockholders, after satisfaction of liabilities to our creditors and holders of any senior stock and before any payment or distribution is made to holders of junior stock (including our common stock). If, upon our voluntary or involuntary liquidation, winding-up or dissolution, the amounts payable with respect to the liquidation preference, *plus* an amount equal to accumulated and unpaid dividends of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and all parity stock are not paid in full, the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and any parity stock will share equally and ratably in any distribution of our assets in proportion to the respective liquidation preferences and amounts equal to accumulated and unpaid dividends to which they are entitled. After payment of the full amount of the liquidation preference and an amount equal to accumulated and unpaid dividends to which they are entitled, the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will have no right or claim to any of our remaining assets.

Neither the sale of all or substantially all of our assets or business (other than in connection with our liquidation, winding-up or dissolution), nor our merger or consolidation into or with any other person, will be deemed to be our voluntary or involuntary liquidation, winding-up or dissolution.

The certificate of designations for our mandatory convertible preferred stock does not contain any provision requiring funds to be set aside to protect the liquidation preference of the mandatory convertible preferred stock even though it is substantially in excess of the par value thereof.

Voting Rights

The holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock do not have voting rights other than those described below, except as specifically required by Delaware law.

S-32

Table of Contents

Whenever dividends on any shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock have not been declared and paid for the equivalent of six or more dividend periods (including, for the avoidance of doubt, the dividend period beginning on, and including, the initial issue date and ending on, but excluding, May 1, 2016), whether or not for consecutive dividend periods (a nonpayment), the holders of such shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock, voting together as a single class with holders of any and all other series of voting preferred stock (as defined below) then outstanding, will be entitled at our next special or annual meeting of stockholders to vote for the election of a total of two additional members of our board of directors (the preferred stock directors); *provided* that the election of any such directors will not cause us to violate the corporate governance requirements of The New York Stock Exchange (or any other exchange or automated quotation system on which our securities may be listed or quoted) that requires listed or quoted companies to have a majority of independent directors; *provided further* that our board of directors shall at no time include more than two preferred stock directors. In the event of a nonpayment, we will increase the number of directors on our board of directors by two, and the new directors will be elected at a special meeting of stockholders called by our board of directors, subject to its fiduciary duties, at the request of the holders of at least 20% of the shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock or of any other series of voting preferred stock (*provided* that such request is received at least 90 calendar days before the date fixed for the next annual or special meeting of the stockholders, failing which election shall be held at such next annual or special meeting of stockholders), and at each subsequent annual meeting, so long as the holders of mandatory convertible preferred stock continue to have such voting rights.

As used in this prospectus supplement, voting preferred stock means any other class or series of our parity stock upon which like voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable. Whether a plurality, majority or other portion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and any other voting preferred stock have been voted in favor of any matter shall be determined by reference to the respective liquidation preference amounts of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and such other voting preferred stock voted.

If and when all accumulated and unpaid dividends have been paid in full, or declared and a sum sufficient for such payment shall have been set aside (a nonpayment remedy), the holders of mandatory convertible preferred stock shall immediately and, without any further action by us, be divested of the foregoing voting rights, subject to the reversion of such rights in the event of each subsequent nonpayment. If such voting rights for the holders of mandatory convertible preferred stock and all other holders of voting preferred stock have terminated, the term of office of each preferred stock director so elected will terminate at such time and the number of directors on our board of directors shall automatically decrease by two.

Any preferred stock director may be removed at any time without cause by the holders of record of a majority of the outstanding shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock and any other shares of voting preferred stock then outstanding (voting together as a class) when they have the voting rights described above. In the event that a nonpayment shall have occurred and there shall not have been a nonpayment remedy, any vacancy in the office of a preferred stock director (other than prior to the initial election after a nonpayment) may be filled by the written consent of the preferred stock director remaining in office or, if none remains in office, by a vote of the holders of record of a majority of the outstanding shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock and any other shares of voting preferred stock then outstanding (voting together as a class) when they have the voting rights described above; *provided* that the filling of each vacancy will not cause us to violate the corporate governance requirements of The New York Stock Exchange (or any other exchange or automated quotation system on which our securities may be listed or quoted) that requires listed or quoted companies to have a majority of independent directors.

So long as any shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock remain outstanding, we will not, without the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock given in person or by proxy, either in writing or at a meeting:

authorize or create, or increase the authorized amount of, any senior stock; or

amend, alter or repeal the provisions of our Restated Certificate of Incorporation or the certificate of designations for the shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock so as to adversely affect the rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers of the shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock; or

S-33

Table of Contents

consummate a binding share exchange or reclassification involving the shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock or a merger or consolidation of us with another entity, unless either (i) the shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock remain outstanding and have rights, preferences, privileges and voting powers, taken as a whole, that are no less favorable to the holders thereof in any material respect than the rights, preferences, privileges and voting powers of the mandatory convertible preferred stock immediately prior to such consummation, taken as a whole, or (ii) in the case of any such merger or consolidation with respect to which we are not the surviving or resulting entity, the shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock are converted into or exchanged for preference securities of the surviving or resulting entity or its ultimate parent, and such preference securities have rights, preferences, privileges and voting powers, taken as a whole, that are no less favorable to the holders thereof in any material respect than the rights, preferences, privileges and voting powers of the mandatory convertible preferred stock immediately prior to such consummation, taken as a whole;

provided, however, that (1) any increase in the amount of our authorized but unissued shares of preferred stock, (2) any increase in the authorized or issued shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock and (3) the creation and issuance, or an increase in the authorized or issued amount, of any other series of junior stock or parity stock will be deemed not to adversely affect the rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and shall not require the affirmative vote or consent of holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock.

Without the consent of the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, we may amend, alter, supplement, or repeal any terms of the mandatory convertible preferred stock by amending or supplementing our certificate of incorporation, the certificate of designations or any certificate representing the mandatory convertible preferred stock for the following purposes:

to cure any ambiguity, omission, inconsistency or mistake in any such agreement or instrument;

to make any provision with respect to matters or questions relating to the mandatory convertible preferred stock that is not inconsistent with the provisions of the certificate of designations for the mandatory convertible preferred stock and that does not adversely affect the rights of any holder of the mandatory convertible preferred stock; or

to make any other change that does not adversely affect the rights of any holder of the mandatory convertible preferred stock (other than any holder that consents to such change).

In addition, without the consent of the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, we may amend, alter, supplement or repeal any terms of the mandatory convertible preferred stock to conform the terms of the mandatory convertible preferred stock to the description thereof in the accompanying prospectus as supplemented and/or amended by this Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock section of the preliminary prospectus supplement for the mandatory convertible preferred stock, as further supplemented and/or amended by the related pricing term sheet.

Mandatory Conversion

Each outstanding share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, unless previously converted, will automatically convert on the mandatory conversion date, into a number of shares of common stock equal to the conversion rate

described below. If we declare a dividend for the dividend period ending on February 1, 2019, we will pay such dividend to the holders of record as of the applicable record date, as described above under Dividends. If on or prior to January 15, 2019 we have not declared all or any portion of all accumulated and unpaid dividends on the mandatory convertible preferred stock, the conversion rate will be adjusted so that holders receive an additional number of shares of common stock equal to the amount of accumulated and unpaid dividends that have not been declared (the additional conversion amount), *divided by* the greater of (i) the floor price and (ii) 97% of the five-day average price. To the extent that the additional conversion amount exceeds the product of such number of additional shares and 97% of the five-day average price, we will, if we are legally able to do so, pay such excess amount in cash pro rata to the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock.

Table of Contents

The conversion rate, which is the number of shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of each share of mandatory convertible preferred stock on the mandatory conversion date (excluding any shares of our common stock issued in respect of accumulated but unpaid dividends, if any), will be as follows:

if the applicable market value of our common stock is greater than the threshold appreciation price, then the conversion rate will be _____ shares of common stock per share of mandatory convertible preferred stock (the minimum conversion rate), which is approximately equal to \$1,000 *divided by* the threshold appreciation price;

if the applicable market value of our common stock is less than or equal to the threshold appreciation price but equal to or greater than the initial price, then the conversion rate will be equal to \$1,000 *divided by* the applicable market value of our common stock, rounded to the nearest ten-thousandth of a share, which will be between _____ and _____ shares of common stock per share of mandatory convertible preferred stock; or

if the applicable market value of our common stock is less than the initial price, then the conversion rate will be _____ shares of common stock per share of mandatory convertible preferred stock (the maximum conversion rate), which is approximately equal to \$1,000 *divided by* the initial price.

The initial price equals \$1,000, *divided by* the maximum conversion rate, rounded to the nearest \$0.0001, and is approximately equal to the per share public offering price of our common stock in the concurrent offering of our common stock (or, if such concurrent offering does not price, the closing price of our common stock on February 1, 2016).

The threshold appreciation price equals \$1,000, *divided by* the minimum conversion rate, rounded to the nearest \$0.0001, and represents an approximately _____ % appreciation over the initial price.

We refer to the minimum conversion rate and the maximum conversion rate collectively as the fixed conversion rates. The fixed conversion rates, the initial price, the threshold appreciation price and the applicable market value are each subject to adjustment as described under **Anti-dilution Adjustments** below.

Table of Contents

Hypothetical conversion values upon mandatory conversion

For illustrative purposes only, the following table shows the number of shares of our common stock that a holder of our mandatory convertible preferred stock would receive upon mandatory conversion of one share of mandatory convertible preferred stock at various applicable market values for our common stock. The table assumes that there will be no conversion rate adjustments as described below under Anti-dilution Adjustments and that dividends on the shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock will be declared and paid in cash. The actual applicable market value of shares of our common stock may differ from those set forth in the table below. Given an initial price of \$ and a threshold appreciation price of \$, a holder of our mandatory convertible preferred stock would receive on the mandatory conversion date the number of shares of our common stock per share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock set forth below:

Applicable Market Value of Our Common Stock	Number of Shares of Our Common Stock to Be Received Upon Conversion	Conversion Value (Applicable Market Value <i>Multiplied</i> <i>by</i> the Number of Shares of Our Common Stock to Be Received Upon Conversion)
\$		\$
\$		\$
\$		\$
\$		\$
\$		\$
\$		\$
\$		\$
\$		\$
\$		\$
\$		\$
\$		\$
\$		\$

Accordingly, if the applicable market value of our common stock is greater than the threshold appreciation price, the aggregate market value of our common stock delivered upon conversion of each share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will be greater than the \$1,000 liquidation preference of the share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, assuming that the market price of our common stock on the mandatory conversion date is the same as the applicable market value of our common stock. If the applicable market value for our common stock is greater than or equal to the initial price and less than or equal to the threshold appreciation price, the aggregate market value of our common stock delivered upon conversion of each share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will be equal to the \$1,000 liquidation preference of the share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, assuming that the market price of our common stock on the mandatory conversion date is the same as the applicable market value of our common stock. If the applicable market value of our common stock is less than the initial price, the aggregate market value of our common stock delivered upon conversion of each share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will be less than the \$1,000 liquidation preference of the share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, assuming that

the market price of our common stock on the mandatory conversion date is the same as the applicable market value of our common stock.

Definitions

Applicable market value means the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the final averaging period.

Final averaging period means the 20 consecutive trading day period beginning on, and including, the 23rd scheduled trading day immediately preceding February 1, 2019.

Table of Contents

Mandatory conversion date means the third business day immediately following the last trading day of the final averaging period. The mandatory conversion date is expected to be February 1, 2019.

Trading day means a day on which (i) there is no market disruption event (as defined below) and (ii) trading in our common stock generally occurs on The New York Stock Exchange or, if our common stock is not then listed on The New York Stock Exchange, on the principal other U.S. national or regional securities exchange on which our common stock is then listed or, if our common stock is not then listed on a U.S. national or regional securities exchange, on the principal other market on which our common stock is then listed or admitted for trading. If our common stock is not so listed or admitted for trading, trading day means a business day.

Market disruption event means (i) a failure by the primary U.S. national or regional securities exchange or market on which our common stock is listed or admitted for trading to open for trading during its regular trading session or (ii) the occurrence or existence prior to 1:00 p.m., New York City time, on any scheduled trading day for our common stock for more than one half-hour period in the aggregate during regular trading hours of any suspension or limitation imposed on trading (by reason of movements in price exceeding limits permitted by the relevant stock exchange or otherwise) in our common stock or in any options contracts or futures contracts relating to our common stock.

A scheduled trading day is any day that is scheduled to be a trading day.

VWAP per share of our common stock on any trading day means the per share volume-weighted average price as displayed on Bloomberg page HES <Equity> AQR (or its equivalent successor if such page is not available) in respect of the period from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., New York City time, on such trading day; or, if such price is not available,

VWAP means the market value per share of our common stock on such trading day as determined, using a volume-weighted average method, by a nationally recognized independent investment banking firm retained by us for this purpose. The average VWAP per share over a certain period means the arithmetic average of the VWAP per share for each trading day in such period.

Conversion at the Option of the Holder

Other than during a fundamental change conversion period (as defined below under Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount), holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock have the right to convert their shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock, in whole or in part (but in no event less than one share of mandatory convertible preferred stock), at any time prior to February 1, 2019, into shares of our common stock at the minimum conversion rate, subject to adjustment as described under Anti-dilution Adjustments below.

If as of the effective date of any early conversion (the early conversion date), we have not declared all or any portion of the accumulated and unpaid dividends for all full dividend periods ending on the dividend payment date prior to such early conversion date, the conversion rate will be adjusted so that converting holders receive an additional number of shares of common stock equal to such amount of accumulated and unpaid dividends that have not been declared for such full dividend periods (the early conversion additional conversion amount), *divided by* the greater of (i) the floor price and (ii) the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the 20 consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the third trading day immediately preceding the early conversion date (the early conversion average price). To the extent that the early conversion additional conversion amount exceeds the product of such number of additional shares and the early conversion average price, we will not have any obligation to pay the shortfall in cash.

Except as described in the immediately preceding paragraph, upon any optional conversion of any shares of the mandatory convertible preferred stock pursuant to this Conversion at the Option of the Holder section, we will make no payment or allowance for unpaid dividends on such shares of the mandatory convertible

S-37

Table of Contents

preferred stock, unless such early conversion date occurs after the record date for a declared dividend and on or prior to the immediately succeeding dividend payment date, in which case such dividend will be paid on such dividend payment date to the holder of record of the converted shares as of such record date, as described under Dividends.

Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount

General

If a fundamental change (as defined below) occurs on or prior to February 1, 2019, holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will have the right (the fundamental change early conversion right) to: (i) convert their shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock, in whole or in part (but in no event less than one share of mandatory convertible preferred stock), into shares of common stock at the fundamental change conversion rate described below; (ii) with respect to such converted shares, receive an amount equal to the present value, calculated using a discount rate of % per annum, of all dividend payments on such shares (excluding any accumulated and unpaid dividends for any dividend period prior to the effective date of the fundamental change, including for the partial dividend period, if any, from, and including, the dividend payment date immediately preceding the effective date to, but excluding, the effective date (collectively, the accumulated dividend amount)) for all the remaining full dividend periods and for the partial dividend period from, and including, the effective date to, but excluding, the next dividend payment date (the fundamental change dividend make-whole amount); and (iii) with respect to such converted shares, to the extent that, as of the effective date of the fundamental change, there is any accumulated dividend amount, receive payment of the accumulated dividend amount (clauses (ii) and (iii), together, the make-whole dividend amount), in the case of clauses (ii) and (iii), subject to our right to deliver shares of our common stock in lieu of all or part of such amounts as described under Make-whole dividend amount below; *provided that*, if the effective date or the conversion date falls after the record date for a declared dividend and prior to the next dividend payment date, such dividend will be paid on such dividend payment date to the holders as of such record date, as described under Dividends, such dividend will not be included in the accumulated dividend amount, and the fundamental change dividend make-whole amount will not include the present value of the payment of such dividend.

To exercise the fundamental change early conversion right, holders must submit their shares of the mandatory convertible preferred stock for conversion at any time during the period (the fundamental change conversion period) beginning on, and including, the effective date of such fundamental change (the effective date) and ending at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date that is 20 calendar days after the effective date (or, if later, the date that is 20 calendar days after holders receive notice of such fundamental change, but in no event later than February 1, 2019). Holders of mandatory convertible preferred stock who submit their shares for conversion during the fundamental change conversion period will have such shares converted at the conversion rate specified in the table below (the fundamental change conversion rate) and will be entitled to receive the make-whole dividend amount. Holders of mandatory convertible preferred stock who do not submit their shares for conversion during the fundamental change conversion period will not be entitled to convert their shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock at the fundamental change conversion rate or to receive the make-whole dividend amount.

We will notify holders of the effective date of a fundamental change no later than the second business day following such effective date.

A fundamental change will be deemed to have occurred at the time any of the following occurs after the initial issue date of the mandatory convertible preferred stock:

- (1) a person or group within the meaning of Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act, other than us, our wholly owned subsidiaries and our and their employee benefit or incentive plans, files a Schedule TO or any schedule, form or report under the Exchange Act disclosing that such person or group has

S-38

Table of Contents

become the direct or indirect beneficial owner, as defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act, of our common equity representing more than 50% of the voting power of our common equity or we otherwise become aware of such beneficial ownership;

- (2) the consummation of (A) any recapitalization, reclassification or change of our common stock (other than a change only in par value or changes resulting from a subdivision or combination) as a result of which our common stock would be converted into, or exchanged for, or would represent solely the right to receive, stock, other securities, other property or assets (including cash); (B) any share exchange, consolidation or merger of us pursuant to which our common stock will be converted into, will be exchanged for, or will represent solely the right to receive, stock, other securities, other property or assets (including cash); or (C) any sale, lease or other transfer in one transaction or a series of transactions of all or substantially all of the consolidated assets of us and our subsidiaries, taken as a whole, to any person other than one of our wholly owned subsidiaries; or
- (3) our common stock (or other common stock comprising all or part of the exchange property) ceases to be listed on any of The New York Stock Exchange, The NASDAQ Global Select Market or The NASDAQ Global Market (or any of their respective successors).

A transaction or transactions described in clause (1) or clause (2) above will not constitute a fundamental change, however, if at least 90% of the consideration received or to be received by all of our common stockholders, excluding cash payments for fractional shares or pursuant to dissenters' appraisal rights, in connection with such transaction or transactions consists of shares of common stock that are listed on any of The New York Stock Exchange, The NASDAQ Global Select Market or The NASDAQ Global Market (or any of their respective successors) or will be so listed when issued or exchanged in connection with such transaction or transactions and as a result of such transaction or transactions the mandatory convertible preferred stock becomes convertible into or exchangeable for such consideration, excluding cash payments for fractional shares or pursuant to dissenters' appraisal rights.

If any transaction in which our common stock is replaced by the securities of another entity occurs, following completion of any related fundamental change conversion period (or, if none, on the effective date of such transaction), references to us in the definition of fundamental change above shall instead be references to such other entity.

Fundamental change conversion rate

The fundamental change conversion rate will be determined by reference to the table below and is based on the effective date of the fundamental change and the price (the stock price) paid (or deemed paid) per share of our common stock in such transaction. If all holders of our common stock receive only cash in exchange for their common stock in the fundamental change, the stock price shall be the cash amount paid per share. Otherwise the stock price shall be the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the trading day immediately preceding the effective date of the relevant fundamental change.

The stock prices set forth in the first row of the table (i.e., the column headers) will be adjusted as of any date on which the fixed conversion rates of our mandatory convertible preferred stock are adjusted. The adjusted stock prices will equal the stock prices applicable immediately prior to such adjustment, *multiplied by* a fraction, the numerator of which is the minimum conversion rate immediately prior to the adjustment giving rise to the stock price adjustment and the denominator of which is the minimum conversion rate as so adjusted. Each of the fundamental change conversion rates in the table will be subject to adjustment in the same manner and at the same time as each fixed

conversion rate as set forth under Anti-dilution Adjustments.

S-39

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth the fundamental change conversion rate per share of mandatory convertible preferred stock for each stock price and effective date set forth below.

Effective Date	Stock Price on Effective Date										
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
February , 2016											
February 1, 2017											
February 1, 2018											
February 1, 2019											

The exact stock price and effective dates may not be set forth in the table, in which case:

if the stock price is between two stock prices on the table or the effective date is between two effective dates on the table, the fundamental change conversion rate will be determined by straight-line interpolation between the fundamental change conversion rates set forth for the higher and lower stock prices and the earlier and later effective dates, as applicable, based on a 365-day or 366-day year, as applicable;

if the stock price is in excess of \$ per share (subject to adjustment in the same manner as the column headings of the table above), then the fundamental change conversion rate will be the minimum conversion rate, subject to adjustment; and

if the stock price is less than \$ per share (subject to adjustment in the same manner as the column headings of the table above), then the fundamental change conversion rate will be the maximum conversion rate, subject to adjustment.

Make-whole dividend amount

For any shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock that are converted during the fundamental change conversion period, subject to the limitations described below, we may pay the make-whole dividend amount, determined in our sole discretion:

by paying cash;

by delivering shares of our common stock; or

through any combination of paying cash and delivering shares of our common stock.

We will pay the make-whole dividend amount in cash, except to the extent we elect on or prior to the second business day following the effective date of a fundamental change to make all or any portion of such payments by delivering shares of our common stock. If we elect to make any payment of the make-whole dividend amount, or any portion thereof, in shares of our common stock, such shares shall be valued for such purpose at 97% of the stock price.

No fractional shares of common stock will be delivered to the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock in respect of the make-whole dividend amount. We will instead pay a cash adjustment to each converting holder that would otherwise be entitled to a fraction of a share of common stock based on the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the second trading day immediately preceding the conversion date.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, with respect to any conversion of mandatory convertible preferred stock, in no event will the number of shares of our common stock that we deliver in lieu of paying all or any portion of the make-whole dividend amount in cash exceed a number equal to the portion of the make-whole dividend amount to be paid by the delivery of common stock, *divided by* the greater of (i) the floor price and (ii) 97% of the stock price. To the extent that the portion of the make-whole dividend amount as to which we have elected to deliver shares of common stock in lieu of paying cash exceeds the product of the number of shares of common stock delivered in respect of such portion of the make-whole dividend amount and 97% of the stock price, we will, if we are legally able to do so, notwithstanding any notice by us to the contrary, pay such excess amount in cash.

Table of Contents

In addition, if we are prohibited from paying or delivering, as the case may be, the make-whole dividend amount (whether in cash or in shares of our common stock), in whole or in part, due to limitations of applicable Delaware law, the conversion rate will instead be increased by a number of shares of common stock equal to the cash amount of the aggregate unpaid and undelivered make-whole dividend amount, *divided by* the greater of (i) the floor price and (ii) 97% of the price paid (or deemed paid) per share of our common stock in the fundamental change. To the extent that the cash amount of the aggregate unpaid and undelivered make-whole dividend amount exceeds the product of such number of additional shares and 97% of the price paid (or deemed paid) per share of our common stock in the fundamental change, we will not have any obligation to pay the shortfall in cash.

Not later than the second business day following the effective date of a fundamental change, we will notify holders of:

the fundamental change conversion rate;

the fundamental change dividend make-whole amount and whether we will pay such amount, or any portion thereof, in shares of our common stock and, if applicable, the portion of such amount that will be paid in common stock; and

the accumulated dividend amount and whether we will pay such amount, or any portion thereof, in shares of our common stock and, if applicable, the portion of such amount that will be paid in common stock.

Our obligation to deliver shares at the fundamental change conversion rate and pay the fundamental change dividend make-whole amount could be considered a penalty, in which case the enforceability thereof would be subject to general principles of reasonableness of economic remedies.

Conversion Procedures

Upon mandatory conversion

Any outstanding shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock will automatically convert into shares of common stock on the mandatory conversion date. The person or persons entitled to receive the shares of common stock issuable upon mandatory conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will be treated as the record holder(s) of such shares as of 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the mandatory conversion date. Except as provided under Anti-dilution Adjustments, prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the mandatory conversion date, the shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will not be deemed to be outstanding for any purpose and holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will have no rights with respect to such shares of common stock, including voting rights, rights to respond to tender offers and rights to receive any dividends or other distributions on the common stock, by virtue of holding the mandatory convertible preferred stock.

Upon early conversion

If a holder elects to convert its shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock prior to February 1, 2019, in the manner described under Conversion at the Option of the Holder or Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount, such holder must observe the following conversion procedures:

If such holder holds a beneficial interest in a global share of mandatory convertible preferred stock, to convert its shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock, such holder must deliver to The Depository Trust Company (DTC) the appropriate instruction form for conversion pursuant to DTC s conversion program and, if such holder s shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock are held in certificated form, such holder must comply with certain procedures set forth in the certificate of designations.

The conversion date will be the date on which the converting holder has satisfied the foregoing requirements. A holder that converts its shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock will not be required to

Table of Contents

pay any taxes or duties relating to the issuance or delivery of our common stock if such holder exercises its conversion rights, except that such holder will be required to pay any tax or duty that may be payable relating to any transfer involved in the issuance or delivery of the common stock in a name other than the name of such holder. Shares of common stock will be issued and delivered only after all applicable taxes and duties, if any, payable by the converting holder have been paid in full and will be issued on the later of the third business day immediately succeeding the conversion date and the business day after such holder has paid in full all applicable taxes and duties, if any.

The person or persons entitled to receive the shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will be treated as the record holder(s) of such shares as of 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the applicable conversion date. Prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the applicable conversion date, the shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will not be deemed to be outstanding for any purpose and a holder of shares of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will have no rights with respect to such shares of common stock, including voting rights, rights to respond to tender offers and rights to receive any dividends or other distributions on the common stock, by virtue of holding the mandatory convertible preferred stock.

Fractional shares

No fractional shares of common stock will be issued to holders of our mandatory convertible preferred stock upon conversion. In lieu of any fractional shares of common stock otherwise issuable in respect of the aggregate number of shares of our mandatory convertible preferred stock of any holder that are converted, that holder will be entitled to receive an amount in cash (computed to the nearest cent) equal to the product of: (i) that same fraction; and (ii) the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the second trading day immediately preceding the relevant conversion date.

If more than one share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock is surrendered for conversion at one time by or for the same holder, the number of shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion thereof shall be computed on the basis of the aggregate number of shares of our mandatory convertible preferred stock so surrendered.

Anti-dilution Adjustments

Each fixed conversion rate will be adjusted if:

- (1) We issue common stock to all or substantially all holders of our common stock as a dividend or other distribution, in which event, each fixed conversion rate in effect at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for determination of the holders of our common stock entitled to receive such dividend or other distribution will be *multiplied by* a fraction:

the numerator of which is the sum of (x) the number of shares of our common stock outstanding at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for such determination and (y) the total number of shares of our common stock constituting such dividend or other distribution, and

the denominator of which is the number of shares of our common stock outstanding at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for such determination.

Any increase made pursuant to this clause (1) will become effective immediately after 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for such determination. If any dividend or distribution described in this clause (1) is declared but not so paid or made, each fixed conversion rate shall be decreased, effective as of the date our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, publicly announces its decision not to make such dividend or distribution, to such fixed conversion rate that would be in effect if such dividend or distribution had not been declared. For the purposes of this clause (1), the number of shares of common stock outstanding at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for

S-42

Table of Contents

such determination shall not include shares held in treasury but shall include any shares issuable in respect of any scrip certificates issued in lieu of fractions of shares of common stock. We will not pay any dividend or make any distribution on shares of common stock held in treasury.

- (2) We issue to all or substantially all holders of our common stock rights or warrants (other than rights or warrants issued pursuant to a customary stockholder rights plan, customary dividend reinvestment plan or customary share purchase plan or other similar plans) entitling them, for a period of up to 45 calendar days from the date of issuance of such rights or warrants, to subscribe for or purchase our shares of common stock at less than the current market price (as defined below) of our common stock, in which case each fixed conversion rate in effect at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for determination of the holders of our common stock entitled to receive such rights or warrants will be increased by multiplying such fixed conversion rate by a fraction:

the numerator of which is the sum of (x) the number of shares of common stock outstanding at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for such determination and (y) the number of shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to such rights or warrants, and

the denominator of which shall be the sum of (i) the number of shares of common stock outstanding at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for such determination and (ii) the number of shares of common stock equal to the quotient of the aggregate offering price payable to exercise such rights or warrants, *divided by* the current market price of our common stock.

Any increase made pursuant to this clause (2) will become effective immediately after 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for such determination. In the event that such rights or warrants described in this clause (2) are not so issued, each fixed conversion rate shall be decreased, effective as of the date our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, publicly announces its decision not to issue such rights or warrants, to such fixed conversion rate that would then be in effect if such issuance had not been declared. To the extent that such rights or warrants are not exercised prior to their expiration or shares of our common stock are otherwise not delivered pursuant to such rights or warrants upon the exercise of such rights or warrants, each fixed conversion rate shall be decreased to such fixed conversion rate that would then be in effect had the increase made upon the issuance of such rights or warrants been made on the basis of the delivery of only the number of shares of our common stock actually delivered. In determining whether any rights or warrants entitle the holders thereof to subscribe for or purchase shares of our common stock at less than the current market price, and in determining the aggregate offering price payable for such shares of our common stock, there shall be taken into account any consideration received for such rights or warrants and the amount payable upon exercise or conversion thereof, the value of such consideration (if other than cash) to be determined by our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof. For the purposes of this clause (2), the number of shares of common stock at the time outstanding shall not include shares held in treasury but shall include any shares issuable in respect of any scrip certificates issued in lieu of fractions of shares of common stock. We will not issue any such rights or warrants in respect of shares of common stock held in treasury.

- (3) We subdivide or combine our common stock, in which event each fixed conversion rate in effect at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the effective date of such subdivision or combination will be *multiplied by* a fraction:

the numerator of which is the number of shares of our common stock that would be outstanding immediately after, and solely as a result of, such subdivision or combination, and

the denominator of which is the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to such subdivision or combination.

Any adjustment made pursuant to this clause (3) shall become effective immediately after 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the effective date of such subdivision or combination.

S-43

Table of Contents

- (4) We distribute to all or substantially all holders of our common stock evidences of our indebtedness, shares of capital stock, securities, rights to acquire our capital stock, cash or other assets, excluding:

any dividend or distribution as to which an adjustment was effected pursuant to clause (1) above;

any rights or warrants as to which an adjustment was effected pursuant to clause (2) above;

any dividend or distribution as to which the provisions set forth in clause (5) below shall apply; and

any spin-off to which the provisions set forth below in this clause (4) shall apply, in which event each fixed conversion rate in effect at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for the determination of holders of our common stock entitled to receive such distribution will be *multiplied by* a fraction:

the numerator of which is the current market price of our common stock, and

the denominator of which is the current market price of our common stock *minus* the fair market value, as determined by our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, on such date fixed for determination, of the portion of the evidences of indebtedness, shares of capital stock, securities, rights to acquire our capital stock, cash or other assets so distributed applicable to one share of our common stock.

Any increase made pursuant to the preceding paragraph will become effective immediately after 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for such determination. In the event that such distribution described in the preceding paragraph is not so made, each fixed conversion rate shall be decreased, effective as of the date our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, publicly announces its decision not to make such distribution, to such fixed conversion rate that would then be in effect if such distribution had not been declared.

In the event that we make a distribution to all holders of our common stock consisting of capital stock of, or similar equity interests in, or relating to a subsidiary or other business unit of ours, that are, or, when issued, will be, listed or admitted for trading on a U.S. national securities exchange (herein referred to as a spin-off), each fixed conversion rate in effect at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for the determination of holders of our common stock entitled to receive such distribution will be *multiplied by* a fraction:

the numerator of which is the sum of the current market price of our common stock and the current market price of the portion of those shares of capital stock or similar equity interests so distributed applicable to one share of common stock as of the 15th trading day after the ex-date for such distribution, and

the denominator of which is the current market price of our common stock.

Any increase made pursuant to the preceding paragraph shall be made immediately following the determination of the current market price of our common stock, but shall become retroactively effective immediately after 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for the determination of the holders of our common stock entitled to receive such distribution. In the event that such distribution described in the preceding paragraph is not so made, each fixed conversion rate shall be decreased, effective as of the date our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, publicly announces its decision not to make such distribution, to such fixed conversion rate that would then be in effect if such distribution had not been declared. If an adjustment to each fixed conversion rate is required under the preceding paragraph during the final averaging period, delivery of the shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion will be delayed to the extent necessary in order to complete the calculations provided for in the preceding paragraph.

S-44

Table of Contents

- (5) We make a dividend or distribution consisting exclusively of cash to all or substantially all holders of our common stock, excluding:

any regular, quarterly cash dividend that does not exceed \$0.25 per share (the initial dividend threshold),

any cash that is distributed in exchange for our common stock in a reorganization event (as described below),

any dividend or distribution in connection with our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, and

any consideration payable as part of a tender or exchange offer covered by clause (6), in which event, each fixed conversion rate in effect at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for determination of the holders of our common stock entitled to receive such dividend or distribution will be *multiplied* by a fraction:

the numerator of which is the current market price of our common stock *minus* the initial dividend threshold (*provided* that if the dividend or distribution is not a regular quarterly cash dividend, the initial dividend threshold will be deemed to be zero), and

the denominator of which is the current market price of our common stock *minus* the amount per share of our common stock of such dividend or distribution.

The initial dividend threshold is subject to adjustment on an inversely proportional basis whenever the fixed conversion rates are adjusted, but no adjustment will be made to the initial dividend threshold for any adjustment made to the fixed conversion rates pursuant to this clause (5).

Any increase made pursuant to this clause (5) shall become effective immediately after 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date fixed for the determination of the holders of our common stock entitled to receive such dividend or distribution. In the event that any dividend or distribution described in this clause (5) is not so made, each fixed conversion rate shall be decreased, effective as of the date our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, publicly announces its decision not to make such dividend or distribution, to such fixed conversion rate which would then be in effect if such dividend or distribution had not been declared.

- (6) We or any of our subsidiaries successfully complete a tender or exchange offer pursuant to a Schedule TO or registration statement on Form S-4 for our common stock (but, for the avoidance of doubt, excluding any securities convertible or exchangeable for our common stock), where the cash and the value of any other consideration included in the payment per share of our common stock exceeds the current market price of our common stock, in which event each fixed conversion rate in effect at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the date of expiration of the tender or exchange offer (the expiration date) will be *multiplied* by a fraction:

the numerator of which shall be equal to the sum of:

- (i) the aggregate cash and fair market value (as determined by our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof) on the expiration date of any other consideration paid or payable for shares purchased in such tender or exchange offer; and
- (ii) the product of:
 - 1. the current market price of our common stock; and
 - 2. the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately after such tender or exchange offer expires (after giving effect to the purchase or exchange of shares pursuant to such tender or exchange offer), and

S-45

Table of Contents

the denominator of which shall be equal to the product of:

- (i) the current market price of our common stock; and
- (ii) the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to the time such tender or exchange offer expires (without giving effect to the purchase or exchange of shares pursuant to such tender or exchange offer).

Any increase made pursuant to this clause (6) shall be made immediately following the determination of the current market price of our common stock, but shall become retroactively effective immediately after 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the seventh trading day immediately following the expiration date. In the event that we are, or one of our subsidiaries is, obligated to purchase shares of our common stock pursuant to any such tender offer or exchange offer, but we are, or such subsidiary is, permanently prevented by applicable law from effecting any such purchases, or all such purchases are rescinded, then each fixed conversion rate shall be decreased to be such fixed conversion rate that would then be in effect if such tender offer or exchange offer had not been made. Except as set forth in the preceding sentence, if the application of this clause (6) to any tender offer or exchange offer would result in a decrease in each fixed conversion rate, no adjustment shall be made for such tender offer or exchange offer under this clause (6). If an adjustment to each fixed conversion rate is required pursuant to this clause (6) during the final averaging period, delivery of the related conversion consideration will be delayed to the extent necessary in order to complete the calculations provided for in this clause (6).

In cases where (i) the fair market value of the evidences of our indebtedness, shares of capital stock, securities, rights to acquire our capital stock, cash or other assets distributed per share of our common stock as to which clause (4) above applies (except with respect to a spin-off), or (ii) the amount of cash distributed per share of our common stock as to which clause (5) above applies, in each case, equals or exceeds the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on the trading day before the ex-date for such distribution, rather than being entitled to an adjustment in each fixed conversion rate, holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock will be entitled to receive, at the same time and upon the same terms as holders of our common stock, the kind and amount of the evidences of our indebtedness, shares of capital stock, securities, rights to acquire our capital stock, cash or other assets, as the case may be, comprising the distribution that such holder would have received if such holder had owned, immediately prior to the record date for determining the holders of our common stock entitled to receive the distribution, for each share of mandatory convertible preferred stock, a number of shares of our common stock equal to the maximum conversion rate in effect on the date of such distribution.

To the extent that we have a rights plan in effect with respect to our common stock on any conversion date, upon conversion of any shares of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, a converting holder will receive, in addition to our common stock, the rights under the rights plan, unless, prior to such conversion date, the rights have separated from our common stock, in which case each fixed conversion rate will be adjusted at the time of separation as if we made a distribution to all holders of our common stock as described in clause (4) above, subject to readjustment in the event of the expiration, termination or redemption of such rights. Any distribution of rights or warrants pursuant to a rights plan that would allow a holder to receive upon conversion, in addition to any shares of our common stock, the rights described therein (unless such rights or warrants have separated from our common stock (in which case each fixed conversion rate will be adjusted at the time of separation as if we made a distribution to all holders of our common stock as described in clause (4) above, subject to readjustment in the event of the expiration, termination or redemption of such rights)) shall not constitute a distribution of rights or warrants that would entitle such holder to an adjustment to the fixed conversion rates.

For the purposes of determining the adjustment to the fixed conversion rate for the purposes of:

clause (2), clause (4) in the event of an adjustment not relating to a spin-off and clause (5) above, the current market price of our common stock is the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on the trading day before the ex-date with respect to the issuance or distribution requiring such computation;

S-46

Table of Contents

clause (4) above in the event of an adjustment relating to a spin-off, the current market price of our common stock, capital stock or equity interest, as applicable, is the average VWAP per share over the first ten consecutive trading days commencing on, and including, the fifth trading day following the ex-date of such distribution; and

clause (6) above, the current market price of our common stock is the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the seventh trading day after the expiration date of the tender or exchange offer.

The term ex-date, when used with respect to any issuance or distribution, means the first date on which the shares of our common stock trade on the applicable exchange or in the applicable market, regular way, without the right to receive the issuance, dividend or distribution in question, from us or, if applicable, from the seller of our common stock on such exchange or market (in the form of due bills or otherwise) as determined by such exchange or market.

In addition, we may make such increases in each fixed conversion rate as we deem advisable if our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, determines that such increase would be in our best interest or in order to avoid or diminish any income tax to holders of our common stock resulting from any dividend or distribution of shares of our common stock (or issuance of rights or warrants to acquire shares of our common stock) or from any event treated as such for income tax purposes or for any other reason. We may only make such a discretionary adjustment if we make the same proportionate adjustment to each fixed conversion rate.

In the event of a taxable distribution to holders of our common stock that results in an adjustment of each fixed conversion rate or an increase in each fixed conversion rate in our discretion, beneficial owners of the depositary shares may, in certain circumstances, be deemed to have received a distribution subject to U.S. federal income tax as a dividend. In addition, Non-U.S. Holders of the depositary shares may, in certain circumstances, be deemed to have received a distribution subject to U.S. federal withholding tax requirements. See United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.

If we (or an applicable withholding agent) are required to withhold on constructive distributions to a holder (see United States Federal Income Tax Considerations) and pay the applicable withholding taxes, we may, at our option, or an applicable withholding agent may, withhold such taxes from payments of cash or shares of common stock payable to such holder.

Adjustments to the fixed conversion rates will be calculated to the nearest 1/10,000th of a share. Prior to the first trading day of the final averaging period, no adjustment to a fixed conversion rate will be required unless the adjustment would require an increase or decrease of at least one percent in such fixed conversion rate. If any adjustment is not required to be made because it would not change the fixed conversion rates by at least one percent, then the adjustment will be carried forward and taken into account in any subsequent adjustment; *provided, however*, that we will make such adjustments, regardless of whether such aggregate adjustments amount to one percent or more of the fixed conversion rates (x) on any early conversion date (including in connection with a fundamental change); (y) on the effective date of any fundamental change; and (z) on each trading day of the final averaging period.

No adjustments to the fixed conversion rates will be made if holders may participate (other than in the case of (x) a share subdivision or share combination or (y) a tender or exchange offer), at the same time, upon the same terms and otherwise on the same basis as holders of our common stock and solely as a result of holding mandatory convertible preferred stock, in the transaction that would otherwise give rise to such adjustment as if they held, for each share of mandatory convertible preferred stock, a number of shares of our common stock equal to the maximum conversion rate then in effect.

S-47

Table of Contents

The fixed conversion rates will not be adjusted except as provided above. Without limiting the foregoing, the fixed conversion rates will not be adjusted:

- (a) upon the issuance of any common stock pursuant to any present or future plan providing for the reinvestment of dividends or interest payable on our securities and the investment of additional optional amounts in common stock under any plan;
- (b) upon the issuance of any common stock or rights or warrants to purchase those shares pursuant to any present or future employee, director or consultant benefit or other incentive plan or program of or assumed by us or any of our subsidiaries;
- (c) upon the issuance of any common stock pursuant to any option, warrant, right or exercisable, exchangeable or convertible security outstanding as of the date the mandatory convertible preferred stock were first issued;
- (d) for a change solely in the par value of our common stock;
- (e) for sales of our common stock for cash, other than in a transaction described in clause (2) or clause (4) above;
- (f) for stock repurchases that are not tender offers, including pursuant to structured or derivative transactions;
- (g) as a result of a tender offer solely to holders of fewer than 100 shares of our common stock;
- (h) as a result of a third-party tender or exchange offer, other than a tender or exchange offer by one of our subsidiaries as described in clause (6) above; or
- (i) for accumulated and unpaid dividends on the mandatory convertible preferred stock, except as described above under Mandatory Conversion, Conversion at the Option of the Holder and Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount.

We will, as soon as practicable after the fixed conversion rates are adjusted, provide or cause to be provided written notice of the adjustment to the holders of shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock. We will also upon written request by a beneficial owner of the depositary shares deliver a statement setting forth in reasonable detail the method by which the adjustment to each fixed conversion rate was determined and setting forth each revised fixed conversion rate.

If an adjustment is made to the fixed conversion rates, (x) an inversely proportional adjustment also will be made to the threshold appreciation price and the initial price solely for the purposes of determining which clause of the definition of the conversion rate will apply on the mandatory conversion date and (y) an inversely proportional

adjustment also will be made to the floor price.

Whenever any provision of the certificate of designations establishing the terms of the mandatory convertible preferred stock requires us to calculate the VWAP per share of our common stock over a span of multiple days, our board of directors, or any authorized committee thereof, will make appropriate adjustments (including, without limitation, to the applicable market value, the early conversion average price, the stock price and the five-day average price, as the case may be) to account for any adjustments to the initial price, the threshold appreciation price, the floor price and the fixed conversion rates, as the case may be, that become effective, or any event that would require such an adjustment if the ex-date, effective date or expiration date, as the case may be, of such event occurs during the relevant period used to calculate such prices or values, as the case may be.

If:

the record date for a dividend or distribution on our common stock occurs after the end of the final averaging period and before the mandatory conversion date, and

S-48

Table of Contents

that dividend or distribution would have resulted in an adjustment of the number of shares of our common stock issuable to the holders of mandatory convertible preferred stock had such record date occurred on or before the last trading day of the final averaging period, then we will deem the holders of mandatory convertible preferred stock to be holders of record, for each share of mandatory convertible preferred stock that they hold, of a number of shares of our common stock equal to the conversion rate for purposes of that dividend or distribution. In this case, the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock would receive the dividend or distribution on our common stock together with the number of shares of common stock issuable upon mandatory conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock.

Recapitalizations, Reclassifications and Changes in our Common Stock

In the event of:

any consolidation or merger of us with or into another person (other than a merger or consolidation in which we are the continuing corporation and in which the shares of our common stock outstanding immediately prior to the merger or consolidation are not exchanged for cash, securities or other property of us or another person);

any sale, transfer, lease or conveyance to another person of all or substantially all of our and our subsidiaries consolidated property and assets;

any reclassification of our common stock into securities, including securities other than our common stock; or

any statutory exchange of our securities with another person (other than in connection with a merger or consolidation),

in each case, as a result of which our common stock would be converted into, or exchanged for, securities, cash or property (each, a reorganization event), each share of mandatory convertible preferred stock outstanding immediately prior to such reorganization event shall, without the consent of the holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, become convertible into the kind of securities, cash and other property that such holder would have been entitled to receive if such holder had converted its mandatory convertible preferred stock into common stock immediately prior to such reorganization event (such securities, cash and other property, the exchange property, with each unit of exchange property meaning the kind and amount of exchange property that a holder of one share of common stock is entitled to receive). For purposes of the foregoing, the type and amount of exchange property in the case of any reorganization event that causes our common stock to be converted into the right to receive more than a single type of consideration (determined based in part upon any form of stockholder election) will be deemed to be the weighted average of the types and amounts of consideration received by the holders of our common stock that affirmatively make such an election (or of all holders of our common stock if none makes an election). We will notify holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock of the weighted average as soon as practicable after such determination is made. The number of units of exchange property for each share of mandatory convertible preferred stock converted following the effective date of such reorganization event will be determined as if references to our common stock in the description of the conversion rate applicable upon mandatory conversion, conversion at the option of the holder and conversion at the option of the holder upon a fundamental change were to units of exchange

property (without interest thereon and without any right to dividends or distributions thereon which have a record date prior to the date such shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock are actually converted). For the purpose of determining which bullet of the definition of conversion rate will apply upon mandatory conversion, and for the purpose of calculating the conversion rate if the second bullet of such definition is applicable, the value of a unit of exchange property will be determined in good faith by our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof, except that if a unit of exchange property includes common stock or ADRs that are traded on a U.S. national securities exchange, the value of such common stock or ADRs will be the average over the final

Table of Contents

averaging period of the volume-weighted average prices for such common stock or ADRs, as displayed on the applicable Bloomberg screen (as determined in good faith by our board of directors, or an authorized committee thereof); or, if such price is not available, the average market value per share of such common stock or ADRs over such period as determined, using a volume-weighted average method, by a nationally recognized independent investment banking firm retained by us for this purpose. We (or any successor to us) will, as soon as reasonably practicable (but in any event within 20 calendar days) after the occurrence of any reorganization event, provide written notice to the holders of mandatory convertible preferred stock of such occurrence and of the kind and amount of cash, securities or other property that constitute the exchange property. Failure to deliver such notice will not affect the operation of the provisions described in this section.

Reservation of Shares

We will at all times reserve and keep available out of the authorized and unissued common stock or shares of common stock held in treasury by us, solely for issuance upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, the maximum number of shares of common stock as shall be issuable from time to time upon the conversion of all the shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock then outstanding.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Computershare Trust Company, N.A. is the transfer agent and registrar for the mandatory convertible preferred stock.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

We will deposit the shares of our % Series A Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock, par value \$1.00 per share (our mandatory convertible preferred stock), represented by the depositary shares offered hereby pursuant to a deposit agreement (the deposit agreement) among us, Computershare Trust Company, N.A., acting as bank depositary (the bank depositary), and the holders from time to time of the depositary shares.

The following description is a summary of the material provisions of the depositary shares and the deposit agreement and does not purport to be complete. The terms of the depositary shares include those expressly set forth in the deposit agreement, and this summary is subject to and is qualified by reference to all the provisions of the depositary shares and the deposit agreement, including the definitions of certain terms used in the deposit agreement.

You may request a copy of the deposit agreement from us as described under Where You Can Find More Information. We urge you to read this document because it, and not this description, defines your rights as a holder of depositary shares.

For purposes of this description, references to Hess, we, our and us refer only to Hess Corporation and not to its subsidiaries.

General

Each depositary share represents a 1/20th interest in a share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock and will initially be evidenced by a global security, as defined in and described under Book-entry, Settlement and Clearance in this section. Subject to the terms of the deposit agreement, the depositary shares will be entitled to all rights, preferences, privileges and voting powers of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, as applicable, in proportion to the fraction of a share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock those depositary shares represent.

In this section, references to holders of depositary shares mean those who have depositary shares registered in their own names on the books maintained by the bank depositary and not indirect holders who will own beneficial interests in depositary shares registered in the street name of, or issued in book-entry form through, DTC prior to the mandatory conversion of our mandatory convertible preferred stock. You should review the special considerations that apply to indirect holders as described under Book-entry, Settlement and Clearance in this section.

Conversion

Because each depositary share represents a 1/20th interest in a share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, a holder of depositary shares may elect to convert depositary shares only in lots of 20 depositary shares, either on an early conversion date at the minimum conversion rate of shares of our common stock per depositary share, subject to adjustment, or during a fundamental change conversion period at the fundamental change conversion rate, as described below. For a description of the terms and conditions on which our mandatory convertible preferred stock is convertible at the option of holders of mandatory convertible preferred stock, see the sections entitled Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Conversion at the Option of the Holder and Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount in this prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth the fundamental change conversion rate per depositary share, subject to adjustment as described under Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Conversion at the Option of the Holder upon Fundamental Change; Fundamental Change Dividend Make-whole Amount, based on the effective date of the fundamental change and the stock price in the fundamental change:

Effective Date	Stock Price on Effective Date												
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
February , 2016													
February 1, 2017													
February 1, 2018													
February 1, 2019													

The exact stock price and effective dates may not be set forth in the table, in which case:

if the stock price is between two stock prices on the table or the effective date is between two effective dates on the table, the fundamental change conversion rate per depositary share will be determined by straight-line interpolation between the fundamental change conversion rates per depositary share set forth for the higher and lower stock prices and the earlier and later effective dates, as applicable, based on a 365-day or 366-day year, as applicable;

if the stock price is in excess of \$ per share (subject to adjustment in the same manner as the column headings of the table above), then the fundamental change conversion rate per depositary share will be the minimum conversion rate, *divided by 20*, subject to adjustment; and

if the stock price is less than \$ per share (subject to adjustment in the same manner as the column headings of the table above), then the fundamental change conversion rate per depositary share will be the maximum conversion rate, *divided by 20*, subject to adjustment.

On any conversion date for our mandatory convertible preferred stock, each depositary share corresponding to the shares of our mandatory convertible preferred stock so converted will be entitled to receive 1/20th of the number of shares of our common stock and the amount of any cash received by the depositary upon conversion of each share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock.

The following table illustrates the conversion rate per depositary share, subject to adjustment as described under Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Anti-dilution Adjustments in this prospectus supplement, based on the applicable market value of our common stock:

Applicable market value of our common stock	Conversion rate per depositary share
Greater than the threshold appreciation price	shares of common stock
Equal to or less than the threshold appreciation price but greater than or equal to the initial price	Between and shares of common stock, determined by dividing \$50 by the applicable market

value

Less than the initial price

shares of common stock

After delivery of our common stock by the transfer agent to the bank depository following conversion of our mandatory convertible preferred stock, the bank depository will transfer the proportional number of shares of our common stock to the holders of depository shares by book-entry transfer through DTC or, if the holders' interests are in certificated depository receipts, by delivery of common stock certificates for such number of shares of our common stock.

If we (or an applicable withholding agent) are required to withhold on distributions of common stock in respect of dividends in arrears or in respect of the net present value of future dividends to a holder (see United States Federal Income Tax Considerations) and pay the applicable withholding taxes, we may, at our option, or an applicable withholding agent may, withhold such taxes from payments of cash or shares of common stock payable to such holder.

S-52

Table of Contents

Fractional Shares

No fractional shares of common stock will be issued to holders of our depositary shares upon conversion. In lieu of any fractional shares of common stock otherwise issuable in respect of the aggregate number of depositary shares of any holder that are converted, that holder will be entitled to receive an amount in cash (computed to the nearest cent) equal to the product of: (i) that same fraction; and (ii) the average VWAP per share of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on, and including, the second trading day immediately preceding the conversion date.

If more than one depositary share is surrendered for, or subject to, conversion at one time by or for the same holder, the number of shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion thereof shall be computed on the basis of the aggregate number of depositary shares so surrendered for, or subject to, conversion.

Dividends and Other Distributions

Each dividend paid on a depositary share will be in an amount equal to 1/20th of the dividend paid on the related share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock.

The bank depositary will deliver any cash or shares of common stock it receives in respect of dividends on our mandatory convertible preferred stock to the holders of the depositary shares in such amounts as are, as nearly as practicable, in proportion to the number of outstanding depositary shares held by such holders, on the date of receipt or as soon as practicable thereafter.

The dividend payable on the first dividend payment date, if declared, is expected to be \$ per depositary share, and the dividend payable on each subsequent dividend payment date, if declared, is expected to be \$ per depositary share.

Record dates for the payment of dividends and other matters relating to the depositary shares will be the same as the corresponding record dates for our mandatory convertible preferred stock.

No fractional shares of common stock will be delivered to the holders of our depositary shares in respect of dividends. Each holder that would otherwise be entitled to a fraction of a share of common stock will instead be entitled to receive a cash adjustment based on the average VWAP per share (as defined below) of our common stock over the five consecutive trading day period ending on the second trading day immediately preceding the applicable dividend payment date.

The amount paid as dividends or otherwise distributable by the bank depositary with respect to the depositary shares or the underlying mandatory convertible preferred stock will be reduced by any amounts required to be withheld by us or the bank depositary on account of taxes or other governmental charges. The bank depositary may refuse to make any payment or distribution, or any transfer, exchange, or withdrawal of any depositary shares or the shares of our mandatory convertible preferred stock until such taxes or other governmental charges are paid.

Voting the Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock

The provisions described under **Description of the Depositary Shares** **Voting Deposited Stock** in the accompanying prospectus will not apply to the depositary shares. Instead, the voting and related provisions described in this **Voting the Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock** section will apply to the depositary shares.

Because each depositary share represents a 1/20th interest in a share of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, holders of depositary receipts will be entitled to 1/20th of a vote per share of mandatory convertible

S-53

Table of Contents

preferred stock under those circumstances in which holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock are entitled to a vote, as described under **Description of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock Voting Rights** in this prospectus supplement.

When the bank depositary receives notice of any meeting at which the holders of our mandatory convertible preferred stock are entitled to vote, the bank depositary will mail the notice to the record holders of the depositary shares relating to the mandatory convertible preferred stock. Each record holder of depositary shares on the record date (which will be the same date as the record date for our mandatory convertible preferred stock) may instruct the bank depositary as to how to vote the amount of our mandatory convertible preferred stock represented by such holder's depositary shares in accordance with these instructions. The bank depositary will endeavor, insofar as practicable, to vote the amount of the preferred stock represented by such depositary shares in accordance with these instructions, and we will take all actions the bank depositary deems necessary in order to enable the bank depositary to do so. The bank depositary will abstain from voting shares of the mandatory convertible preferred stock to the extent it does not receive specific instructions from the holders of depositary shares representing our mandatory convertible preferred stock.

Modification, Amendment and Termination

The provisions described under **Description of the Depositary Shares Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement** in the accompanying prospectus will not apply to the depositary shares. Instead, the modification, amendment and termination and related provisions described in this **Modification, Amendment and Termination** section will apply to the depositary shares.

Without the consent of the holders of the depositary shares, we may amend, alter or supplement the depositary agreement or any certificate representing the depositary shares for the following purposes:

to cure any ambiguity, omission, inconsistency or mistake in any such agreement or instrument;

to make any provision with respect to matters or questions relating to the depositary shares that is not inconsistent with the provisions of the depositary agreement and that does not adversely affect the rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers of any holder of the depositary shares;

to make any change reasonably necessary, in our reasonable determination, to comply with the procedures of the bank depositary and that does not adversely affect the rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers of any holder of the depositary shares; or

to make any other change that does not adversely affect the rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers of any holder of the depositary shares (other than any holder that consents to such change).

In addition, without the consent of the holders of the depositary shares, we may amend, alter, supplement or repeal any terms of the depositary shares to conform the terms of the depositary shares to the description thereof in the accompanying prospectus as supplemented and/or amended by this **Description of Depositary Shares** section of the preliminary prospectus supplement for the depositary shares, as further supplemented and/or amended by the related pricing term sheet.

The deposit agreement may be terminated by us or the depositary only if (a) all outstanding depositary shares have been cancelled, upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock or otherwise, or (b) there has been made a final distribution in respect of the mandatory convertible preferred stock in connection with any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us and such distribution shall have been distributed to the record holders of the depositary receipts pursuant to the deposit agreement.

S-54

Table of Contents

Charges of Bank Depositary

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the depositary arrangements. We will pay charges of the bank depositary in connection with the initial deposit of the mandatory convertible preferred stock. Holders of depositary receipts will pay other transfer and other taxes and governmental charges and any other charges, including a fee for the withdrawal of shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock upon surrender of depositary receipts, as are expressly provided in the deposit agreement to be for their accounts.

Withdrawal Rights

A holder of 20 depositary shares may withdraw the share of our mandatory convertible preferred stock corresponding to such depositary shares, and any cash or other property represented by such depositary shares. A holder who withdraws shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock (and any such cash or other property) will not be required to pay any taxes or duties relating to the issuance or delivery of such shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock (and any such cash or other property), except that such holder will be required to pay any tax or duty that may be payable relating to any transfer involved in the issuance or delivery of such shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock (and any such cash or other property) in a name other than the name of such holder. Holders of shares of our mandatory convertible preferred stock will not have the right under the deposit agreement to deposit such shares with the depositary in exchange for depositary shares.

Listing

We intend to apply to list the depositary shares on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HES.PRA and we expect trading to commence within 30 days of the first original issuance date of the depositary shares. In addition, upon listing, we have agreed to use our reasonable best efforts to keep the depositary shares representing fractional interests in the mandatory convertible preferred stock listed on The New York Stock Exchange. Listing the depositary shares on The New York Stock Exchange does not guarantee that a trading market will develop or, if a trading market does develop, the depth of that market or the ability of holders to sell their depositary shares easily. We do not expect there will be any separate public trading market for the shares of the mandatory convertible preferred stock except as represented by the depositary shares.

Form and Notices

The mandatory convertible preferred stock will be issued in registered form to the bank depositary, and the depositary shares will be issued in book-entry only form through DTC prior to the conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, as described under *Book-entry, Settlement and Clearance* in this section. The bank depositary will forward to the holders of depositary shares all reports, notices and communications from us that are delivered to the bank depositary and that we are required to furnish to the holders of our mandatory convertible preferred stock.

Book-entry, Settlement and Clearance

The global security

The depositary shares will be initially issued in the form of a single registered security in global form (the *global security*). Upon issuance, the global security will be deposited with the bank depositary as custodian for DTC and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC.

Ownership of beneficial interests in the global security will be limited to persons who have accounts with DTC (DTC participants) or persons who hold interests through DTC participants. We expect that under procedures established by DTC:

upon deposit of the global security with DTC s custodian, DTC will credit portions of the global security to the accounts of the DTC participants designated by the underwriter; and

S-55

Table of Contents

ownership of beneficial interests in the global security will be shown on, and transfer of ownership of those interests will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC (with respect to interests of DTC participants) and the records of DTC participants (with respect to other owners of beneficial interests in the global security).

Beneficial interests in the global security may not be exchanged for securities in physical, certificated form except in the limited circumstances described below.

Book-entry procedures for the global security

All interests in the global security will be subject to the operations and procedures of DTC. We provide the following summary of those operations and procedures solely for the convenience of investors. The operations and procedures of DTC are controlled by that settlement system and may be changed at any time. Neither we nor the underwriter are responsible for those operations or procedures.

DTC has advised us that it is:

a limited purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York;

a banking organization within the meaning of the New York State 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 under 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 its participants through electronic book-entry changes to the accounts of its participants. DTC's participants include securities brokers and dealers, including the underwriter; banks and trust companies; clearing corporations and other organizations. Indirect access to DTC's system is also available to others such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies; these indirect participants clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a DTC participant, either directly or indirectly. Investors who are not DTC participants may beneficially own securities held by or on behalf of DTC only through DTC participants or indirect participants in DTC.

So long as DTC's nominee is the registered owner of the global security, that nominee will be considered the sole owner or holder of the depository shares represented by the global security for all purposes under the deposit agreement. Except as provided below, owners of beneficial interests in the global security:

will not be entitled to have securities represented by the global security registered in their names;

will not receive or be entitled to receive physical, certificated securities; and

will not be considered the owners or holders of the securities under the deposit agreement for any purpose, including with respect to the giving of any direction, instruction or approval to the bank depository under the deposit agreement.

As a result, each investor who owns a beneficial interest in the global security must rely on the procedures of DTC to exercise any rights of a holder of securities under the deposit agreement (and, if the investor is not a participant or an indirect participant in DTC, on the procedures of the DTC participant through which the investor owns its interest).

Payments of dividends with respect to the depository shares represented by the global security will be made by the bank depository to DTC's nominee as the registered holder of the global security. Neither we nor the bank depository will have any responsibility or liability for the payment of amounts to owners of beneficial interests in

S-56

Table of Contents

the global security, for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of those interests by DTC, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records of DTC relating to those beneficial interests.

Payments by participants and indirect participants in DTC to the owners of beneficial interests in the global security will be governed by standing instructions and customary industry practice and will be the responsibility of those participants or indirect participants and DTC.

Transfers between participants in DTC will be effected under DTC's procedures and will be settled in same-day funds.

Certificated securities

Depository shares in physical, certificated form will be issued and delivered to each person that DTC identifies as a beneficial owner of the depository shares only if:

DTC notifies us at any time that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depository for the global security and a successor depository is not appointed within 90 days; or

DTC ceases to be registered as a clearing agency under the Exchange Act and a successor depository is not appointed within 90 days.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPPED CALL TRANSACTIONS

In connection with the pricing of the depositary shares, we expect to enter into capped call transactions with one or more of the underwriters or their affiliates (the option counterparties). The capped call transactions will cover, subject to anti-dilution adjustments substantially similar to those applicable to the mandatory convertible preferred stock, the number of shares of our common stock underlying the mandatory convertible preferred stock, based on the minimum conversion rate.

We intend to use approximately \$ million of the net proceeds from this offering to pay the cost of the capped call transactions. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional depositary shares, we expect to use a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the additional depositary shares to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties.

The capped call transactions are expected generally to reduce the potential dilution upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock (with such reduction subject to a cap) in the event that the market price per share of our common stock, as measured under the terms of the capped call transactions, is greater than the strike price of the capped call transactions, which initially corresponds to the threshold appreciation price of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and is subject to anti-dilution adjustments substantially similar to those applicable to the fixed conversion rates of the depositary shares.

We will not be required to make any cash payments to the option counterparties or their affiliates upon the exercise of the options that are a part of the capped call transactions, but we will be entitled to receive from the option counterparties or their respective affiliates, as the case may be, a number of shares of our common stock generally based on the amount by which the market price per share of our common stock, as measured under the terms of the capped call transactions, is greater than the strike price of the capped call transactions during the relevant valuation period under the capped call transactions. However, if the market price per share of our common stock, as measured under the terms of the capped call transactions, exceeds the cap price of the capped call transactions, the number of shares of our common stock we expect to receive upon exercise of the capped call transactions will be capped based on the amount by which the cap price exceeds the strike price of the capped call transactions.

The capped call transactions are separate transactions entered into by us with the option counterparties, are not part of the terms of the depositary shares or the mandatory convertible preferred stock and will not change the holders' rights under the depositary shares or the mandatory convertible preferred stock. As a holder of the depositary shares, you will not have any rights with respect to the capped call transactions.

For a discussion of the potential impact of any market or other activity by the option counterparties or their affiliates in connection with these capped call transactions, see [Underwriting Capped Call Transactions](#) and [Risk Factors Risks Related to the Depositary Shares and Our Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock](#). The capped call transactions may affect the value of the depositary shares and our common stock.

Table of Contents

UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion is a summary of the U.S. federal income tax considerations to U.S. holders and non-U.S. holders (each, as defined below) of the purchase, ownership, disposition and conversion of depositary shares issued pursuant to this offering, mandatory convertible preferred stock represented by the depositary shares and common stock received in respect of depositary shares, but does not purport to be a complete analysis of all potential tax effects. The effects of other U.S. federal tax laws, such as estate and gift tax laws, and any applicable state, local or non-U.S. tax laws are not discussed. This discussion is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder, judicial decisions, and published rulings and administrative pronouncements of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in effect as of the date of this offering. These authorities may change or be subject to differing interpretations. Any such change or differing interpretation may be applied retroactively in a manner that could adversely affect a beneficial owner of our depositary shares or common stock. We have not sought and will not seek any rulings from the IRS regarding the matters discussed below. There can be no assurance the IRS or a court will not take a contrary position regarding the tax consequences of the purchase, ownership, disposition and conversion of our depositary shares or common stock received in respect of depositary shares.

This discussion is limited to beneficial owners that hold our depositary shares, mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock as a capital asset within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code (property held for investment). This discussion does not address the Medicare tax imposed on certain income or all U.S. federal income tax consequences relevant to a beneficial owner's particular circumstances. In addition, it does not address consequences relevant to beneficial owners subject to particular rules, including, without limitation:

U.S. expatriates and former citizens or long-term residents of the United States;

persons subject to the alternative minimum tax;

U.S. holders whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;

persons holding the depositary shares, mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock received in respect of depositary shares as part of a hedge, straddle or other risk reduction strategy or as part of a conversion transaction or other integrated investment;

banks, insurance companies, and other financial institutions;

real estate investment trusts or regulated investment companies;

brokers, dealers or traders in securities;

controlled foreign corporations, passive foreign investment companies, and corporations that accumulate earnings to avoid U.S. federal income tax;

S corporations, partnerships or other entities or arrangements treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes (and investors therein);

tax-exempt organizations or governmental organizations;

tax-exempt retirement plans;

persons that own, actually or constructively, more than 5% of our depositary shares or common stock; and

persons deemed to sell the depositary shares, mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock under the constructive sale provisions of the Code.

If an entity taxed as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds our depositary shares, mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock received in respect of our depositary shares, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will depend on the status of the partner, upon the activities of the

Table of Contents

partnership, and upon certain determinations made at the partner level. Accordingly, partnerships considering an investment in our depositary shares and partners in such partnerships should consult their tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences to them.

If we are or become a United States real property holding corporation, a non-U.S. holder (as defined below) that owns (or is treated as owning under constructive ownership rules) more than 5% of our depositary shares or common stock during a specified time period may be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a sale, exchange, conversion, or other disposition of such depositary shares or common stock or distributions on our depositary shares that are treated as a return of capital. Accordingly, non-U.S. holders considering an investment of more than 5% of our depositary shares should consult their own tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences to them.

THIS DISCUSSION IS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED AS TAX ADVICE. YOU SHOULD CONSULT YOUR TAX ADVISOR WITH RESPECT TO THE APPLICATION OF THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX LAWS TO YOUR PARTICULAR SITUATION AS WELL AS ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP, DISPOSITION AND CONVERSION OF OUR DEPOSITARY SHARES, MANDATORY CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED STOCK AND COMMON STOCK ARISING UNDER THE OTHER U.S. FEDERAL TAX LAWS OR UNDER THE LAWS OF ANY STATE, LOCAL, NON-U.S. OR OTHER TAXING JURISDICTION OR UNDER ANY APPLICABLE INCOME TAX TREATY.

For purposes of this discussion, a U.S. holder is a beneficial owner of our depositary shares, mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock received in respect of our depositary shares that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, is:

an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation created or organized under the laws of the United States, any state thereof, or the District of Columbia;

an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income tax regardless of its source; or

a trust that (1) is subject to the primary supervision of a U.S. court and the control of one or more U.S. persons, or (2) has made a valid election under applicable Treasury Regulations to continue to be treated as a U.S. person.

A non-U.S. holder is any beneficial owner of our depositary shares, mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock that is not a U.S. holder, and that is not an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Depositary Shares

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, a U.S. holder or non-U.S. holder of the depositary shares will be treated as if it held an interest in a corresponding portion of the underlying mandatory convertible preferred stock and, accordingly, the exchange of depositary shares for such stock will not be a taxable event. For ease of discussion, the discussion herein refers to the mandatory convertible preferred stock, although it applies equally to the depositary shares

representing such stock.

Tax Consequences Applicable to U.S. Holders

Distributions Generally.

If we make cash or other property distributions on our mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock, such distributions generally will constitute dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes to the extent

S-60

Table of Contents

paid from our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles. Subject to customary conditions and limitations, dividends will be eligible for the dividends-received deduction in the case of U.S. holders that are corporations. Dividends paid to non-corporate U.S. holders generally will qualify for taxation at special rates if such U.S. holders meet certain holding period and other applicable requirements. It is possible that distributions we make with respect to the mandatory convertible preferred stock will exceed our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Amounts not treated as dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes will constitute a return of capital and will first be applied against and reduce a U.S. holder's tax basis in the mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock, but not below zero. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits and in excess of a U.S. holder's tax basis in its shares will be taxable as capital gain realized on the sale or other taxable disposition of the mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock and will be treated as described under **Dispositions of Our Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock or Common Stock** below.

If we make a distribution on our mandatory convertible preferred stock in the form of our common stock, such distribution will be taxable for U.S. federal income tax purposes in the same manner as distributions described above. The amount of such distribution and a U.S. holder's tax basis in such common stock will equal the fair market value of such common stock on the distribution date, and a U.S. holder's holding period for such common stock will begin on the day following the distribution date. Because such distribution would not give rise to any cash from which any applicable withholding tax could be satisfied, if we (or an applicable withholding agent) pay backup withholding on behalf of a U.S. holder (because such U.S. holder failed to establish an exemption from backup withholding), we may, at our option, or an applicable withholding agent may, withhold such taxes from shares of common stock or current or subsequent payments of cash payable to such U.S. holder.

Extraordinary Dividends.

Dividends that exceed certain thresholds in relation to a U.S. holder's tax basis in the mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock could be characterized as **extraordinary dividends** under the Code. A corporate U.S. holder that has held our mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock for two years or less before the dividend announcement date and that receives an extraordinary dividend will generally be required to reduce its tax basis in the stock with respect to which such dividend was made by the nontaxed portion of such dividend. If the amount of the reduction exceeds the U.S. holder's tax basis in such stock, the excess is taxable as capital gain realized on the sale or other disposition of the mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock and will be treated as described under

Dispositions of Our Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock or Common Stock below. Non-corporate U.S. holders that receive an extraordinary dividend will be required to treat any losses on the sale of our mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock as long-term capital losses to the extent of the extraordinary dividends such U.S. holder receives that qualify for taxation at the special rates discussed above under **Distributions Generally**.

Adjustments to Conversion Rate.

The conversion rate of our mandatory convertible preferred stock is subject to adjustment under specified circumstances. In such circumstances, U.S. holders who hold our mandatory convertible preferred stock may be deemed to have received a constructive distribution if the adjustment has the effect of increasing such U.S. holders' proportionate interests in our assets or earnings and profits. In addition, the failure to make certain adjustments on the mandatory convertible preferred stock may cause a U.S. holder of our common stock to be deemed to have received constructive distributions from us, even though such U.S. holder has not received any cash or property as a result of such adjustments. Such U.S. holder would be subject to the rules discussed above under **Distributions Generally**. Adjustments to the conversion rate made pursuant to a bona fide reasonable adjustment formula which has the effect of preventing the dilution of the interest of the U.S. holders of the mandatory convertible preferred stock generally

will not be deemed to result in a constructive distribution. Certain of the possible adjustments (including, without limitation, adjustments in respect of taxable dividends to our common stockholders) will not qualify as being made pursuant to a bona fide reasonable adjustment formula.

S-61

Table of Contents

If adjustments that do not qualify as being pursuant to a bona fide reasonable adjustment formula are made, a U.S. holder of mandatory convertible preferred stock will be deemed to have received constructive distributions from us, even though such U.S. holder has not received any cash or property as a result of such adjustments. The tax consequences of the receipt of a distribution from us are described above under **Distributions Generally**. Because constructive distributions deemed received by a U.S. holder would not give rise to any cash from which any applicable withholding could be satisfied, if we (or an applicable withholding agent) pay backup withholding on behalf of a U.S. holder (because such U.S. holder failed to establish an exemption from backup withholding), we may, at our option, or an applicable withholding agent may, withhold such taxes from payments of cash or shares of common stock payable to such U.S. holder.

Dispositions of Our Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock or Common Stock.

If a U.S. holder sells or disposes of shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock (other than pursuant to a conversion described below) or common stock, it generally will recognize gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale or other taxable disposition and the U.S. holder's adjusted basis in the shares of mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock. This gain or loss generally will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. holder has held the mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock for more than one year. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

Conversion of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock into Common Stock.

A U.S. holder generally will not recognize gain or loss upon the conversion of our mandatory convertible preferred stock into our common stock. Any cash or common stock received upon conversion in respect of dividends in arrears on our mandatory convertible preferred stock should be treated as described above under **Distributions Generally**. For the avoidance of doubt, the term **dividends in arrears** does not include dividends to be paid in respect of any portion of the dividend period containing the date of conversion. Except as provided below and except with respect to common stock received in respect of dividends in arrears, a U.S. holder's basis and holding period in the common stock received upon conversion generally will be the same as those in the converted mandatory convertible preferred stock (but the basis will be reduced by the portion of the adjusted tax basis allocated to any fractional share of common stock deemed exchanged for cash). Common stock received in payment of dividends in arrears and taxed as a dividend upon receipt, if any, will have a basis equal to its fair market value on the date of conversion, and a new holding period which will begin on the day after the conversion.

Cash received upon conversion in lieu of a fractional common share generally will be treated as a payment in a taxable exchange for such fractional common share, and gain or loss will be recognized on the receipt of cash in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of cash received and the adjusted tax basis allocable to the fractional common share deemed exchanged. This gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. holder has held the mandatory convertible preferred stock for more than one year at the time of conversion.

In the event a U.S. holder converts its mandatory convertible preferred stock and we pay, in respect of any such conversion, cash or common stock in respect of dividends to be paid in respect of a portion of the then-current dividend period or the net present value of future dividends, the tax treatment of the receipt of such cash or common stock is uncertain. In the event a U.S. holder converts its mandatory convertible preferred stock and we choose to pay such U.S. holder cash in respect of a portion of the then-current dividend period or the present value of future dividends, although not free from doubt, we believe the receipt of such cash should be treated as additional consideration received by the U.S. holder upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock into common stock and should be taxable to the extent of any gain realized by the U.S. holder. For this purpose, gain generally would equal the excess, if any, of the fair market value of our common stock received upon conversion (including any

fractional common share for which cash is received) and the cash received

S-62

Table of Contents

attributable to dividends to be paid in respect of a portion of the then-current dividend period or future dividends over the U.S. holder's tax basis in our mandatory convertible preferred stock immediately prior to conversion. The character of such gain recognized (which will be the lesser of such gain and such cash) is uncertain. If the receipt of the cash attributable to dividends to be paid in respect of a portion of the then-current dividend period or future dividends is considered to have the effect of a dividend, such gain (to the extent recognized) would be taxable as dividend income, to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Alternatively, such gain could be capital gain. To the extent the amount of cash received in respect of dividends to be paid in respect of a portion of the then-current dividend period or the net present value of future dividends exceeded the gain realized by a U.S. holder, the excess amount would not be taxable to such U.S. holder but would reduce its adjusted tax basis in our common stock.

In the event a U.S. holder converts its mandatory convertible preferred stock and we pay such U.S. holder common stock in respect of dividends to be paid in respect of a portion of the then-current dividend period or the present value of future dividends, although not free from doubt, we believe the receipt of such stock should be treated as consideration received upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, and should in such case be taxed as described in the first paragraph above under the heading **Conversion of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock into Common Stock**.

U.S. holders should be aware that the tax treatment described above in respect of the payments of cash or common stock made in respect of dividends to be paid in respect of a portion of the then-current dividend period or future dividends is not certain and may be challenged by the IRS, including on grounds that the amount received attributable to a portion of the then-current dividend period or future dividends represents a taxable dividend to the extent we have earnings and profits at the time of conversion, as described above under **Distributions Generally**.

In the event a U.S. holder's mandatory convertible preferred stock is converted pursuant to certain transactions (including our consolidation or merger into another person), the tax treatment of such a conversion will depend upon the facts underlying the particular transaction triggering such a conversion. U.S. holders should consult their own tax advisors to determine the specific tax treatment of a conversion under such circumstances.

Because payments of common stock in respect of dividends in arrears will not give rise to any cash from which any applicable withholding tax could be satisfied, if we (or an applicable withholding agent) pay backup withholding on behalf of a U.S. holder (because such U.S. holder failed to establish an exemption from backup withholding), we may, at our option, or an applicable withholding agent may, withhold such taxes from shares of common stock or current or subsequent payments of cash payable to such U.S. holder.

Backup Withholding and Information Reporting.

We or an applicable withholding agent will report to U.S. holders and the IRS the amount of dividends paid during each calendar year, and the amount of any tax withheld. Under the backup withholding rules, a U.S. holder may be subject to backup withholding with respect to dividends paid or the proceeds of a disposition of mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock unless the U.S. holder is a corporation or comes within certain other exempt categories and, when required, demonstrates this fact, or provides a taxpayer identification number, certifies as to no loss of exemption from backup withholding, and otherwise complies with applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules. A U.S. holder that does not provide us with its correct taxpayer identification number may also be subject to penalties imposed by the IRS. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amount paid as backup withholding will be creditable against the U.S. holder's federal income tax liability, provided the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Table of Contents**Tax Consequences Applicable to Non-U.S. Holders*****Distributions Generally.***

Distributions that are treated as dividends (see [Tax Consequences Applicable to U.S. Holders Distributions Generally, Adjustments to Conversion Rate, and Conversion of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock into Common Stock](#)) generally will be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a rate of 30% of the gross amount of the dividends, or such lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty. Distributions that are treated as return of capital or gain could be subject to withholding tax at a rate of 10% (15% for dispositions after February 16, 2016) under FIRPTA (defined below) if we are considered a USRPHC (defined below) and our stock is not regularly traded on an established securities market (see [Dispositions of Our Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock and Common Stock](#)). For withholding purposes, we expect that all distributions would be treated as made out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits and thus treated as dividends. However, a non-U.S. holder may be able to obtain a refund by timely filing an appropriate claim for refund with the IRS if it is subsequently determined that the distribution was, in fact, in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. To receive the benefit of a reduced treaty rate, a non-U.S. holder must furnish to us or our paying agent a valid IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E (or applicable successor form) certifying such non-U.S. holder's qualification for the reduced rate. This certification must be provided to the applicable withholding agent prior to the payment of dividends and must be updated periodically. Non-U.S. holders that do not timely provide the applicable withholding agent with the required certification, but that qualify for a reduced treaty rate, may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld by timely filing an appropriate claim for refund with the IRS.

If a non-U.S. holder holds our mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock in connection with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, and dividends paid on the mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock are effectively connected with such non-U.S. holder's U.S. trade or business (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, are attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder in the United States), the non-U.S. holder will be exempt from U.S. federal withholding tax. To claim the exemption, the non-U.S. holder must generally furnish to us or our paying agent a properly executed IRS Form W-8ECI (or applicable successor form).

Any dividends paid on our mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock that are effectively connected with a non-U.S. holder's U.S. trade or business (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, are attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder in the United States) generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net-income basis at the regular graduated U.S. federal income tax rates in much the same manner as if such holder were a resident of the United States. A non-U.S. holder that is a foreign corporation also may be subject to an additional branch profits tax equal to 30% (or such lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty) of its effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year, as adjusted for certain items. Non-U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding their entitlement to benefits under any applicable income tax treaty.

In general, the rules applicable to distributions to non-U.S. holders discussed above are also applicable to deemed distributions to non-U.S. holders resulting from adjustments to or failure to adjust the conversion rate of the mandatory convertible preferred stock or distributions on mandatory convertible preferred stock made in our common stock. See [Tax Consequences Applicable to U.S. Holders Adjustments to Conversion Rate](#). Because deemed distributions or distributions made in common stock would not give rise to any cash from which any applicable withholding tax could be satisfied, we (or an applicable withholding agent) will withhold the U.S. federal tax on such dividend from any cash, shares of common stock, or sales proceeds otherwise payable to a non-U.S. holder.

Table of Contents

Dispositions of Our Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock and Common Stock.

A non-U.S. holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on any gain realized upon the sale or other disposition of our mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock, unless:

the gain is effectively connected with the non-U.S. holder's conduct of a trade or business in the United States and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder in the United States;

the non-U.S. holder is a nonresident alien individual present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year of the disposition, and certain other requirements are met; or

our common stock or mandatory convertible preferred stock constitutes a United States real property interest, or USRPI, by reason of our status as a United States real property holding corporation, or USRPHC, within the meaning of the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act, or FIRPTA, for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Generally, a domestic corporation is a USRPHC if the fair market value of its USRPIs equals or exceeds 50% of the sum of the fair market value of its worldwide real property interests plus its other assets used or held for use in its trade or business.

Gain described in the first bullet point above will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis at the regular graduated U.S. federal income tax rates in much the same manner as if such non-U.S. holder were a resident of the United States. A non-U.S. holder that is a foreign corporation also may be subject to an additional branch profits tax equal to 30% (or such lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty) of its effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year, as adjusted for certain items. Non-U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding their entitlement to benefits under any applicable income tax treaty.

A non-U.S. holder described in the second bullet point above will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at a flat 30% rate (or such lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty), on any gain derived from the sale, which may be offset by U.S. source capital losses (even though the individual is not considered a resident of the United States).

With respect to the third bullet point above, we have not determined whether we are a USRPHC. We can give no assurance that we are not or will not become one in the future. If we are or become a USRPHC, so long as our mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock is regularly traded on an established securities market, a non-U.S. holder will be subject to U.S. federal net income tax on a disposition of such regularly traded stock (as a sale of USRPI) only if the non-U.S. holder actually or constructively holds or held (at any time during the shorter of the five-year period preceding the date of disposition or the non-U.S. holder's holding period) more than 5% of such class of stock.

Although not free from doubt, we anticipate that our depositary shares (which represent mandatory convertible preferred stock) will be regularly traded on an established securities market. However, if our mandatory convertible preferred stock is not treated as so traded, gain arising from the sale or other taxable disposition of such stock by a non-U.S. holder will not be subject to U.S. federal income taxation as a sale of a USRPI, if our common stock is part of a class of stock that is regularly traded on an established securities market and the non-U.S. holder has not, at the time it acquires the mandatory convertible preferred stock and at certain other times described in the applicable Treasury Regulations, directly or indirectly held mandatory convertible preferred stock (and in certain cases other

direct or indirect interests in our stock) that had a fair market value in excess of 5% of the fair market value of all of our outstanding common stock. We believe that our common stock is and anticipate it will continue to be regularly traded on an established securities market. If gain on the sale or other taxable disposition of our stock were subject to taxation under FIRPTA, the non-U.S. holder would be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the gain realized on a disposition of our depositary shares, mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock, generally would be required to file a U.S. federal income tax return, and (and, if it was not then publicly traded, and certain other conditions were met) a 10%

S-65

Table of Contents

(15% for dispositions after February 16, 2016) withholding tax would apply to the gross proceeds from such sale. Non-U.S. holders should consult their own tax advisors about the consequences that could result if we are, or become, a U.S. real property holding corporation.

Conversion of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock into Common Stock.

If the mandatory convertible preferred stock is not treated as a USRPI at any time within the shorter of the five-year period preceding the conversion or the non-U.S. holder's holding period for our mandatory convertible preferred stock, such non-U.S. holder generally will not recognize gain or loss upon the conversion of such mandatory convertible preferred stock into our common stock. If the mandatory convertible preferred stock is treated as a USRPI with respect to a non-U.S. holder, such non-U.S. holder generally will recognize gain or loss upon conversion of such mandatory convertible preferred stock into our common stock unless the common stock constitutes a USRPI with respect to such non-U.S. holder and such non-U.S. holder complies with certain reporting requirements in the Treasury Regulations.

Cash received upon conversion in lieu of a fractional common share generally will be treated as a payment in a taxable exchange for such fractional common share. See Dispositions of Our Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock and Common Stock. Cash or common stock received in respect of dividends in arrears on our mandatory convertible preferred stock should be treated in the manner described above under Tax Consequences Applicable to U.S. Holders Conversion of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock into Common Stock, and we intend to withhold tax from such amounts, as described above under Distributions Generally. A non-U.S. holder may recognize capital gain or dividend income when such holder receives cash attributable to a dividend to be paid in respect of portion of the then-current dividend period or the net present value of future dividends, as described above under Tax Consequences Applicable to U.S. Holders Conversion of Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock into Common Stock. The tax treatment of such amount is uncertain, and we intend to withhold 30% of such amount as described under Distributions Generally.

Backup Withholding Tax and Information Reporting.

We or an applicable withholding agent must report annually to the IRS and to each non-U.S. holder the amount of distributions on our mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock paid to such non-U.S. holder and the amount of any tax withheld with respect to those distributions. These information reporting requirements apply even if no withholding was required because the distributions were effectively connected with the non-U.S. holder's conduct of a U.S. trade or business, or withholding was reduced or eliminated by an applicable income tax treaty. This information also may be made available under a specific treaty or agreement with the tax authorities in the country in which the non-U.S. holder resides or is established. Backup withholding, however, generally will not apply to payments to a non-U.S. holder on our mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock provided the non-U.S. holder furnishes to the payor the required certification as to its non-U.S. status, such as by providing a valid IRS Form W-8BEN, IRS Form W-8BEN-E or IRS Form W-8ECI, or certain other requirements are met. Notwithstanding the foregoing, backup withholding may apply if the payor has actual knowledge, or reason to know, that the non U.S. holder is a U.S. person that is not an exempt recipient.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules may be allowed as a refund or a credit against a non-U.S. holder's U.S. federal income tax liability, provided the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Additional Withholding Tax on Payments Made to Foreign Accounts

Withholding taxes may be imposed under Sections 1471 to 1474 of the Code (such Sections commonly referred to as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, or FATCA) on certain types of payments made to non-U.S. financial institutions and certain other non-U.S. entities. Specifically, a 30% withholding tax may be imposed on dividends on, or gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of, mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock paid to a foreign financial institution or a non-financial foreign entity (each

S-66

Table of Contents

as defined in the Code), unless (1) the foreign financial institution undertakes certain diligence and reporting obligations, (2) the non-financial foreign entity either certifies it does not have any substantial United States owners (as defined in the Code) or furnishes identifying information regarding each substantial United States owner, or (3) the foreign financial institution or non-financial foreign entity otherwise qualifies for an exemption from these rules. If the payee is a foreign financial institution and is subject to the diligence and reporting requirements in (1) above, it must enter into an agreement with the U.S. Department of the Treasury requiring, among other things, that it undertake to identify accounts held by certain specified United States persons or United States-owned foreign entities (each as defined in the Code), annually report certain information about such accounts, and withhold 30% on certain payments to non-compliant foreign financial institutions and certain other account holders. Foreign financial institutions located in jurisdictions that have an intergovernmental agreement with the United States governing FATCA may be subject to different rules.

Under the applicable Treasury Regulations, withholding under FATCA generally applies to payments of dividends, and will apply to payments of gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of our mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock on or after January 1, 2019.

Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the potential application of withholding under FATCA to their investment in the mandatory convertible preferred stock or common stock.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

The Company and the underwriters named below have entered into an underwriting agreement with respect to the depositary shares being offered. Subject to certain conditions, each underwriter has severally agreed to purchase the number of depositary shares indicated in the following table. Goldman, Sachs & Co. is the representative of the underwriters.

Underwriters	Number of Depositary Shares
Goldman, Sachs & Co.	
Total	10,000,000

The underwriters are committed to take and pay for all of the depositary shares being offered, if any are taken, other than the depositary shares covered by the option described below unless and until this option is exercised.

The Company has agreed to indemnify the several underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

The Company estimates that its share of the total expenses of the offering, excluding the underwriting discount, will be approximately \$600,000.

The underwriters have an option to buy up to an additional 1,500,000 depositary shares from the Company at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount. They may exercise that option for 30 days. If any depositary shares are purchased pursuant to this option, the underwriters will severally purchase depositary shares in approximately the same proportion as set forth in the table above.

The following table shows the per share and total underwriting discounts and commissions to be paid to the underwriters by the Company. Such amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase 1,500,000 additional depositary shares.

Paid by the Company	No Exercise	Full Exercise
Per Depositary Share	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$

Depositary shares sold by the underwriters to the public will initially be offered at the public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement. Any depositary shares sold by the underwriters to securities dealers may be sold at a discount of up to \$ _____ per depositary share from the public offering price. After the initial offering of the depositary shares, the representatives may change the offering price and the other selling terms. The offering of the depositary shares by the underwriters is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriters' right to reject any order in whole or in part.

New Issue of Depositary Shares and New York Stock Exchange Listing

The depositary shares are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We intend to apply to list the depositary shares on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HES.PRA and we expect trading to commence within 30 days of the initial issue date. In addition, upon listing, we have agreed to use our reasonable best efforts to keep the depositary shares representing fractional interests in the mandatory convertible preferred stock listed on The New York Stock Exchange. Listing the depositary shares on The New York Stock

S-68

Table of Contents

Exchange does not guarantee that a trading market will develop or, if a trading market does develop, the depth of that market or the ability of holders to sell their depositary shares easily. We do not expect there will be any separate public trading market for the shares of the mandatory convertible preferred stock except as represented by the depositary shares.

Shares of our common stock are listed on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HES. The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Computershare Trust Company, N.A.

No Sales of Similar Securities

We have agreed that we will not (i) offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge, grant any option to purchase, make any short sale or otherwise dispose, except as provided hereunder, of any of securities of the Company that are substantially similar to the depositary shares or mandatory convertible preferred stock, including but not limited to any options or warrants to purchase shares of common stock or any securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for, or that represent the right to receive, common stock or any such substantially similar securities, (ii) file or cause the filing of any registration statement under the Securities Act with respect to any common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for any common stock or (iii) enter into any swap or other agreement, arrangement or transaction that transfers to another, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, any of the economic consequence of ownership of any common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for any common stock, without the prior written consent of Goldman, Sachs & Co. for a period of 90 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, other than (A) the depositary shares to be sold hereunder, (B) the concurrent common stock offering, the Company's mandatory convertible preferred stock, the common stock into which the Company's mandatory convertible preferred stock is convertible, the issuance of any common stock upon conversion of such mandatory convertible preferred stock and the entry into the capped call transactions, (C) any shares of common stock issued by the Company upon the conversion or exchange of convertible or exchangeable securities outstanding (including upon the exercise of an option or warrant or vesting of restricted stock, performance share units or other equity awards), as of the date of this prospectus supplement, (D) any shares of common stock, options, warrants, restricted stock and performance share units or other equity awards granted pursuant to employee stock plans and equity incentive plans existing on the date of this prospectus supplement, (E) any shares of common stock, options, warrants, restricted stock and performance share units issued pursuant to dividend re-investment plans existing on the date of this prospectus supplement, (F) the filing of one or more registration statements on Form S-8 with respect to any incentive compensation plan of the Company, (G) the issuance by the Company of up to 5.0% of the shares of common stock outstanding after the offering of the shares of common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common stock in connection with mergers or acquisitions, joint ventures, commercial relationships or other strategic transactions if each person receiving shares pursuant to this clause (G) during the 90-day restricted period described above shall enter into an agreement substantially in the form described thereby and (H) any shares of common stock issued and paid as a dividend on the depositary shares or the preferred stock.

The Company's directors and executive officers have entered into lock-up agreements with the underwriters prior to the commencement of this offering pursuant to which each of these persons or entities, for a period of 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, may not, without the prior written consent of Goldman, Sachs & Co., offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge, grant any option to purchase, make any short sale or otherwise dispose of any shares of common stock of the Company, or any options or warrants to purchase any shares of common stock of the Company, or any securities convertible into, exchangeable for or that represent the right to receive shares of Common Stock of the Company, whether now owned or hereinafter acquired, owned directly by the undersigned (including holding as a custodian) or with respect to which such director or executive officer has beneficial ownership within the rules and regulations of the SEC. These restrictions are in each case subject to certain exceptions, including (A) any transactions relating to the shares acquired in the open market after the closing of this transaction, (B) any exercise of options or

vesting or exercise of any other equity-based award, in each case under the Company's equity incentive plan or any other plan or agreement described in this prospectus or included or incorporated by reference into the registration statement, including any dispositions in connection

S-69

Table of Contents

with the cashless exercise of stock options and any open market transactions in connection with the payment of taxes due upon such exercise or vesting, (C) transfers of bona fide gifts, (D) transfers to (i) an immediate family member or (ii) family trust, family limited partnership or family limited liability company, in each case, for the direct or indirect benefit of the undersigned or an immediate family member, provided that any such transfer shall not involve a disposition for value, (E) transfers to the affiliates (within the meaning set forth in Rule 405 as promulgated by the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended) that are a partnership, limited liability company or corporation or to any investment fund or other entity controlled by or under common control or management with such director or executive officer or its affiliates, provided that any such transfer shall not involve a disposition for value, (F) transfers by testate or intestate succession, (G) the establishment of any written contract, instruction or plan that satisfies all of the requirements of Rule 10b5-1 (a Rule 10b5-1 Plan) under the Exchange Act, or sales pursuant to any Rule 10b5-1 Plan currently in effect as of the date of this prospectus supplement; provided that no sales of shares or securities convertible into, or exchangeable or exercisable for, shares, shall be made pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 Plan prior to the expiration of the 60-day restricted period and (H) transfers or sales made with the prior written consent of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

In the case of any transfer, disposition or distribution pursuant to clause (B), (C), (D), (E) or (F), each transferee, donee or distributee must execute and deliver to Goldman, Sachs & Co. a lock-up agreement. In addition, in the case of any transfer, disposition or distribution pursuant to clause (A), (C), (D), (E) or (G), no filing under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act or other public disclosure reporting a reduction in beneficial ownership of securities of the Company, shall be required or shall be voluntarily made during the Lock-Up Period, subject to certain exceptions.

Related Party Purchases

John B. Hess, our Chief Executive Officer, and certain Hess family trusts have indicated their intention to purchase in the aggregate of our depositary shares for an aggregate purchase price of \$ million in this offering, and to purchase in the aggregate shares of our common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$ million in the concurrent common stock offering. In addition, certain of our directors and officers have indicated their intention to purchase an aggregate of approximately \$ million of our depositary shares in this offering, and \$ million of our common stock in the concurrent common stock offering.

Price Stabilization, Short Positions

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may purchase and sell the depositary shares or shares of common stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover positions created by short sales. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriters of a greater number of depositary shares than they are required to purchase in the offering, and a short position represents the amount of such sales that have not been covered by subsequent purchases. A covered short position is a short position that is not greater than the amount of additional depositary shares for which the underwriters option described above may be exercised. The underwriters may cover any covered short position by either exercising their option to purchase additional depositary shares or purchasing depositary shares in the open market. In determining the source of depositary shares to cover the covered short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of depositary shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase additional depositary shares pursuant to the option described above. Naked short sales are any short sales that create a short position greater than the amount of additional depositary shares for which the option described above may be exercised. The underwriters must cover any such naked short position by purchasing depositary shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the depositary shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of various bids for or purchases of depositary shares or shares of our common stock

made by the underwriters in the open market prior to the completion of the offering.

The underwriters may also impose a penalty bid. This occurs when a particular underwriter repays to the underwriters a portion of the underwriting discount received by it because the representatives have repurchased depositary shares sold by or for the account of such underwriter in stabilizing or short covering transactions.

S-70

Table of Contents

Purchases to cover a short position and stabilizing transactions, as well as other purchases by the underwriters for their own accounts, may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the Company's stock, and together with the imposition of the penalty bid, may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the depositary shares. As a result, the price of the depositary shares may be higher than the price that otherwise might exist in the open market. The underwriters are not required to engage in these activities and may end any of these activities at any time.

Capped Call Transactions

In connection with the pricing of the depositary shares, we expect to enter into capped call transactions with the option counterparties. The capped call transactions are expected generally to reduce the potential dilution to our common stock upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock, with such reduction subject to a cap.

We intend to use approximately \$ _____ million of the net proceeds from this offering to pay the cost of the capped call transactions. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional depositary shares, we expect to use a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the additional depositary shares to enter into additional capped call transactions with the option counterparties.

In connection with establishing their initial hedge of the capped call transactions, the option counterparties or their respective affiliates expect to enter into various derivative transactions with respect to our common stock concurrently with or shortly after the pricing of the depositary shares. This activity could increase (or reduce the size of any decrease in) the market price of our common stock or the depositary shares at that time.

In addition, the option counterparties or their respective affiliates may modify their hedge positions by entering into or unwinding various derivatives with respect to our common stock and/or purchasing or selling our common stock or other securities of ours in secondary market transactions following the pricing of the depositary shares and prior to the mandatory conversion date (and are likely to do so during the final averaging period). This activity could also cause or avoid an increase or a decrease in the market price of our common stock or the depositary shares, which could affect the value of the shares of our common stock that you will receive upon conversion of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and, to the extent the activity occurs during the final averaging period, it could also affect the number of shares of our common stock that you will receive upon conversion.

For a discussion of the potential impact of any market or other activity by the option counterparties or their affiliates in connection with these capped call transactions, see **Risk Factors** **Risks Related to the Depositary Shares and Our Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock**. The capped call transactions may affect the value of the depositary shares and our common stock.

Electronic Distribution

In connection with the offering, certain of the underwriters or securities dealers may distribute prospectuses by electronic means, such as e-mail. In addition, certain of the underwriters may facilitate Internet distribution for this offering to certain of their Internet subscription customers. Each such underwriter may allocate a limited number of depositary shares for sale to its online brokerage customers. An electronic prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is available on the Internet web site maintained by each such underwriter. Other than this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format, the information on each underwriter's web site is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

Other Relationships

The underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include sales and trading, commercial and investment banking, advisory, investment

S-71

Table of Contents

management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, market making, brokerage and other financial and non-financial activities and services. Certain of the underwriters and their respective affiliates have provided, and may in the future provide, a variety of these services to the Company and to persons and entities with relationships with the Company, for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates, officers, directors and employees may purchase, sell or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade securities, derivatives, loans, commodities, currencies, credit default swaps and other financial instruments for their own account and for the accounts of their customers, and such investment and trading activities may involve or relate to assets, securities and/or instruments of the Company (directly, as collateral securing other obligations or otherwise) and/or persons and entities with relationships with the Company. The underwriters and their respective affiliates may also communicate independent investment recommendations, market color or trading ideas and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such assets, securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they should acquire, long and/or short positions in such assets, securities and instruments.

Selling Restrictions

Notice to Prospective Investors in Canada

The depositary shares may be sold only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 Prospectus Exemptions or subsection 73.3(1) of the Securities Act (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations. Any resale of the depositary shares must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 (or, in the case of securities issued or guaranteed by the government of a non-Canadian jurisdiction, section 3A.4) of National Instrument 33-105 Underwriting Conflicts (NI 33-105), the underwriters are not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with this offering.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area (each, a Relevant Member State), no offer of depositary shares may be made to the public in that Relevant Member State other than:

- A. to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;

B. to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the representatives; or

C. in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, provided that no such offer of depositary shares shall require the Company or the representatives to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

S-72

Table of Contents

Each person in a Relevant Member State who initially acquires any depositary shares or to whom any offer is made will be deemed to have represented, acknowledged and agreed that (A) it is a qualified investor within the meaning of the law in that Relevant Member State implementing Article 2(1)(e) of the Prospectus Directive, and (B) in the case of any depositary shares acquired by it as a financial intermediary, as that term is used in Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, the depositary shares acquired by it in the offering have not been acquired on behalf of, nor have they been acquired with a view to their offer or resale to, persons in any Relevant Member State other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive, or in circumstances in which the prior consent of the representatives has been given to the offer or resale. In the case of any depositary shares being offered to a financial intermediary as that term is used in Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, each such financial intermediary will be deemed to have represented, acknowledged and agreed that the depositary shares acquired by it in the offer have not been acquired on a non-discretionary basis on behalf of, nor have they been acquired with a view to their offer or resale to, persons in circumstances which may give rise to an offer of any shares to the public other than their offer or resale in a Relevant Member State to qualified investors as so defined or in circumstances in which the prior consent of the representatives has been obtained to each such proposed offer or resale.

The Company, the representatives and their affiliates will rely upon the truth and accuracy of the foregoing representation, acknowledgement and agreement.

This prospectus supplement has been prepared on the basis that any offer of depositary shares in any Relevant Member State will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of depositary shares. Accordingly any person making or intending to make an offer in that Relevant Member State of depositary shares which are the subject of the offering contemplated in this prospectus supplement may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Company or any of the underwriters to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive in relation to such offer. Neither the Company nor the underwriters have authorized, nor do they authorize, the making of any offer of depositary shares in circumstances in which an obligation arises for the Company or the underwriters to publish a prospectus for such offer.

For the purpose of the above provisions, the expression an offer to the public in relation to any depositary shares in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the depositary shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the depositary shares, as the same may be varied in the Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in the Relevant Member State and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended) and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

In addition, in the United Kingdom, this document is being distributed only to, and is directed only at, and any offer subsequently made may only be directed at persons who are qualified investors (as defined in the Prospectus Directive) (i) who have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19 (5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the Order) and/or (ii) who are high net worth companies (or persons to whom it may otherwise be lawfully communicated) falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons). This document must not be acted on or relied on in the United Kingdom by persons who are not relevant persons. In the United Kingdom, any investment or investment activity to which this document relates is only available to, and will be engaged in with, relevant persons.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong

This prospectus supplement has not been approved by or registered with the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong or the Registrar of Companies of Hong Kong. The securities will not be offered or

S-73

Table of Contents

sold in Hong Kong other than (a) to professional investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) of Hong Kong and any rules made under that Ordinance; or (b) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus as defined in the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32) of Hong Kong or which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of that Ordinance. No advertisement, invitation or document relating to the securities which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public of Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) has been issued or will be issued in Hong Kong or elsewhere other than with respect to securities which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made under that Ordinance.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Singapore

This prospectus supplement has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus supplement and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the securities may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the securities be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act (Chapter 289) (the SFA), (ii) to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA. Where the securities are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 by a relevant person which is: (a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or (b) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary is an accredited investor, then securities, debentures and units of securities and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest in that trust shall not be transferable for 6 months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the securities under Section 275 except: (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the SFA or to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA; (ii) where no consideration is given for the transfer; or (iii) by operation of law.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Japan

The securities have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (Law No. 25 of 1948, as amended) and, accordingly, will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in Japan, or for the benefit of any Japanese Person or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to any Japanese Person, except in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines promulgated by relevant Japanese governmental or regulatory authorities in effect at the relevant time. For the purposes of this paragraph, Japanese Person shall mean any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Australia

No prospectus, disclosure document, offering material or advertisement in relation to the depositary shares has been lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission or the Australian Stock Exchange Limited. Accordingly, a person may not (a) make, offer or invite applications for the issue, sale or purchase of depositary shares within, to or from Australia (including an offer or invitation which is received by a person in Australia) or (b) distribute or publish this prospectus supplement or any other prospectus, disclosure document, offering material or advertisement relating to the depositary shares in Australia, unless (i) the minimum aggregate consideration payable

by each offeree is the U.S. dollar equivalent of at least A\$500,000 (disregarding moneys lent by the offeror or its associates) or the offer otherwise does not require disclosure to investors in accordance with Part 6D.2 of the Corporations Act 2001 (CWLTH) of Australia; and (ii) such action complies with all applicable laws and regulations.

S-74

Table of Contents***Notice to Prospective Investors in Korea***

This prospectus supplement should not be construed in any way as our (or any of our affiliates or agents) soliciting investment or offering to sell our securities in the Republic of Korea (Korea). We are not making any representation with respect to the eligibility of any recipients of this prospectus supplement to acquire the securities under the laws of Korea, including, without limitation, the Financial Investment Services and Capital Markets Act (the FSCMA), the Foreign Exchange Transaction Act (the FETA), and any regulations thereunder. The securities have not been registered with the Financial Services Commission of Korea in any way pursuant to the FSCMA, and the securities may not be offered, sold or delivered, or offered or sold to any person for reoffering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Korea or to any resident of Korea except pursuant to applicable laws and regulations of Korea. Furthermore, the securities may not be resold to any Korean resident unless such Korean resident as the purchaser of the resold securities complies with all applicable regulatory requirements (including, without limitation, reporting or approval requirements under the FETA and regulations thereunder) relating to the purchase of the resold securities.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland

The depositary shares may not be publicly offered in Switzerland and will not be listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (SIX) or on any other stock exchange or regulated trading facility in Switzerland. This document has been prepared without regard to the disclosure standards for issuance prospectuses under art. 652a or art. 1156 of the Swiss Code of Obligations or the disclosure standards for listing prospectuses under art. 27 ff. of the SIX Listing Rules or the listing rules of any other stock exchange or regulated trading facility in Switzerland. Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the depositary shares or the offering may be publicly distributed or otherwise made publicly available in Switzerland.

Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the offering, the Company, the depositary shares have been or will be filed with or approved by any Swiss regulatory authority. In particular, this document will not be filed with, and the offer of depositary shares will not be supervised by, the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA (FINMA), and the offer of depositary shares has not been and will not be authorized under the Swiss Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes (CISA). The investor protection afforded to acquirers of interests in collective investment schemes under the CISA does not extend to acquirers of depositary shares.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the Dubai International Financial Centre

This prospectus supplement relates to an Exempt Offer in accordance with the Offered Securities Rules of the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA). This prospectus supplement is intended for distribution only to persons of a type specified in the Offered Securities Rules of the DFSA. It must not be delivered to, or relied on by, any other person. The DFSA has no responsibility for reviewing or verifying any documents in connection with Exempt Offers. The DFSA has not approved this prospectus supplement nor taken steps to verify the information set forth in this prospectus supplement and has no responsibility for the prospectus supplement. The depositary shares to which this prospectus supplement relates may be illiquid and/or subject to restrictions on their resale. Prospective purchasers of the depositary shares offered should conduct their own due diligence on the depositary shares. If you do not understand the contents of this prospectus supplement you should consult an authorized financial advisor.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the mandatory convertible preferred stock and the depositary shares covered by this prospectus supplement will be passed upon for us by White & Case LLP, New York, New York. Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, New York, New York, will advise the underwriters on certain legal matters.

S-76

Table of Contents

EXPERTS

Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, has audited our consolidated financial statements and schedule included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, as set forth in their reports, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement. Our financial statements and schedule are incorporated by reference in reliance on Ernst & Young LLP's reports, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

Certain oil and gas reserves estimates incorporated herein by reference have been audited by DeGolyer and MacNaughton, an independent petroleum engineering consulting firm, as stated in its letter report included as an exhibit to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, which is incorporated herein by reference in reliance on the authority of said firm as an expert in petroleum engineering.

S-77

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy this information at the SEC's Public Reference Room, located at 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an Internet worldwide web site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information about issuers, like us, that file electronically with the SEC. The address of that site is <http://www.sec.gov>.

We have filed a registration statement on Form S-3 with the SEC covering the securities that may be sold under this prospectus supplement. For further information on us and the securities, you should refer to our registration statement and its exhibits. This prospectus supplement summarizes material provisions of contracts and other documents that we refer you to. Because the prospectus supplement may not contain all the information that you may find important, you should review the full text of these documents.

S-78

Table of Contents

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement information contained in documents that we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus supplement, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We also specifically incorporate by reference the following documents, which we have already filed with the SEC (other than, in each case, documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules):

- (i) our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014;
- (ii) our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2015, June 30, 2015, and September 30, 2015;
- (iii) our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 27, 2015, March 9, 2015, May 12, 2015, and November 9, 2015; and
- (iv) those portions of the definitive proxy statement for our 2015 annual meeting of shareholders, filed on April 2, 2015, incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

HESS CORPORATION

DEBT SECURITIES

WARRANTS

COMMON STOCK

PREFERRED STOCK

DEPOSITARY SHARES

PURCHASE CONTRACTS

UNITS

We may offer and sell, from time to time, one or any combination of the securities we describe in this prospectus. The debt securities and our preferred stock may be convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock or our other securities, or debt or equity securities of one or more other entities. This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities and the general manner in which they may be offered. When we offer securities, we will provide you with a prospectus supplement describing the terms of the specific issue of securities including the offering price of the securities. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. In addition, we may supplement, update or change any of the information contained in this prospectus by incorporating information by reference in this prospectus.

You should read this prospectus and the prospectus supplement relating to the specific issue of securities carefully before you invest. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state or other jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

We may offer and sell these securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers or agents, or directly to purchasers, on a continuous or delayed basis. The prospectus supplement for each offering will describe in detail the plan of distribution for that offering and will set forth the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in the offering and any applicable fees, commissions or discount arrangements.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HES. Any common stock sold pursuant to a prospectus supplement will be listed, subject to notice of issuance, on the New York Stock Exchange. If we decide to list or seek a quotation for any other securities we may offer and sell from time to time, the prospectus supplement relating to those securities will disclose the exchange or market on which those securities will be listed or quoted.

INVESTING IN OUR SECURITIES INVOLVES RISKS. YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE RISKS DESCRIBED UNDER RISK FACTORS ON PAGE 3 OF THIS PROSPECTUS, AS WELL AS THE OTHER INFORMATION CONTAINED OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THIS PROSPECTUS AND THE APPLICABLE PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT, BEFORE MAKING A DECISION TO INVEST IN OUR SECURITIES.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OR ACCURACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this prospectus is February 27, 2015.

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	3
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u>	3
<u>OUR COMPANY</u>	5
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	5
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS</u>	5
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE DEBT SECURITIES</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE WARRANTS</u>	16
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON STOCK</u>	18
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED STOCK</u>	20
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE DEPOSITARY SHARES</u>	22
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE PURCHASE CONTRACTS</u>	26
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE UNITS</u>	27
<u>HEDGING IN CONNECTION WITH DISTRIBUTIONS</u>	29
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	29
<u>VALIDITY OF THE SECURITIES</u>	29
<u>EXPERTS</u>	30

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of an automatically effective registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf process, we may sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer to sell any of the securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering and the securities being offered. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement together with the additional information incorporated by reference into this prospectus as described under the heading **Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference** and the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information** in deciding whether or not to invest in the securities we may offer.

We have not authorized any dealer, salesman or other person to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement. You must not rely upon any information or representation not contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or in any accompanying prospectus supplement. This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement do not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the securities to which they relate, nor do this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement 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. You should not assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement is accurate on any date subsequent to the date set forth on the front of the document or that any information we have incorporated by reference is correct on any date subsequent to the date of the document incorporated by reference, even though this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement is delivered or securities are sold on a later date. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

Wherever references are made in this prospectus to information that will be included in a prospectus supplement, to the extent permitted by applicable law, rules or regulations, we may instead include such information or add, update or change the information contained in this prospectus by means of a post-effective amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, through filings we make with the SEC that are incorporated by reference in this prospectus or by any other method as may then be permitted under applicable law, rules or regulations.

In this prospectus, the terms **we**, **us**, **our**, **the Company** and **Hess** refer to Hess Corporation and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, as the context requires.

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some statements contained in this prospectus, including information incorporated by reference, are **forward-looking statements** within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the **Securities Act**), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the **Securities Exchange Act of 1934**), and are intended to be covered by the safe harbor created by those sections. In particular, such statements are included in references to our future results of operations and financial position, liquidity and capital resources, capital expenditures, asset sales, oil and gas production, tax rates, debt repayment, hedging, derivatives, market risk and environmental disclosures, off-balance sheet arrangements and contractual obligations and contingencies. Words such as **expect(s)**, **feel(s)**, **believe(s)**, **will**, **may**, **anticipate(s)**, **estimate(s)**, **plans**, **should**, **intend(s)**, **forecast(s)**, **guidance**, **could**, **would** and similar

Table of Contents

expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Our forward-looking statements are based on our current understanding and assessment of relevant factors and reasonable assumptions about the future. They are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties, including commodity risks related to the change in price of crude oil and natural gas, as well as to changes in market conditions, interest rates, foreign currency values, tax rates, government regulations and other factors, including, without limitation, those contained in any prospectus supplement and those described in "Risk Factors" incorporated by reference herein, which could cause actual results to differ materially from future results expressed or implied by those forward-looking statements.

Given these uncertainties, investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on our forward looking statements. Investors are also urged to carefully review and consider the various disclosures we make, which attempt to advise interested parties of the factors that affect our business, including the "Risk Factors" incorporated by reference herein and the reports we file with the SEC from time to time, specifically our Annual Report on Form 10-K, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and our Current Reports on Form 8-K. Except to the extent otherwise required by Federal Securities laws, we disclaim any intent or obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements set forth in this prospectus or incorporated herein by reference, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. Before acquiring any securities, investors should carefully consider, among other things, the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and in any accompanying prospectus supplement, including, without limitation, the matters discussed under **Risk Factors** in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, which is incorporated by reference herein, 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, pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act of 1934, before making an investment decision. Each of the risks described in these documents could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects, and could result in partial or complete loss of your investment. See **Where You Can Find More Information**.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy this information at the SEC's Public Reference Room located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. Our filings are also available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

We have filed a registration statement on Form S-3 with the SEC covering the securities that may be sold under this prospectus. For further information on us and the securities, you should refer to our registration statement and its exhibits. This prospectus summarizes material provisions of contracts and other documents that we refer you to. Because the prospectus may not contain all the information that you may find important, you should review the full text of these documents.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus information contained in documents that we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We also specifically incorporate by reference the following documents, which we have already filed with the SEC:

(i) our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014;

(ii) our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 27, 2015; and

(iii) our Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A for our Annual Meeting of Stockholders filed on March 27, 2014.

In addition, we also incorporate by reference additional documents that we may file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 after the date of this prospectus and until the termination of this offering. These documents include periodic reports, such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, as well as proxy statements. Nothing in this prospectus shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished but not filed with the SEC pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 (or corresponding information furnished under Item 9.01 or included as an exhibit) of Form 8-K.

Table of Contents

We encourage you to read our periodic and current reports. We think these reports provide additional information about our company which prudent investors find important. You may request a copy of these filings as well as any future filings incorporated by reference, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at our principal executive offices at the following address:

Hess Corporation

1185 Avenue of the Americas

New York, NY 10036

Attention: Corporate Secretary
(212) 997-8500

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents.

Table of Contents**OUR COMPANY**

We are a global Exploration and Production (E&P) company that develops, produces, purchases, transports and sells crude oil, natural gas liquids and natural gas, with production operations located primarily in the United States, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, the Joint Development Area of Malaysia/Thailand (JDA), Malaysia and Norway.

We are a Delaware corporation, incorporated in 1920. Our principal executive offices are located at 1185 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036, and our telephone number is (212) 997-8500. We maintain a website at <http://www.hess.com> where general information about us is available. The contents of our website are not incorporated into this prospectus.

To find more information about us, please see the sections entitled [Where You Can Find More Information](#) and [Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference](#).

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we otherwise specify in the applicable prospectus supplement, the net proceeds we receive from the sale of the securities offered by this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement will be used for general corporate purposes. General corporate purposes may include but are not limited to the repayment of debt, investments in or extensions of credit to our subsidiaries or the financing of possible acquisitions, capital expenditures or business expansion. The net proceeds may be invested temporarily or applied to repay short-term debt until they are used for their stated purpose.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS

The ratio of earnings to fixed charges shows the coverage of earnings before income taxes to fixed charges, which consist primarily of interest expense. Our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated is as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges ⁽¹⁾	6.5	9.0	7.1	7.5	8.2

(1) No preferred stock was outstanding for any period presented in the table above and, accordingly, our ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends is the same as our ratio of earnings to fixed charges.

We compute the ratio of earnings to fixed charges by dividing earnings by fixed charges. For purposes of this computation, fixed charges consist of interest expense, capitalized interest, amortization of debt discount and financing costs and the estimated interest portion of rental expense. Earnings are defined as consolidated income from continuing operations before income taxes, plus fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest), amortization of capitalized interest and distributed earnings of investees accounted for under the equity method, less earnings (losses) of equity method investees and pretax noncontrolling interests in consolidated subsidiaries with no fixed charges.

We compute the ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends by dividing earnings by the sum of fixed charges and dividends on the Corporation's preferred stock. Preferred stock dividends are defined as earnings before tax required to pay the dividends on outstanding preferred stock.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE DEBT SECURITIES

General

We may offer either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities (together, the debt securities) through this prospectus. The senior and subordinated debt securities may both be convertible into shares of our common or preferred stock. We will issue the debt securities under one of two separate indentures between us and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee. The indentures allow us to issue senior and subordinated debt securities, which may be convertible debt securities from time to time up to the aggregate principal amount we authorize from time to time. Pursuant to the terms of the indentures, we may register additional debt securities and issue an unlimited total principal amount of debt securities. We may issue the debt securities in one or more series with the same or different terms. We may issue debt securities of the same series at different times. All debt securities of the same series need not bear interest at the same rate or mature on the same date. Each indenture permits the appointment of a different trustee for each series of debt securities. If there is at any time more than one trustee under the indentures, the term trustee means each such trustee and will apply to each such trustee only with respect to those series of debt securities for which it is serving as trustee.

Except as otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of debt securities, the indentures might not limit the amount of other debt, secured or unsecured, that we can issue, and might not contain financial or similar restrictive covenants. The indentures might not contain any provision to protect holders of debt securities against a sudden or dramatic decline in our ability to pay our debt.

The following summary of the debt securities is not complete. The prospectus supplement will describe the particular terms of any debt securities we may offer and may differ from the terms below.

The description will include:

the title of the debt securities;

whether the debt securities are senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities;

the total principal amount of the debt securities;

the percentage of the principal amount at which the debt securities will be issued;

the date or dates on which principal will be payable and whether the debt securities will be payable on demand on any date;

the interest rate or rates and the method for calculating the interest rate;

the interest payment dates;

the maturity dates;

optional or mandatory redemption terms;

any sinking fund provisions;

authorized denominations;

the currency in which the debt securities will be denominated;

whether the principal and any premium or interest is payable in a different currency than the currency in which the debt securities are denominated, including a currency other than U.S. dollars;

the manner in which any payments of principal and any premium or interest will be calculated, if the payment will be based on an index or formula;

whether the debt securities are to be issued as individual certificates to each holder or in the form of global securities held by a depository on behalf of holders or in uncertificated form;

Table of Contents

whether the debt securities will be issued as registered securities or as bearer securities;

information describing any book-entry features;

whether and under what circumstances we will pay additional amounts on any debt securities held by a person who is not a United States person for tax purposes and whether we can redeem the debt securities if we have to pay additional amounts;

provisions, other than those already in the indentures, that allow for the discharge of our obligations under the indentures;

if the debt securities are convertible into shares of our common or preferred stock, the terms and conditions upon which conversion will be effected, including the conversion price, the conversion period and whether conversion is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option; and

any other terms.

If interest is payable on the debt securities, the persons to which and the manner in which the interest will be paid will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the debt securities. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not be listed on any securities exchange.

Some of the debt securities may be sold at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount. These debt securities may either bear no interest or may bear interest at a rate which at the time of issuance is below market rates. The U.S. federal income tax consequences and other special considerations applicable to the discounted debt securities will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to these debt securities.

Unless the prospectus supplement for a particular series of debt securities provides that the debt securities of that series may be redeemed at the option of the holder, the indentures and the debt securities will not provide for redemption at the option of a holder nor necessarily afford holders protection in the event of a highly leveraged or other transaction that might adversely affect holders.

Covenants

We may agree to some restrictions on our activities for the benefit of holders of the debt securities. The restrictive covenants summarized below may apply (unless the covenants are waived or amended) so long as any of the debt securities are outstanding unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise. We have provided a glossary at the end of this prospectus to define capitalized terms used in the covenants. The prospectus supplement may describe different covenants. In the covenants, all references to us, we, our and ours, refer only to Hess Corporation and not any of our subsidiaries.

Limitation on Secured Indebtedness. We may agree that we will not, and we will not permit any of our Restricted Subsidiaries to, create, assume, incur or guarantee any Secured Indebtedness unless we secure these debt securities to the same extent as the Secured Indebtedness. However, we may incur Secured Indebtedness without securing these debt securities if, immediately after incurring the Secured Indebtedness, the aggregate amount of all Secured Indebtedness and the Attributable Debt payable under leases entered into in connection with sale and leaseback transactions subject to the amount limitation described below would not exceed 15% of Consolidated Net Tangible Assets. The aggregate amount of all Secured Indebtedness in the preceding sentence excludes Secured Indebtedness that is secured to the same extent as these debt securities and Secured Indebtedness that is being repaid concurrently.

Limitation on Sale and Leaseback Transactions. We may agree that we will not, and we will not permit any of our Restricted Subsidiaries to, enter into any lease longer than three years covering any Principal Property of ours or of any of our Restricted Subsidiaries that is sold to any other person in connection with the lease, unless immediately after consummation of the sale and leaseback transaction either:

Table of Contents

the sum of the Attributable Debt and the aggregate amount of all Secured Indebtedness, excluding Secured Indebtedness which is secured to the same extent as these debt securities or that is being repaid concurrently, does not exceed 15% of Consolidated Net Tangible Assets; or

an amount equal to the net proceeds received in connection with such sale is used within 180 days to retire or redeem indebtedness of ours or our Restricted Subsidiaries, the proceeds are at least equal to the fair market value of the property sold and the trustee is informed of the transaction; provided, further, that, in lieu of applying all of or any part of such net proceeds to such retirement, the Company may, within 75 days after such sale, cancel or deliver or cause to be delivered to the applicable trustee for cancellation either debentures or notes evidencing indebtedness of the Company (which may include the Securities) or of a Restricted Subsidiary previously issued or authenticated and delivered by the applicable trustee, and not theretofore tendered for sinking fund purposes or called for a sinking fund or otherwise applied as a credit against an obligation to redeem or retire such notes or debentures, and an Officers Certificate (which shall be delivered to the trustee) stating that the Company elects to deliver or cause to be delivered such debentures or notes in lieu of retiring indebtedness as hereinabove provided.

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

We may agree not to consolidate with or merge into any other person or convey or transfer substantially all of our properties and assets to any person, unless:

the successor is a U.S. corporation; and

the successor corporation expressly assumes by a supplemental indenture the due and punctual payment of the principal of and any premium or any interest on all the debt securities and the performance of every covenant in such indenture that we would otherwise have to perform.

Modification of the Indentures

Under each indenture, our rights and obligations and the rights of the holders may be modified if the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series voting as a single class affected by the modification consent. However, no modification of the principal or interest payment terms, and no modification reducing the percentage required for modifications, is effective against any holder without its consent.

Events of Default, Notice and Waiver

When we use the term **Event of Default** in the indentures, here are some examples of what we mean.

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, an Event of Default with respect to a series of debt securities occurs if:

we fail to pay the principal of, or any premium on, any debt security when due;

we fail to pay interest when due on any debt security for 30 days;

we fail to perform any other covenant in such indenture and this failure continues for 60 days after we receive written notice of it from the trustee or from the holders of 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the series;

we default under any other loans or similar indebtedness in an amount in excess of \$50,000,000 and that default results in the acceleration of the loan and the situation continues for a period of 20 days after we receive written notice from the trustee or from

holders of 25% of the principal amount of the outstanding securities of such series; or

Table of Contents

we or a court take certain actions relating to the bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of Hess Corporation for the benefit of our creditors.

A supplemental indenture may include, or pursuant to a resolution from our board of directors there may be added, additional Events of Default or changes to the Events of Default described above with respect to a particular series of debt securities. For the Events of Default applicable to a particular series of debt securities, see the prospectus supplement relating to the series.

Under each indenture, there will not be an Event of Default if a change in generally accepted accounting principles causes a change in our financial statements or causes us to change our accounting practices and such change results in us not being in compliance with one or more of our covenants.

The trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any default (except in the payment of principal or interest) if it considers withholding of notice to be in the best interests of the holders. No notice of a covenant default may be given until 30 days after the default occurs. By default we mean any event which is an Event of Default described above or would become an Event of Default with the giving of notice or the passage of time.

If a payment Event of Default for any series of debt securities occurs and continues, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of the series may require us to repay immediately:

the entire principal of the debt securities of the series or, if the debt securities are original issue discount securities, the portion of the principal described in the applicable prospectus supplement; and

all the accrued interest.

If the default results from a failure to perform a covenant or the acceleration of other indebtedness, the trustee or the holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of all debt securities may require the immediate payment of principal and interest. If the default is in connection with an event of bankruptcy or similar event, the principal and interest will become immediately due and payable.

The holders of a majority of the principal amount of the debt securities of the affected series can rescind this accelerated payment requirement or waive any past default or Event of Default or allow us to not comply with any provision in such indenture. However, rescission is not permitted if there is a default in payment of principal of, or premium or interest on, any of the debt securities of the series apart from the acceleration itself.

Other than its duties during a default, the trustee is not obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers under such indenture at the request, order or direction of any holders, unless the holders offer the trustee reasonable indemnity. If they provide this indemnity, the holders of 25% of the principal amount of any series of debt securities may, subject to limitations, direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding or any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any power conferred on the trustee, for any series of debt securities.

Defeasance of the Indentures and Debt Securities

Each indenture permits us to be discharged from our obligations under such indenture and the debt securities if we comply with the following procedures. This discharge from our obligations is referred to in this prospectus as defeasance.

Unless the applicable prospectus supplement states otherwise, if we deposit with the trustee sufficient cash or U.S. government securities to pay and discharge the principal and premium, if any, and interest, if any, to the date of maturity on such series of debt securities then following such deposit:

we will be deemed to have paid and discharged the entire indebtedness on the debt securities of any series; and

Table of Contents

our obligations under such indenture with respect to the debt securities of such series will cease to be in effect. Following such defeasance, holders of the applicable debt securities would be able to look only to the trust fund for payment of principal and premium, if any, and interest, if any, on their debt securities.

We must deliver to the trustee a ruling by the United States Internal Revenue Service or an opinion of counsel to the effect that the deposit and related defeasance would not cause the holders of the debt securities to recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes.

Concerning the Trustee

The Bank of New York Mellon is the trustee under the indentures. The Bank of New York Mellon also serves as the trustee under other indentures pursuant to which certain of our debt securities are outstanding. We have had and may continue to have commercial banking and other service relationships with the trustee and the Bank of New York, an affiliate of the trustee, in the ordinary course of business.

Except during the continuance of an event of default, the trustee, or if there is more than one trustee under the indentures, each such trustee, will perform only those duties that are specifically set forth in such trustees' respective indenture. During the continuance of any event of default under either of the indentures, the trustee thereunder will exercise its rights and powers under the indenture, and use the same degree of care and skill in their exercise, as a prudent man would exercise or use his rights under the circumstances in the conduct of his own affairs.

Payment and Transfer

We will normally issue the debt securities only in book-entry form, which means that they will be represented by one or more permanent global certificates registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), or its nominee. We will refer to this form here and in the prospectus supplement as "book-entry only."

Alternatively, we may issue the debt securities in certificated form registered in the name of the holder. Under these circumstances, holders may receive certificates representing the debt securities. Debt securities in certificated form will be issued only in increments of \$1,000 and will be exchangeable without charge except for reimbursement of taxes or other governmental charges, if any. We will refer to this form in the prospectus supplement as "certificated."

If we issue original issue discount debt securities, we will describe the special United States federal income tax and other considerations of a purchase of original issue discount debt securities in the prospectus supplement. By "original issue discount debt securities," we mean securities that are issued at a substantial discount below their principal amount because they pay no interest or pay interest that is below market rates at the time of issuance.

The following discussion pertains to debt securities that are issued in book-entry only form. We have obtained the information regarding DTC from sources that we believe to be reliable.

One or more global securities would be issued to DTC or its nominee. DTC would keep a computerized record of its participants (for example, your broker) whose clients have purchased the debt securities. The participant would then keep a record of its clients who purchased the debt securities. Since the global certificate is registered in the name of DTC or its nominee, DTC or its nominee is said to have legal or record ownership of the global certificate. Persons who buy interests in the global security by purchasing securities are said to own a beneficial interest in the global security. The rights of these beneficial owners will be governed solely by the applicable procedures of DTC and its participants. A global security generally may not be transferred, except that DTC, its nominees and their successors may transfer an entire global security to one another.

Table of Contents

Under book-entry only, we will not issue certificates to individual holders of the debt securities. Beneficial interests in global securities will be shown on, and transfers of global securities will be made only through, records maintained by DTC and its participants.

DTC is:

a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law;

a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law;

a member of the United States Federal Reserve System;

a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code; and

a clearing agency registered under Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

DTC holds securities that its participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates settlement among participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through computerized book-entry changes in DTC participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of certificates. Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. Indirect access to the DTC system is also available to others such as securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules that apply to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust and Clearing Corporation (DTCC) which is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries.

We will make payments on a global security in accordance with the applicable policies of DTC as in effect from time to time. Under those policies, we will pay directly to DTC or its nominee, and not to any owners of beneficial interests in the global security. We and the trustee will treat DTC's nominee as the owner of the global securities for all purposes. Accordingly, we and the trustee will have no direct responsibility or liability to pay amounts due on the securities to owners of beneficial interests in the global securities.

It is DTC's current practice, upon receipt of any payment of principal or interest, to credit participants' accounts on the payment date according to their respective holdings of beneficial interests in the global securities as shown on DTC's records as of the record date for such payment. In addition, it is DTC's current practice to assign any consenting or voting rights to participants whose accounts are credited with securities on a record date, by using an omnibus proxy. Payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in the global securities, and voting by participants, will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices between the participants and owners of beneficial interests, as is the case with debt securities held for the account of customers registered in street name. However, these payments will be the responsibility of the participants and not of DTC, the trustee or us.

Debt securities represented by a global security would be exchangeable for debt securities represented by certificates with the same terms in authorized denominations only if:

DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depository or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under applicable law; or

we instruct the trustee that the global security is now exchangeable; or

Edgar Filing: HESS CORP - Form 424B5

an event of default has occurred and is continuing.

If a global security is terminated, only DTC, and not the trustee or us, is responsible for deciding the names of the institutions in whose names the debt securities represented by the global security will be registered and, therefore, who will be the holders of those debt securities.

Table of Contents

If there are any changes from the above summary, they will appear in a prospectus supplement. However, DTC's policies, which may change from time to time, will govern payments, transfers, exchanges, and other matters relating to an investor's interest in a global security. We and the trustee have no responsibility for any aspect of DTC's actions or for its records of ownership interests in a global security. We and the trustee also do not supervise DTC in any way. Financial institutions that participate in DTC's book-entry system, through which an investor holds its interest in a global security, may also have their own policies affecting payments, notices and other matters relating to the debt securities. There may be more than one financial intermediary in the chain of ownership for an investor. We do not monitor and are not responsible for the actions of any of those intermediaries.

Governing Law

The debt securities and the indentures under which they will be issued are governed by the laws of the State of New York.

Provisions Applicable Solely to Subordinated Debt Securities

General

We may issue subordinated debt securities under the subordinated debt indenture. Holders of subordinated debt securities should recognize that contractual provisions in that indenture may prohibit us from making payments on these securities. The subordinated debt securities may rank on an equal basis with certain other subordinated debt of ours that may be outstanding from time to time and will rank junior to all senior indebtedness (as defined below or may be defined in the indenture) of ours (including any senior debt securities issued under the senior debt indenture) that may be outstanding from time to time.

If we issue subordinated debt securities, the aggregate principal amount of senior indebtedness outstanding as of a recent date will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The indenture does not restrict the amount of senior indebtedness that we may incur.

Subordination

The payment of the principal of, and premium, if any, and interest on the subordinated debt securities is expressly subordinated, to the extent and in the manner set forth in the subordinated debt indenture, in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all of our senior indebtedness.

The term senior indebtedness is defined in the indenture as indebtedness we incur for money borrowed, all deferrals, renewals or extensions of any such indebtedness and all evidences of indebtedness issued in exchange for any such indebtedness unless such indebtedness provides that it is not senior indebtedness. Senior indebtedness also includes our guarantees of the foregoing items of indebtedness for money borrowed by persons other than us, unless, in any such case, such indebtedness or guarantee provides by its terms that it will not constitute senior indebtedness.

The subordinated debt indenture provides that, unless all principal of and any premium or interest on, the senior indebtedness has been paid in full, or provision has been made to make these payments in full, no payment or other distribution may be made with respect to the subordinated indebtedness in the following circumstances:

any acceleration of the principal amount due on the subordinated debt securities;

the dissolution or winding-up or total or partial liquidation or reorganization of Hess Corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary or in bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or other proceedings;

a default in the payment of principal, premium, if any, sinking fund or interest with respect to any senior indebtedness; or

Table of Contents

an event of default (other than a default in the payment of principal, premium, if any, sinking funds or interest) with respect to any senior indebtedness, as defined in the instrument under which the same is outstanding, permitting the holders of senior indebtedness to accelerate its maturity, and such event of default has not been cured or waived.

A merger, consolidation or conveyance of all or substantially all of our assets on the terms and conditions provided in the indenture will not be deemed a dissolution, winding-up, liquidation or reorganization for the purposes of these subordination provisions.

If the holders of subordinated debt securities receive any payment or distribution of our assets not permitted by the subordination provisions, the holders of subordinated debt securities will have to repay such amount to the holders of the senior debt securities or to the trustee.

Subrogation

After the payment in full of all senior indebtedness, the holders of the subordinated debt securities will be subrogated to the rights of the holders of senior indebtedness to receive payments or distributions of our assets or securities applicable to the senior indebtedness until the subordinated debt securities are paid in full. Under these subrogation provisions, no payments or distributions to the holders of senior indebtedness which otherwise would have been payable or distributable to holders of the subordinated debt securities will be deemed to be a payment by us to or on the account of the senior indebtedness. These provisions of the indenture are intended solely for the purpose of defining the relative rights of the holders of the subordinated debt securities and the holders of the senior debt securities. Nothing contained in the indenture is intended to impair our absolute obligation to pay the principal of and interest on the subordinated debt securities in accordance with their terms or to affect the relative rights of the holders of the subordinated debt securities and our creditors other than the holders of the senior indebtedness. These subrogation provisions of the indenture will not prevent the holder of any subordinated debt security from exercising all remedies otherwise permitted by applicable law upon default of such security, subject to the rights of subordination described above.

Provisions Applicable Solely to Convertible Debt Securities

General

The following provisions may apply to senior debt or subordinated debt securities that will be convertible into our common stock or preferred stock, unless otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement relating to the specific issue of debt securities. In the case of subordinated debt securities, these provisions are in addition to any provisions that apply because the debt securities are subordinated. The holder of any convertible debt securities will have the right, exercisable at any time during the time period specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, unless previously redeemed, to convert the convertible debt securities into shares of our common stock or preferred stock at the conversion rate and upon the terms specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. The holder of convertible debt securities may convert any portion thereof which is \$1,000 or any integral multiple of \$1,000. In the case of convertible debt securities called for redemption, conversion rights will expire at the close of business on the date fixed for the redemption, except that, in the case of redemption at the option of the holder, if applicable, the conversion right will terminate upon receipt of written notice of the exercise of the option.

Adjustment

For each series of convertible debt securities, the conversion price or rate will be subject to adjustment as contemplated in the indenture. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, these adjustments may occur as a result of:

our issuance of shares of common stock as a dividend;

subdivisions and combinations of our common stock;

Table of Contents

the issuance to all holders of our common stock of rights or warrants entitling holders to subscribe for or purchase our shares at a price per share less than the market price at the time of issuance; and

the distribution to all holders of our common stock of:

shares of our capital stock other than our common stock;

evidences of indebtedness or assets other than cash dividends paid from retained earnings and dividends payable in common stock referred to above; or

subscription rights or warrants other than those referred to above.

In any case no adjustment of the conversion price or rate will be required unless an adjustment would require a cumulative increase or decrease of at least 1% in such price or rate. We will not issue any fractional shares of our common stock upon conversion, but, instead, we will pay a cash adjustment. If indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, convertible debt securities convertible into our common stock which are surrendered for conversion between the record date for an interest payment, if any, and the interest payment date, other than convertible debt securities called for redemption on a redemption date during that period, must be accompanied by payment of an amount equal to interest which the registered holder is entitled to receive. We may, from time to time, reduce the conversion price by any amount for a period of not less than 20 days, provided that the reduced price is not less than the par value of a share of common stock.

We will determine the adjustment provisions for convertible debt securities at the time of issuance of each series of convertible debt securities. These adjustment provisions will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Other Purchasers

Except as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, any convertible debt securities called for redemption, unless surrendered for conversion on or before the close of business on the redemption date, are subject to being purchased from the holder of the convertible debt securities by one or more investment banking firms or other purchasers who may agree with us to purchase our convertible debt securities and convert them into common stock or preferred stock, as the case may be.

Subordination

Our obligation to make payment on account of the principal of, and premium, if any, and interest on subordinated debt securities that are converted into convertible debt securities may be subordinated and junior in right of payment to our senior obligations, as described above under the heading *Provisions Applicable Solely to Subordinated Debt Securities* and in the prospectus supplement.

GLOSSARY

We have used the following definitions in describing the restrictive covenants that we have agreed to in the indentures. You can also find the precise legal definitions of certain of these terms in Section 1.01 of each indenture.

Attributable Debt means, when used in connection with a sale and lease-back transaction referred to in the indenture, on the date upon which the amount is to be determined, the product of

the net proceeds from the sale and lease-back transaction multiplied by

a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of full years of the term of the lease relating to the property involved in that sale and lease-back transaction (without regard to any options to renew or extend such term) remaining on that date and the denominator of

which is the number of full years on the term of that lease measured from the first day of the term.

Table of Contents

Consolidated Net Tangible Assets means our total assets and those of our consolidated subsidiaries, less current liabilities and intangible assets.

Principal Property means any oil or gas producing property, onshore or offshore, or any refining or manufacturing plant owned or leased under a capital lease by us or any of our Restricted Subsidiaries, but does not include any property that has been determined by a resolution of our board of directors not to be of material importance to the business conducted by us and our subsidiaries taken as a whole.

Restricted Subsidiary means any Subsidiary that owns or leases under a capital lease any Principal Property.

Secured Indebtedness means indebtedness of ours or any Restricted Subsidiary for borrowed money secured by any lien on (or in respect of any conditional sale or other title retention agreement covering) any Principal Property or the stock or indebtedness of a Restricted Subsidiary, but excluding from such definition, all indebtedness:

secured by liens (or arising from conditional sale or other title retention agreements) existing on the date of the indenture;

owing to us or any other Restricted Subsidiary;

secured by liens on Principal Property or the stock or indebtedness of Restricted Subsidiaries and existing at the time of acquisition thereof;

in connection with industrial development bond, pollution control revenue bond or similar financings;

secured by purchase money security interests;

secured by liens existing at the time a corporation becomes a Restricted Subsidiary;

statutory liens, liens made in connection with bids and other standard exempted liens;

in connection with liens on oil or gas properties or other mineral interests arising as a security in connection with conducting certain business;

in connection with royalties and other payments to be paid out of production from oil or gas properties or other mineral interests from the proceeds from their sale; and

in connection with any replacement, extension or renewal of any such indebtedness to the extent such indebtedness is not increased.

Subsidiary means, with respect to any person, any corporation, association or other business entity of which more than 50% of the outstanding voting equity is owned, directly or indirectly, by such person and one or more other subsidiaries of such person.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE WARRANTS

General

The following is a summary of material provisions of the warrants that we may issue pursuant to one or more separate warrant agreements, either independently or together with other securities. This summary does not include all of the provisions of the warrants. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a warrant agent. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants of such series and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants. We urge you to read the form of warrant agreement filed in connection with the applicable prospectus supplement. The terms of the warrants to subscribe for our debt securities include those stated in the forms of warrant agreements. Provisions of the forms of warrant agreements or terms defined in the forms of warrant agreements summarized below are incorporated into this prospectus by reference.

We may issue warrants for the purchase of:

debt securities,

preferred stock, or

common stock.

The warrants may be issued in one or more series. Please refer to the prospectus supplement relating to particular series of warrants for specific terms of the warrants, including the following terms:

the type and number of warrants;

the name, amount and terms of the securities for which the warrants may be exercised;

if applicable, the name and terms of the securities with which the warrants are issued and the number of warrants issued with each such security;

the expiration date of the warrants;

the period during which warrants may be exercised;

the exercise price of the warrants;

the minimum or maximum amount of the warrants that may be exercised at any one time;

any mandatory or optional call provisions;

the identity of the warrant agent;

a discussion of certain U.S. Federal income tax considerations; and

any other terms of the warrants offered thereunder.

The warrants will be represented by warrant certificates. We will pay all stamp taxes and any other duties to which the original issuance of the warrant certificates may be subject.

Transfer and Exchange

Warrants may be transferred or exchanged pursuant to procedures outlined in the applicable warrant agreement. No service charge will be made for registration of transfer or exchange upon surrender of any warrant certificate at the office of the applicable warrant agent maintained for that purpose. We may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in connection with any registration of transfer or exchange of warrant certificates.

Table of Contents

No warrant or warrant certificate will entitle the holder thereof to any of the rights of a holder of the security for which the warrant may be exercised, including the right to receive payments of principal or interest on debt securities or to enforce any of the covenants in any indenture relating to debt securities or the right to receive dividends on common or preferred stock or vote with common or preferred stock.

Exercise of Warrants

In order to exercise warrants, the holder of the warrants will be required to surrender to the warrant agent the related warrant certificate and pay in full the exercise price for the securities to be subscribed for upon such exercise. The exercise price must be paid in cash or by certified or official bank check or by wire transfer to an account we designate for such purpose. The warrant agent then will deliver the applicable securities to the holder, and will issue a new warrant certificate for any warrants not exercised.

Amendment of Warrant Agreement

From time to time, we and the warrant agent under the relevant warrant agreement, may amend or supplement the warrant agreement for certain purposes without the consent of the holders of the warrants issued thereunder, including to cure defects or inconsistencies or make any change that does not materially and adversely affect the rights of any holder. Any amendment or supplement to a warrant agreement that has a material adverse effect on the interests of the holders of the warrants issued thereunder will require the written consent of the holders of a majority of the outstanding warrants issued thereunder.

The written consent of each holder of the warrants affected shall be required for any amendment that:

increases the exercise price;

shortens the period during which warrants may be exercised; or

if the warrants may be redeemed at our option, reduces the price at which the warrants may be redeemed.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON STOCK

We outline below a summary of material information relating to our common stock, including summaries of certain provisions of our restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, and our by-laws, as amended. This summary does not include all of the provisions of our restated certificate of incorporation or by-laws. These statements do not purport to be complete, or to give full effect to the provisions of statutory or common laws, and are subject to, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, the terms and detailed provisions of the restated certificate of incorporation and of the by-laws. We urge you to read our full certificate of incorporation and by-laws.

We are incorporated in the State of Delaware, United States and operate in accordance with the Delaware General Corporation Law (DGCL). The rights of our stockholders are determined by the DGCL, the securities laws and regulations and other legislation of the United States, our restated certificate of incorporation and our by-laws. Under our restated certificate of incorporation, we are authorized to issue up to 600,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$1.00 per share. Our shares of common stock are traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Our shares are issued in registered form. Every holder of our shares is entitled to a share certificate. Holders of our shares are entitled, subject to the prior rights, if any, of holders of shares of any series of preferred stock that the board of directors may establish, to such dividends as may be declared by our board of directors if there are sufficient funds to legally pay a dividend.

Annual Meeting

Annual meetings of our stockholders are held on the date designated in accordance with our by-laws. Written notice must be mailed to each stockholder entitled to vote not less than ten nor more than 50 days before the date of the meeting. The presence in person or by proxy of the holders of record of a majority of our issued and outstanding shares entitled to vote at such meeting constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business at meetings of the stockholders. Special meetings of the stockholders may be called for any purpose by the chairman of the board or the president and shall be called by the secretary at the request of the board of directors pursuant to a resolution approved by a majority of the entire board.

Voting Rights

The holders of our shares of common stock are entitled to one vote for each share held of record and may vote by proxy. Except as may be otherwise provided by applicable law, our restated certificate of incorporation or our by-laws, all matters other than the election of directors shall be decided by a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote thereon at a duly held meeting of stockholders at which a quorum is present.

Liquidation, Dissolution or Winding-Up

In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding-up, the holders of our shares of common stock are entitled to share ratably according to the number of shares held by them in all remaining assets available for distribution to the holders of our shares after discharge of outstanding liabilities and payment of such liquidation preference, if any, of any series of preferred stock that our board of directors may establish.

Takeover Provisions

Certain provisions of our restated certificate of incorporation and by-laws may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change of control in connection with certain extraordinary corporate transactions.

Our restated certificate of incorporation and by-laws formerly provided for a board of directors divided as nearly equally as possible into three classes. Each class was elected to a term expiring at the annual meeting of stockholders held in the third year following the year of such election. At the annual meeting of stockholders held in 2013, our stockholders approved amendments to our restated certificate of incorporation and our by-laws

Table of Contents

to declassify the board. As such, directors elected at each annual meeting of stockholders, commencing with the 2014 annual meeting of stockholders, are elected annually and serve one-year terms. In addition, the restated certificate of incorporation and the by-laws require (i) approval of holders of 80% of our voting stock to remove directors or to amend, alter or repeal the provisions as to director election and removal and other related provisions, (ii) advance notice of, and a specified procedure for, shareholder nominations for director, (iii) the taking of stockholder action only at annual or special meetings (to be called only by the chairman of the board or the president and shall be called by the secretary at the request of the board of directors pursuant to a resolution approved by a majority of the entire board) and prohibiting stockholder action by written consent, and (iv) the filling of vacancies on the board by remaining directors, though less than a quorum. Such provisions of the restated certificate of incorporation and the by-laws may make it more difficult for a person or entity to acquire and exercise control of the company and remove incumbent directors and officers.

We are also subject to the anti-takeover provisions of Section 203 of the DGCL.

Other Rights

Holders of our shares of common stock have no preemption, redemption, conversion or other subscription rights.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED STOCK

General

The following description sets forth certain general terms of the preferred stock and any related depositary shares that we may issue. The terms of any series of the preferred stock and any related depositary shares will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to the preferred stock and any related depositary shares being offered. The description set forth below and in any prospectus supplement is not complete, and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, our restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, and the certificate of designations relating to each particular series of the preferred stock and any related depositary shares, which was or will be filed with the SEC at or before the issuance of the series of preferred stock.

Terms of the Preferred Stock

Under our restated certificate of incorporation, we are authorized to issue up to 20,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share. Our board of directors has the authority, without approval of the stockholders, to issue all of the shares of preferred stock which are currently authorized in one or more series and to fix the number of shares and the rights, preferences, privileges, qualifications, restrictions and limitations of each series.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of each series of preferred stock, including, where applicable, the following:

the designation, stated value, liquidation preference and number of shares offered;

the offering price or prices;

the dividend rate or rates, or method of calculation, the dividend periods, the dates on which dividends shall be payable and whether dividends are cumulative or non-cumulative and, if cumulative, the dates from which dividends begin to cumulate;

any redemption or sinking fund provisions;

any conversion or exchange provisions;

any voting rights;

whether the preferred stock will be issued in certificated or book-entry form;

whether the preferred stock will be listed on a national securities exchange;

information with respect to any book-entry procedures; and

any additional rights, preferences, privileges, limitations and restrictions of the preferred stock which are not inconsistent with the provisions of the restated certificate of incorporation.

Edgar Filing: HESS CORP - Form 424B5

The preferred stock will be, when issued against payment, fully paid and non-assessable. Holders will have no preemptive rights to subscribe for any additional securities which we may issue. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the shares of each series of preferred stock will rank equally with all other outstanding series of preferred stock issued by us as to payment of dividends, other than with respect to cumulation of dividends, and as to the distribution of our assets upon liquidation, dissolution, or winding up. Each series of preferred stock will rank senior to the common stock, and any other stock of ours that is expressly made junior to that series of preferred stock.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, The Bank of New York will be the transfer agent, dividend disbursing agent and registrar for the shares of the preferred stock.

Table of Contents

Dividends and Distributions

Holders of shares of the preferred stock will be entitled to receive, as, if and when declared by our board of directors, or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, out of funds legally available for the payment of dividends, cash dividends at the rate set forth in, or calculated in accordance with the formula set forth in, the prospectus supplement relating to the preferred stock being offered.

Dividends on the preferred stock may be cumulative or non-cumulative as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. Dividends on the cumulative preferred stock will accumulate from the date of original issue and will be payable in arrears on the dates specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. If any date so specified as a dividend payment date is not a business day, declared dividends on the preferred stock will be paid on the immediately succeeding business day, without interest. The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth the applicable dividend period with respect to a dividend payment date. If our board of directors, or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, fails to declare a dividend on any series of non-cumulative preferred stock for any dividend period, we will have no obligation to pay a dividend for that period, whether or not dividends on that series of non-cumulative preferred stock are declared for any future dividend period. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, dividends on the preferred stock will be payable to record holders as they appear on our stock books on each record date, not more than 60 nor less than 10 days preceding the applicable payment date, as shall be fixed by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors.

Liquidation Preference

Any preference or priority of the preferred stock over our common stock and any other class of our stock ranking junior to the preferred stock upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up, for payments out of or distributions of our assets or proceeds from any liquidation, will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Redemption

If specified in the prospectus supplement relating to a series of preferred stock being offered, we may, at our option, at any time or from time to time on not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice, redeem that series of preferred stock in whole or in part at the redemption prices and on the dates set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If less than all outstanding shares of a series of preferred stock are to be redeemed, the selection of the shares to be redeemed shall be determined by lot or pro rata as may be determined by our board of directors, or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors, to be equitable. From and after the redemption date, unless we are in default in providing for the payment of the redemption price, dividends shall cease to accrue on the shares of that series of preferred stock called for redemption and all rights of the holders shall cease, other than the right to receive the redemption price.

Any restriction on the repurchase or redemption by us of our preferred stock while we are in arrears in the payment of dividends or sinking fund installments will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Voting Rights

Unless otherwise described in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of the preferred stock will have no voting rights except as required by law.

Conversion or Exchange Rights

The prospectus supplement relating to a series of preferred stock that is convertible or exchangeable will state the terms on which shares of that series are convertible or exchangeable into common stock, another series of preferred stock or debt securities.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE DEPOSITARY SHARES

General

We may choose to offer fractional shares or some multiple of shares of our preferred stock, rather than whole individual shares. If we decide to do so, we will issue the preferred stock in the form of depositary shares. Each depositary share would represent a fraction or multiple of a share of the preferred stock and would be evidenced by a depositary receipt. We will issue depositary shares under a deposit agreement between a depositary, which we will appoint at our discretion, and us.

Deposit Agreement

We will deposit the shares of preferred stock to be represented by depositary shares under a deposit agreement. The parties to the deposit agreement will be:

Hess Corporation;

a bank or other financial institution selected by us and named in the applicable prospectus supplement, as preferred stock depositary;
and

the holders from time to time of depositary receipts issued under that depositary agreement.

Each holder of a depositary share will be entitled to all the rights and preferences of the underlying preferred stock, including, where applicable, dividend, voting, redemption, conversion and liquidation rights, in proportion to the applicable fraction or multiple of a share of preferred stock represented by the depositary share. The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued under the deposit agreement. The depositary receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing the fractional or multiple shares of preferred stock. A depositary receipt may evidence any number of whole depositary shares.

We will file the deposit agreement, including the form of depositary receipt, with the SEC, either as an exhibit to an amendment to the registration statements of which this prospectus forms a part or as an exhibit to a current report on Form 8-K. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) above for information on how to obtain a copy of the form of deposit agreement.

Dividends and Other Distributions

The preferred stock depositary will distribute any cash dividends or other cash distributions received in respect of the deposited preferred stock to the record holders of depositary shares relating to the underlying preferred stock in proportion to the number of depositary shares owned by the holders. The preferred stock depositary will distribute any property received by it other than cash to the record holders of depositary shares entitled to those distributions, unless it determines that the distribution cannot be made proportionally among those holders or that it is not feasible to make a distribution. In that event, the preferred stock depositary may, with our approval, sell the property and distribute the net proceeds from the sale to the holders of the depositary shares in proportion to the number of depositary shares they own.

The amounts distributed to holders of depositary shares will be reduced by any amounts required to be withheld by the preferred stock depositary or by us on account of taxes or other governmental charges.

Redemption of Preferred Stock

If we redeem preferred stock represented by depositary shares, the preferred stock depositary will redeem the depositary shares from the proceeds it receives from the redemption, in whole or in part, of the preferred stock. The preferred stock depositary will redeem the depositary shares at a price per share equal to the applicable fraction or multiple of the redemption price per share of preferred stock. Whenever we redeem shares

Table of Contents

of preferred stock held by the preferred stock depositary, the preferred stock depositary will redeem as of the same date the number of depositary shares representing the redeemed shares of preferred stock. If fewer than all the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the preferred stock depositary will select the depositary shares to be redeemed by lot or ratably or by any other equitable method it chooses.

After the date fixed for redemption, the depositary shares called for redemption will no longer be deemed to be outstanding, and all rights of the holders of those shares will cease, except the right to receive the amount payable and any other property to which the holders were entitled upon the redemption. To receive this amount or other property, the holders must surrender the depositary receipts evidencing their depositary shares to the preferred stock depositary. Any funds that we deposit with the preferred stock depositary for any depositary shares that the holders fail to redeem will be returned to us after a period of two years from the date we deposit the funds.

Withdrawal of Preferred Stock

Unless the related depositary shares have previously been called for redemption, any holder of depositary shares may receive the number of whole shares of the related series of preferred stock and any money or other property represented by those depositary receipts after surrendering the depositary receipts at the corporate trust office of the preferred stock depositary, paying any taxes, charges and fees provided for in the deposit agreement and complying with any other requirement of the deposit agreement. Holders of depositary shares making these withdrawals will be entitled to receive whole shares of preferred stock, but holders of whole shares of preferred stock will not be entitled to deposit that preferred stock under the deposit agreement or to receive depositary receipts for that preferred stock after withdrawal. If the depositary shares surrendered by the holder in connection with withdrawal exceed the number of depositary shares that represent the number of whole shares of preferred stock to be withdrawn, the preferred stock depositary will deliver to that holder at the same time a new depositary receipt evidencing the excess number of depositary shares.

Voting Deposited Preferred Stock

When the preferred stock depositary receives notice of any meeting at which the holders of any series of deposited preferred stock are entitled to vote, the preferred stock depositary will mail the information contained in the notice to the record holders of the depositary shares relating to the applicable series of preferred stock. Each record holder of the depositary shares on the record date, which will be the same date as the record date for the preferred stock, may instruct the preferred stock depositary to vote the amount of the preferred stock represented by the holder's depositary shares. To the extent possible, the preferred stock depositary will vote the amount of the series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares in accordance with the instructions it receives. We will agree to take all reasonable actions that the preferred stock depositary determines are necessary to enable the preferred stock depositary to vote as instructed. If the preferred stock depositary does not receive specific instructions from the holders of any depositary shares representing a series of preferred stock, it will vote all shares of that series held by it proportionately with instructions received.

Conversion of Preferred Stock

If the prospectus supplement relating to the depositary shares says that the deposited preferred stock is convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common stock, preferred stock of another series or other securities of Hess Corporation, the following will apply. The depositary shares, as such, will not be convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for any securities of Hess Corporation. Rather, any holder of the depositary shares may surrender the related depositary receipts to the preferred stock depositary with written instructions to instruct us to cause conversion, exercise or exchange of the preferred stock represented by the depositary shares into or for whole shares of common stock, shares of another series of preferred stock or other securities of Hess Corporation. Upon receipt of those instructions and any amounts payable by the holder in connection with the conversion, exercise or exchange, we will cause the conversion, exercise or exchange using the same procedures

Table of Contents

as those provided for conversion, exercise or exchange of the deposited preferred stock. If only some of the depositary shares are to be converted, exercised or exchanged, a new depositary receipt or receipts will be issued for any depositary shares not to be converted, exercised or exchanged.

Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement

We may amend the form of depositary receipt evidencing the depositary shares and any provision of the deposit agreement at any time and from time to time by agreement with the preferred stock depositary. However, any amendment that imposes additional charges or materially and adversely alters any substantial existing right of the holders of depositary shares will not be effective unless the holders of at least a majority of the affected depositary shares then outstanding approve the amendment. We will make no amendment that impairs the right of any holder of depositary shares, as described above under **Withdrawal of Preferred Stock**, to receive shares of the related series of preferred stock and any money or other property represented by those depositary shares, except in order to comply with mandatory provisions of applicable law. Holders who retain or acquire their depositary receipts after an amendment becomes effective will be deemed to have agreed to the amendment and will be bound by the amended deposit agreement.

The deposit agreement will automatically terminate if:

all outstanding depositary shares have been redeemed or converted or exchanged for any other securities into which they or the underlying preferred stock are convertible or exchangeable; or

a final distribution in respect of the preferred stock has been made to the holders of depositary shares in connection with any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Hess Corporation.

We may terminate the deposit agreement at any time, and the preferred stock depositary will give notice of that termination to the recordholders of all outstanding depositary receipts not less than 30 days before the termination date. In that event, the preferred stock depositary will deliver or make available for delivery to holders of depositary shares, upon surrender of the depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares, the number of whole or fractional shares of the related series of preferred stock as are represented by those depositary shares.

Charges of Preferred Stock Depositary; Taxes and Other Governmental Charges

We will pay the fees, charges and expenses of the preferred stock depositary provided in the deposit agreement to be payable by us. Holders of depositary receipts will pay any taxes and governmental charges and any charges provided in the deposit agreement to be payable by them, including a fee for the withdrawal of shares of preferred stock upon surrender of depositary receipts. If the preferred stock depositary incurs fees, charges or expenses for which it is not otherwise liable at the election of a holder of a depositary receipt or other person, that holder or other person will be liable for those fees, charges and expenses.

Resignation and Removal of Depositary

The preferred stock depositary may resign at any time by giving us notice, and we may remove or replace the preferred stock depositary at any time.

Reports to Holders

We will deliver all required reports and communications to holders of the preferred stock to the preferred stock depositary. It will forward those reports and communications to the holders of depositary shares.

Limitation on Liability of the Preferred Stock Depositary

The preferred stock depositary will not be liable if it is prevented or delayed by law or any circumstances beyond its control in performing its obligations under the deposit agreement. The obligations of the preferred

Table of Contents

stock depository under the deposit agreement will be limited to performance in good faith of its duties under the agreement, and it will not be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any depository shares, depository receipts or shares of preferred stock unless satisfactory and reasonable protection from expenses and liability is furnished. This is called an indemnity. The preferred stock depository may rely upon written advice of counsel or accountants, upon information provided by holders of depository receipts or other persons believed to be competent and upon documents believed to be genuine.

Form of Preferred Stock and Depository Shares

We may issue preferred stock in book-entry form. Preferred stock in book-entry form will be represented by a global security registered in the name of a depository, which will be the holder of all the shares of preferred stock represented by the global security. Those who own beneficial interests in shares of preferred stock will do so through participants in the depository's system, and the rights of these indirect owners will be governed solely by the applicable procedures of the depository and its participants. However, beneficial owners of any preferred stock in book-entry form will have the right to obtain their shares in non-global form.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE PURCHASE CONTRACTS

General

We may issue purchase contracts for the purchase or sale of, or whose cash value is determined by reference or linked to the performance, level or value of, our common or preferred stock, debt securities, depositary shares or other securities described in this prospectus.

We refer to each property described above as a purchase contract property. Each purchase contract will obligate:

the holder to purchase or sell, and obligate us to sell or purchase, on specified dates, one or more purchase contract properties at a specified price or prices; or

the holder or us to settle the purchase contract by reference to the value, performance or level of one or more purchase contract properties, on specified dates and at a specified price or prices.

Some purchase contracts may include multiple obligations to purchase or sell different purchase contract properties, and both we and the holder may be sellers or buyers under the same purchase contract. No holder of a purchase contract will have any rights of a holder of the purchase contract property purchasable under the contract, including any right to receive payments on that property.

Terms of the Purchase Contracts

Your prospectus supplement may contain, where applicable, the following information about your purchase contract:

whether the purchase contract obligates the holder to purchase or sell, or both purchase and sell, one or more purchase contract properties and the nature and amount of each of those properties, or the method of determining those amounts;

whether the purchase contract is to be prepaid or not and the governing document for the contract;

whether the purchase contract is to be settled by delivery, or by reference or linkage to the value, performance or level of, the purchase contract properties;

any acceleration, cancellation, termination or other provisions relating to the settlement of the purchase contract;

whether the purchase contract will be issued as part of a unit and, if so, the other securities comprising the unit and whether any unit securities will be subject to a security interest in our favor as described below;

whether the purchase contract will be issued in fully registered or bearer form and in global or non-global form; and

any other terms of the purchase contract offered thereunder.

If we issue a purchase contract as part of a unit, the accompanying prospectus supplement will state whether the contract will be separable from the other securities in the unit before the contract settlement date.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE UNITS

General

We may issue units comprised of one or more debt securities, warrants, purchase contracts, shares of preferred stock and depositary shares in any combination. Each unit will be issued so that the holder of the unit is also the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the holder of a unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each included security. The unit agreement under which a unit is issued may provide that the securities included in the unit may not be held or transferred separately, at any time or at any time before a specified date.

The applicable prospectus supplement may describe:

the designation and terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances those securities may be held or transferred separately;

any provisions of the governing unit agreement that differ from those described here;

any provisions for the issuance, payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units or of the securities comprising the units; and

any other terms of the units offered thereunder.

General Provisions of a Unit Agreement

Enforcement of Rights

The unit agent under a unit agreement will act solely as our agent in connection with the units issued under that agreement. The unit agent will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders of those units or of the securities comprising those units. The unit agent will not be obligated to take any action on behalf of those holders to enforce or protect their rights under the units or the included securities.

Generally, except as described in the next paragraph, a holder of a unit may, without the consent of the unit agent or any other holder, enforce its rights as holder under any security included in the unit, in accordance with the terms of that security and the indenture, warrant agreement, unit agreement or trust agreement under which that security is issued. Those specific terms will be described elsewhere in the applicable prospectus supplement under the sections relating to debt securities, warrants, purchase contracts and capital securities. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a unit agreement may limit or otherwise affect the ability of a holder of units issued under that agreement to enforce its rights, including any right to bring a legal action, with respect to those units or any securities, other than debt securities, prepaid purchase contracts, warrants issued under the warrant indenture and capital securities, that are included in those units. Limitations of this kind will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Modification Without Consent of Holders

We and the applicable unit agent may amend any unit or unit agreement without the consent of any holder (i) to cure any ambiguity, (ii) to correct or supplement any defective or inconsistent provision or (iii) to make any other change that we believe is necessary or desirable and will not adversely affect the interests of the affected holders in any material respect.

We will not need any approval to make changes that affect only units to be issued after the changes take effect. We may also make changes that do not adversely affect a particular unit in any material respect, even if they adversely affect other units in a material respect. In those cases, we do not need to obtain the approval of the holder of the unaffected unit; we need only obtain any required approvals from the holders of the affected units.

Table of Contents

Modification With Consent of Holders

We generally may not amend any particular unit or a unit agreement with respect to any particular unit unless we obtain the consent of the holder of that unit, if the amendment would (i) impair any right of the holder to exercise or enforce any right under a security included in the unit if the terms of that security require the consent of the holder to any changes that would impair the exercise or enforcement of that right, (ii) impair the right of the holder to purchase or sell, as the case may be, the purchase contract property under any non-prepaid purchase contract issued under the unit agreement, or to require delivery of or payment for that property when due or (iii) reduce the percentage of outstanding units of any series or class the consent of whose holders is required to amend that series or class, or the applicable unit agreement with respect to that series or class.

Any other change to a particular unit agreement and the units issued under that agreement would require the following approval:

If the change affects only the units of a particular series issued under that agreement, the change must be approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding units of that series.

If the change affects the units of more than one series issued under that agreement, it must be approved by the holders of a majority of all outstanding units of all series affected by the change, with the units of all the affected series voting together as one class for this purpose.

These provisions regarding changes with majority approval also apply to changes affecting any securities issued under a unit agreement, as the governing document.

Table of Contents

HEDGING IN CONNECTION WITH DISTRIBUTIONS

We may enter into derivative transactions with third parties or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately-negotiated transactions. If the applicable prospectus supplement so indicates, in connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell securities covered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third party may use securities pledged by us or borrowed from us or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of stock, and may use securities received from us in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of stock. The third party in such sale transactions will be an underwriter and will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement or a post-effective amendment.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities through agents, underwriters or dealers, or directly to one or more purchasers without using underwriters or agents.

We may designate agents who agree to use their reasonable efforts to solicit purchases for the period of their appointment or to sell securities on a continuing basis.

If we use underwriters for a sale of securities, the underwriters will acquire the securities for their own accounts. The underwriters may resell the securities in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to the conditions set forth in the applicable underwriting agreement. The underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the securities offered if any of those securities are purchased. Any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement and may be changed from time to time.

Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act and any discounts or commissions they receive from us and any profit on their resale of the securities may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. The applicable prospectus supplement will identify any underwriters, dealers or agents and will describe their compensation. We may have agreements with the underwriters, dealers and agents to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with or perform services for us or our subsidiaries in the ordinary course of their businesses.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, each class or series of securities will be a new issue with no established trading market, other than the common stock, which is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. We may elect to list any other class or series of securities on any exchange, but we are not obligated to do so. It is possible that one or more underwriters may make a market in a class or series of securities, but the underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We cannot give any assurance as to the liquidity of the trading market for any of the securities.

VALIDITY OF THE SECURITIES

In connection with particular offerings of the securities in the future, and if stated in the applicable prospectus supplements, the validity of those securities may be passed upon for the Company by White & Case LLP and for any underwriters or agents by counsel named in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

EXPERTS

Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, has audited our consolidated financial statements and schedule included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, as set forth in their reports, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement. Our financial statements and schedule are incorporated by reference in reliance on Ernst & Young LLP's reports, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

Certain oil and gas reserves estimates incorporated herein by reference have been audited by DeGolyer and MacNaughton, an independent petroleum engineering consulting firm, as stated in its letter report included as an exhibit to Hess Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, which is incorporated herein by reference in reliance on the authority of said firm as an expert in petroleum engineering.

Table of Contents

Hess Corporation

10,000,000 Depositary Shares

Each Representing a 1/20th Interest in a Share of %

Series A Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock

Goldman, Sachs & Co.