**DILLARDS INC** Form 10-O June 12, 2007

#### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

#### **FORM 10-Q**

| (Mark One)  |
|---|
| xQUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  |
| For the quarterly period ended May 5, 2007  |
| OR  |
| oTRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 |
| For the transition period from to   |
| Commission file number 1-6140   |
| DILLARD'S, INC.   |

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

71-0388071 (IRS Employer Identification Number)

1600 CANTRELL ROAD, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201 (Address of principal executive office) (Zip Code)

(501) 376-5200 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter time that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No o

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

Large Accelerated Filer x Accelerated Filer o Non-Accelerated Filer o

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 12-b-2). Yeso No x

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

CLASS A COMMON STOCK as of June 2, 2007 76,323,046
CLASS B COMMON STOCK as of June 2, 2007 4,010,929

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## DILLARD'S, INC.

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#### **PART 1. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

## **Item 1. Financial Statements**

# DILLARD'S, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited) (In Thousands)

|  |    | May 5,<br>2007 | •  |           | April 29,<br>2006 |           |
|--|----|----------------|----|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| Assets   |    | 2007           |    | 2007      |                   | 2000      |
| Current assets:                                  |    |                |    |           |                   |           |
| Cash and cash equivalents                        | \$ | 137,915        | \$ | 193,994   | \$                | 301,677   |
| Accounts receivable                              |    | 9,932          |    | 10,508    |                   | 11,491    |
| Merchandise inventories                          |    | 2,032,711      |    | 1,772,150 |                   | 2,053,047 |
| Other current assets                             |    | 42,143         |    | 71,194    |                   | 35,880    |
| Total current assets                             |    | 2,222,701      |    | 2,047,846 |                   | 2,402,095 |
| Total carrent assets                             |    | 2,222,701      |    | 2,017,010 |                   | 2,102,096 |
| Property and equipment, net                      |    | 3,208,810      |    | 3,157,906 |                   | 3,151,940 |
| Goodwill   |    | 34,511         |    | 34,511    |                   | 34,511    |
| Other assets                                     |    | 170,959        |    | 167,752   |                   | 175,119   |
| Total Assets                                     | \$ | 5,636,981      | \$ | 5,408,015 | \$                | 5,763,665 |
| I OWN PERSONS                                    | Ψ  | 2,020,201      | Ψ  | 2,100,012 | Ψ                 | 2,702,002 |
| Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity             |    |                |    |           |                   |           |
| Current liabilities:                             |    |                |    |           |                   |           |
| Trade accounts payable and accrued expenses      | \$ | 1,013,659      | \$ | 797,806   | \$                | 1,064,757 |
| Current portion of long-term debt                |    | 196,399        |    | 100,635   |                   | 198,465   |
| Current portion of capital lease obligations     |    | 3,027          |    | 3,679     |                   | 5,665     |
| Federal and state income taxes                   |    | 55,696         |    | 74,995    |                   | 71,406    |
| Total current liabilities                        |    | 1,268,781      |    | 977,115   |                   | 1,340,293 |
| Total current naminues                           |    | 1,200,701      |    | 9//,113   |                   | 1,340,233 |
| Long-term debt                                   |    | 860,693        |    | 956,611   |                   | 1,058,819 |
| Capital lease obligations                        |    | 27,633         |    | 28,328    |                   | 30,600    |
| Other liabilities                                |    | 208,596        |    | 206,122   |                   | 262,754   |
| Deferred income taxes                            |    | 439,951        |    | 452,886   |                   | 473,211   |
| Guaranteed preferred beneficial interests in the |    |                |    |           |                   |           |
| Company's subordinated debentures                |    | 200,000        |    | 200,000   |                   | 200,000   |
| Stockholders' equity:                            |    |                |    |           |                   |           |
| Common stock                                     |    | 1,204          |    | 1,202     |                   | 1,193     |
| Additional paid-in capital                       |    | 777,628        |    | 772,560   |                   | 751,702   |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss             |    | (20,836)       |    | (21,229)  |                   | (14,574)  |
| Retained earnings                                |    | 2,686,299      |    | 2,647,388 |                   | 2,472,635 |
| Less treasury stock, at cost                     |    | (812,968)      |    | (812,968) |                   | (812,968) |
| Tradal de aldrellient e mid                      |    | 2 (21 225      |    | 2 507 052 |                   | 2 205 000 |
| Total stockholders' equity                       |    | 2,631,327      |    | 2,586,953 |                   | 2,397,988 |

| Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity               | \$ | 5,636,981 | \$<br>5,408,015 \$ | 5,763,665 |
|--|----|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements | •  |           |                    |           |
| 3  |    |           |                    |           |

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## DILLARD'S, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS (Unaudited)

(In Thousands, Except Per Share Data)

|  | Three Months Ended |                 |    |                   |  |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|----|-------------------|--|
|  |                    | May 5,<br>2007  |    | April 29,<br>2006 |  |
| Net sales  | \$                 | 1,762,954       | \$ | 1,835,309         |  |
| Service charges and other income   |                    | 36,500          |    | 41,439            |  |
|  |                    |                 |    |                   |  |
|  |                    | 1,799,454       |    | 1,876,748         |  |
|  |                    |                 |    |                   |  |
| Cost of sales  |                    | 1,126,091       |    | 1,179,437         |  |
| Advertising, selling, administrative and general expenses                        |                    | 499,375         |    | 494,610           |  |
| Depreciation and amortization  |                    | 74,932          |    | 73,390            |  |
| Rentals  |                    | 13,198          |    | 11,591            |  |
| Interest and debt expense, net   |                    | 20,736          |    | 23,610            |  |
| Gain on sales of assets  |                    |                 |    | (1,499)           |  |
| I  |                    | (5.100          |    | 05 (00            |  |
| Income before income taxes and equity in earnings of joint ventures Income Taxes |                    | 65,122          |    | 95,609            |  |
|  |                    | 25,390<br>3,192 |    | 35,065<br>775     |  |
| Equity in earnings of joint ventures   |                    | 5,192           |    | 113               |  |
| Net Income   |                    | 42,924          |    | 61,319            |  |
| The media  |                    | 12,521          |    | 01,015            |  |
| Retained Earnings at Beginning of Period   |                    | 2,647,388       |    | 2,414,491         |  |
| Cash Dividends Declared  |                    | (3,210)         |    | (3,175)           |  |
| Cumulative effect of accounting change related to adoption of FIN 48             |                    | (803)           |    |                   |  |
|  |                    | ,               |    |                   |  |
| Retained Earnings at End of Period   | \$                 | 2,686,299       | \$ | 2,472,635         |  |
|  |                    |                 |    |                   |  |
| Earnings Per Share:  |                    |                 |    |                   |  |
| Basic  | \$                 | 0.54            | \$ | 0.77              |  |
|  |                    |                 |    |                   |  |
| Diluted  | \$                 | 0.53            | \$ | 0.77              |  |
|  | Φ.                 | 0.04            | Φ. | 0.04              |  |
| Cash Dividends Declared Per Common Share   | \$                 | 0.04            | \$ | 0.04              |  |
| See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.                        |                    |                 |    |                   |  |
| 4  |                    |                 |    |                   |  |

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# DILLARD'S, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited) (In Thousands)

|   | Three Months Ended |                |                   |  |
|---|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|--|
|   |                    | May 5,<br>2007 | April 29,<br>2006 |  |
| Operating Activities:   |                    |                |                   |  |
| Net income  | \$                 | 42,924         | \$ 61,319         |  |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |                    |                |                   |  |
| Depreciation and amortization of property and deferred financing                  |                    | 75,410         | 74,169            |  |
| Share-based compensation  |                    | 31             | 532               |  |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation                                 |                    | (433)          | (35)              |  |
| Gain on sale of property and equipment  |                    |                | (1,499)           |  |
| Loss on disposal of property and equipment  |                    | 16             |                   |  |
| Asset impairment and store closing charges  |                    | 688            |                   |  |
| Gain from hurricane insurance proceeds  |                    | (4,072)        |                   |  |
| Proceeds from hurricane insurance   |                    | 5,881          |                   |  |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities:                                      |                    |                |                   |  |
| Decrease in accounts receivable   |                    | 576            | 1,032             |  |
| Increase in merchandise inventories and other current assets                      |                    | (253,210)      | (255,396)         |  |
| Increase in other assets  |                    | (3,235)        | (2,872)           |  |
| Increase in trade accounts payable and accrued expenses, other liabilities        |                    |                |                   |  |
| and income taxes  |                    | 172,472        | 201,360           |  |
| Net cash provided by operating activities   |                    | 37,048         | 78,610            |  |
| Investing Activities:   |                    |                |                   |  |
| Purchases of property and equipment   |                    | (109,106)      | (76,888)          |  |
| Proceeds from hurricane insurance   |                    | 16,101         | 4,585             |  |
| Proceeds from sale of property and equipment                                      |                    |                | 1,545             |  |
| Net cash used in investing activities   |                    | (93,005)       | (70,758)          |  |
| tive cush used in investing uctivities  |                    | (50,000)       | (10,120)          |  |
| Financing Activities:   |                    |                |                   |  |
| Principal payments on long-term debt and capital lease obligations                |                    | (1,501)        | (1,611)           |  |
| Proceeds from issuance of common stock  |                    | 4,606          | 2,068             |  |
| Payment of line of credit fees and expenses                                       |                    | (450)          |                   |  |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation                                 |                    | 433            | 35                |  |
| Cash dividends paid   |                    | (3,210)        | (3,175)           |  |
| Purchase of treasury stock  |                    |                | (3,332)           |  |
| Net cash used in financing activities   |                    | (122)          | (6,015)           |  |
| (Decrease) Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents                                  |                    | (56,079)       | 1,837             |  |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Period                                    |                    | 193,994        | 299,840           |  |

| Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Period                          | \$<br>137,915 | \$<br>301,677 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
|   |               |               |
| Non-cash transactions:  |               |               |
| Accrued capital expenditures                                      | \$<br>2,635   | \$<br>12,936  |
| Cumulative adjustment to retained earnings for adoption of FIN 48 | 803           |               |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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## DILLARD'S, INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

#### Note 1.

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements of Dillard's, Inc. (the "Company") have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X, each as promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three months ended May 5, 2007 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year ending February 2, 2008 due to the seasonal nature of the business. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 3, 2007 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 4, 2007.

**Reclassifications** - The following reclasses were made to the prior period's condensed consolidated statement of income to conform to the 2007 presentation: (1) leased department income of \$2.1 million for the quarter ended April 29, 2006 was reclassed from net sales to service charges and other income, (2) gain on sales of assets was reclassed from service charges and other income to its own line item and (3) equity in earnings of joint ventures was reclassed from service charges and other income to its own line item below income taxes.

#### Note 2.

#### **Stock-Based Compensation**

The Company has various stock option plans that provide for the granting of options to purchase shares of Class A Common Stock to certain key employees of the Company. Exercise and vesting terms for options granted under the plans are determined at each grant date. There were no stock options granted during the three months ended May 5, 2007 and the three months ended April 29, 2006, respectively.

Stock option transactions for the three months ended May 5, 2007 are summarized as follows:

|                                   |           | Weighted<br>Average<br>Exercise |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Fixed Options                     | Shares    | Price                           |
| Outstanding, beginning of period  | 5,915,269 | \$<br>25.88                     |
| Granted                           | -         | -                               |
| Exercised                         | (144,575) | 24.01                           |
| Forfeited                         | (700)     | 24.01                           |
| Outstanding, end of period        | 5,769,994 | \$<br>25.93                     |
| Options exercisable at period end | 5,729,994 | \$<br>25.94                     |

The following table summarizes information about stock options outstanding at May 5, 2007:

|           | Options Outstanding Weighted-Average |                |                | Options Exercisable | ;       |              |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|---------|--------------|
| Range of  |                                      | Remaining      |                |                     |         |              |
| Exercise  | Options                              | ContractuaWeig | hted-Average   | Options             | Weighte | ed-Average   |
| Prices    | Outstanding                          | Life (Yrs.)    | Exercise Price | Exercisable         | Exe     | ercise Price |
| \$24.01 - | _                                    |                |                |                     |         |              |
| \$24.73   | 149,667                              | 1.86 \$        | 24.35          | 109,667             | \$      | 24.47        |
| \$25.74 - |                                      |                |                |                     |         |              |
| \$25.74   | 3,980,000                            | 8.72           | 25.74          | 3,980,000           |         | 25.74        |
| \$25.95 - |                                      |                |                |                     |         |              |
| \$30.47   | 1,640,327                            | 2.21           | 26.52          | 1,640,327           |         | 26.52        |
|           | 5,769,994                            | 6.69 \$        | 25.93          | 5,729,994           | \$      | 25.94        |
|           |                                      |                |                |                     |         |              |
| 6         |                                      |                |                |                     |         |              |

The intrinsic value of outstanding stock options at May 5, 2007 was \$41.9 million. At May 5, 2007, the intrinsic value of exercisable options was \$41.6 million. The intrinsic value of stock options exercised during the three months ended May 5, 2007 was \$1.3 million.

#### Note 3. Reserve for Store Closing Charges

Following is a summary of the activity in the reserve established for store closing charges for the three months ended May 5, 2007:

| (in thousands)                     | Beg | alance,<br>inning of<br>warter | Charges | Cash   | Payments | Ba | llance, End of<br>Quarter |
|------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|---------|--------|----------|----|---------------------------|
| Rent, property taxes and utilities | \$  | 3,406                          | \$      | <br>\$ | 258      | \$ | 3,148                     |

Reserve amounts are included in trade accounts payable and accrued expenses and other liabilities.

#### Note 4. Earnings Per Share Data

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share ("EPS") for the periods indicated (in thousands, except per share data).

| Three Months Ended |   |   |  |  |
|--------------------|---|---|--|--|
| May 5,<br>2007     | A   | April 29,<br>2006   |  |  |
|                    |   |   |  |  |
| \$<br>42,924       | \$  | 61,319  |  |  |
|                    |   |   |  |  |
|                    |   |   |  |  |
| 80,197             |   | 79,327  |  |  |
|                    |   |   |  |  |
| \$<br>0.54         | \$  | 0.77  |  |  |
|                    |   |   |  |  |
| Three Mor          | nths Er   | nded  |  |  |
| May 5, April 29,   |   |   |  |  |
| 2007               |   | 2006  |  |  |
|                    |   |   |  |  |
| \$<br>42,924       | \$  | 61,319  |  |  |
|                    |   |   |  |  |
|                    |   |   |  |  |
| 80,197             |   | 79,327  |  |  |
| 1,360              |   | 55  |  |  |
|                    |   |   |  |  |
| 81,557             |   | 79,382  |  |  |
| 01,557             |   | 17,362  |  |  |
| 01,557             |   | 17,302  |  |  |
| \$                 | May 5, 2007  \$ 42,924  80,197  \$ 0.54  Three Mor May 5, 2007  \$ 42,924  80,197 1,360 | May 5, 2007  \$ 42,924 \$ 80,197  \$ 0.54 \$ Three Months En May 5, 2007  \$ 42,924 \$ 80,197 1,360 |  |  |

Total stock options outstanding were 5,769,994 and 7,491,943 at May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006, respectively. Of these, options to purchase 6,550,876 shares of Class A common stock at prices ranging from \$25.74 to \$29.99 per

share were outstanding at April 29, 2006 but were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because they would be antidilutive. No options outstanding were excluded in the computation of diluted earnings per share for the quarter ended May 5, 2007 as none were antidilutive.

#### Note 5. Comprehensive Income and Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

Accumulated other comprehensive loss only consists of the minimum pension liability, which is calculated annually in the fourth quarter. The following table shows the computation of comprehensive income (in thousands):

\_

|                                       | Three Months Ended |        |           |        |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------|--|--|--|
|                                       |                    | May 5, | April 29, |        |  |  |  |
|                                       |                    | 2007   | 2006      |        |  |  |  |
|                                       |                    |        |           |        |  |  |  |
| Net income                            | \$                 | 42,924 | \$        | 61,319 |  |  |  |
| Other comprehensive loss:             |                    |        |           |        |  |  |  |
| Minimum pension liability adjustment, |                    |        |           |        |  |  |  |
| net of taxes                          |                    | -      |           | -      |  |  |  |
| Amortization of minimum pension       |                    |        |           |        |  |  |  |
| liability adjustment, net of taxes    |                    | 393    |           | _      |  |  |  |
| Total comprehensive income            | \$                 | 43,317 | \$        | 61,319 |  |  |  |

#### Note 6.

#### **Commitments and Contingencies**

On July 29, 2002, a Class Action Complaint (followed on December 13, 2004 by a Second Amended Class Action Complaint) was filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio against the Company, the Mercantile Stores Pension Plan (the "Plan") and the Mercantile Stores Pension Committee (the "Committee") on behalf of a putative class of former Plan participants. The complaint alleged that certain actions by the Plan and the Committee violated the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), as a result of amendments made to the Plan that allegedly were either improper and/or ineffective and as a result of certain payments made to certain beneficiaries of the Plan that allegedly were improperly calculated and/or discriminatory on account of age. The Second Amended Complaint did not specify any liquidated amount of damages sought and sought recalculation of certain benefits paid to putative class members.

During the year ended February 3, 2007, the Company signed a memorandum of understanding and accrued \$35.0 million to settle the case. The settlement became final in early April 2007. The litigation continues between the Company and the Plan's actuarial firm over the Company's cross claim against the actuarial firm seeking reimbursement for the settlement and additional damages.

Various legal proceedings in the form of lawsuits and claims, which occur in the normal course of business, are pending against the Company and its subsidiaries. In the opinion of management, disposition of these matters is not expected to materially affect the Company's financial position, cash flows or results of operations.

At May 5, 2007, letters of credit totaling \$72.3 million were issued under the Company's \$1.2 billion line of credit facility.

#### Note 7. Benefit Plans

The Company has a nonqualified defined benefit plan for certain officers. The plan is noncontributory and provides benefits based on years of service and compensation during employment. Pension expense is determined using various actuarial cost methods to estimate the total benefits ultimately payable to officers and allocates this cost to service periods. The pension plan is unfunded. The actuarial assumptions used to calculate pension costs are reviewed annually. The Company made contributions of \$0.9 million during the quarter ended May 5, 2007. The Company expects to make a contribution to the pension plan of approximately \$3.1 million for the remainder of fiscal 2007.

The components of net periodic benefit costs are as follows (in thousands):

Three Months Ended May 5, 2007 April 29, 2006

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## Components of net periodic benefit

costs:

| Service cost                       | \$<br>517   | \$<br>545   |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Interest cost                      | 1,500       | 1,349       |
| Net actuarial gain                 | 518         | 504         |
| Amortization of prior service cost | 157         | 157         |
| Net periodic benefit costs         | \$<br>2,692 | \$<br>2,555 |

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#### Note 8.

#### **Recently Issued Accounting Standards**

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities - Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115* ("SFAS 159"). This statement permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. SFAS 159 is effective at the beginning of an entity's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. We expect that the adoption of SFAS 159 will not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements* ("SFAS 157"). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosure about such fair value measurements. SFAS 157 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We expect that the adoption of SFAS 157 will not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

#### Note 9.

#### **Revolving Credit Agreement**

At May 5, 2007, the Company maintained a \$1.2 billion revolving credit facility ("credit agreement") with JPMorgan Chase Bank ("JPMorgan") as agent for various banks. During the quarter ended May 5, 2007, the Company extended the credit agreement's expiration date by one year. The credit agreement now expires December 12, 2012. Borrowings under the credit agreement accrue interest at either JPMorgan's Base Rate minus 0.5% or LIBOR plus 1.0% (currently 6.32%) subject to certain availability thresholds as defined in the credit agreement. Availability for borrowings and letter of credit obligations under the credit agreement is limited to 85% of the inventory of certain Company subsidiaries (approximately \$1.2 billion at May 5, 2007). At May 5, 2007, letters of credit totaling \$72.3 million were issued under this credit agreement leaving unutilized availability under the facility of \$1.1 billion. There are no financial covenant requirements under the credit agreement provided availability exceeds \$100 million. The Company pays an annual commitment fee to the banks of 0.25% of the committed amount less outstanding borrowings and letters of credit. The Company had no outstanding borrowings as of May 5, 2007 other than the utilization for unfunded letters of credit.

#### Note 10.

#### **Share Repurchase Program**

During the three months ended May 5, 2007, no shares were repurchased under the Company's 2005 stock repurchase program ("2005 plan") which was approved by the Board of Directors in May 2005 and authorized the repurchase of up to \$200 million of the Company's Class A Common Stock.

During the three months ended April 29, 2006, the Company repurchased approximately 133,500 shares of Class A Common Stock for \$3.3 million under the 2005 plan. Approximately \$111.9 million in share repurchase authorization remained under this open-ended plan at May 5, 2007.

#### Note 11. Income Taxes

The Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes—an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 ("FIN 48") effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The Company adopted the new requirement as of February 4, 2007 with the cumulative effects recorded as an adjustment to retained earnings as of the beginning of the period. The Company classifies interest and penalties relating to income tax in the financial statements as income tax expense. The total amount of unrecognized tax benefits as of the date of adoption was \$27.6 million of which \$17.8 million would, if recognized, affect the effective tax rate. The total amount of accrued interest and penalty as of the date of adoption was \$13.7 million.

The Company is currently being examined by the Internal Revenue Service for the fiscal tax years 2003 through 2005. The Company is also under examination by various state and local taxing jurisdictions for various fiscal years. The tax years that remain subject to examination for major tax jurisdictions are fiscal tax years 2003 and forward, with the exception of fiscal 1997 through 2002 amended state and local tax returns related to the reporting of federal audit adjustments. With the exception of amounts that are under examination by income tax authorities, for which an estimate cannot be made due to uncertainties, the Company does not believe it is reasonably possible that its unrecognized tax benefits will significantly change within the next twelve months.

The federal and state income tax rates were approximately 37.2% and 36.4% for the three months ended May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006, including the impact of changes in FIN 48 liabilities and tax contingency estimates, respectively.

#### Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

#### **EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW**

Dillard's, Inc. (the "Company", "we", "us" or "our") operates 328 retail department stores in 29 states. Our stores are located suburban shopping malls and open-air lifestyle centers and offer a broad selection of fashion apparel and home furnishings. We offer an appealing and attractive assortment of merchandise to our customers at a fair price. We seek to enhance our income by maximizing the sale of this merchandise to our customers. We do this by promoting and advertising our merchandise and by making our stores an attractive and convenient place for our customers to shop.

Fundamentally, our business model is to offer the customer a compelling price/value relationship through the combination of high quality, fashionable products and services at a competitive price. The Company seeks to deliver a high level of profitability and cash flow.

#### 2007 Guidance

A summary of guidance on key financial measures for 2007, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"), is shown below. See "forward-looking information" below.

| (in millions of dollars)       | 2007<br>Estimated | 2006<br>Actual* |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Depreciation and amortization  | \$<br>305         | \$ 301          |
| Rental expense                 | 57                | 55              |
| Interest and debt expense, net | 85                | 88              |
| Capital expenditures           | 360               | 321             |
| *53 weeks                      |                   |                 |

#### General

**Net sales**. Net sales include sales of comparable and non-comparable stores. Comparable store sales include sales for those stores which were in operation for a full period in both the current month and the corresponding month for the prior year. Non-comparable store sales include sales in the current fiscal year from stores opened during the previous fiscal year before they are considered comparable stores, sales from new stores opened in the current fiscal year and sales in the previous fiscal year for stores that were closed in the current fiscal year.

**Service charges and other income**. Service charges and other income include income generated through the long-term marketing and servicing alliance between the Company and GE Consumer Finance ("GE"). Other income relates to rental income, shipping and handling fees and net lease income on leased departments.

**Cost of sales.** Cost of sales includes the cost of merchandise sold (net of purchase discounts), bankcard fees, freight to the distribution centers, employee and promotional discounts, non-specific vendor allowances and direct payroll for salon personnel.

Advertising, selling, administrative and general expenses. Advertising, selling, administrative and general expenses include buying, occupancy, selling, distribution, warehousing, store and corporate expenses (including

payroll and employee benefits), insurance, employment taxes, advertising, management information systems, legal, and other corporate level expenses. Buying expenses consist of payroll, employee benefits and travel for design, buying and merchandising personnel.

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**Depreciation and amortization**. Depreciation and amortization expenses include depreciation and amortization on property and equipment.

**Rentals.** Rentals include expenses for store leases and data processing and equipment rentals.

**Interest and debt expense, net**. Interest and debt expense includes interest, net of interest income, relating to the Company's unsecured notes, mortgage notes, the guaranteed beneficial interests in the Company's subordinated debentures, gains and losses on note repurchases, amortization of financing costs, call premiums and interest on capital lease obligations.

**Asset impairment and store closing charges**. Asset impairment and store closing charges consist of write downs to fair value of under-performing properties and exit costs associated with the closure of certain stores. Exit costs include future rent, taxes and common area maintenance expenses from the time the stores are closed.

**Equity in earnings of joint ventures.** Equity in earnings of joint ventures includes the Company's portion of the income or loss of the Company's unconsolidated joint ventures.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The Company's accounting policies are more fully described in Note 1 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 3, 2007. As disclosed in this note, the preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions about future events that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Since future events and their effects cannot be determined with absolute certainty, actual results will differ from those estimates. The Company evaluates its estimates and judgments on an ongoing basis and predicates those estimates and judgments on historical experience and on various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results will differ from these under different assumptions or conditions.

Management of the Company believes the following critical accounting policies, among others, affect its more significant judgments and estimates used in preparation of the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Merchandise inventory. Approximately 98% of the inventories are valued at lower of cost or market using the retail last-in, first-out ("LIFO") inventory method. Under the retail inventory method ("RIM"), the valuation of inventories at cost and the resulting gross margins are calculated by applying a calculated cost to retail ratio to the retail value of inventories. RIM is an averaging method that is widely used in the retail industry due to its practicality. Additionally, it is recognized that the use of RIM will result in valuing inventories at the lower of cost or market if markdowns are currently taken as a reduction of the retail value of inventories. Inherent in the RIM calculation are certain significant management judgments including, among others, merchandise markon, markups, and markdowns, which significantly impact the ending inventory valuation at cost as well as the resulting gross margins. Management believes that the Company's RIM provides an inventory valuation which results in a carrying value at the lower of cost or market. The remaining 2% of the inventories are valued at lower of cost or market using the specific identified cost method.

**Revenue recognition.** The Company recognizes revenue upon the sale of merchandise to its customers, net of anticipated returns. The provision for sales returns is based on historical evidence of our return rate. We recorded an allowance for sales returns of \$8.0 million and \$9.5 million for the quarters ended May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006, respectively. Adjustments to earnings resulting from revisions to estimates on our sales return provision has been insignificant for the quarters ended May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006.

The Company's share of income earned under the long-term marketing and servicing alliance with GE is included as a component of service charges and other income. The Company received income of approximately \$27.8 million and \$31.8 million from GE during the quarters ended May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006, respectively. Further pursuant to this agreement, the Company has no continuing involvement other than to honor the GE credit cards in its stores. Although not obligated to a specific level of marketing commitment, the Company participates in the marketing of the GE credit cards and accepts payments on the GE credit cards in its stores as a convenience to customers who prefer to pay in person rather than by mailing their payments to GE.

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**Merchandise vendor allowances**. The Company receives concessions from its merchandise vendors through a variety of programs and arrangements, including cooperative advertising, payroll reimbursements and margin maintenance programs.

Cooperative advertising allowances are reported as a reduction of advertising expense in the period in which the advertising occurred. If vendor advertising allowances were substantially reduced or eliminated, the Company would likely consider other methods of advertising as well as the volume and frequency of our product advertising, which could increase or decrease our expenditures. Similarly, we are not able to assess the impact of vendor advertising allowances on creating additional revenue as such allowances do not directly generate revenue for our stores.

Payroll reimbursements are reported as a reduction of payroll expense in the period in which the reimbursement occurred. All other merchandise vendor allowances are recognized as a reduction of cost purchases when received. Accordingly, a reduction or increase in vendor concessions has an inverse impact on cost of sales and/or selling and administrative expenses. The amounts recognized as a reduction in cost of sales have not varied significantly for the quarters ended May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006.

Insurance accruals. The Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets include liabilities with respect to self-insured workers' compensation (with a self-insured retention of \$4 million per claim) and general liability (with a self-insured retention of \$1 million per claim) claims. The Company estimates the required liability of such claims, utilizing an actuarial method, based upon various assumptions, which include, but are not limited to, our historical loss experience, projected loss development factors, actual payroll and other data. The required liability is also subject to adjustment in the future based upon the changes in claims experience, including changes in the number of incidents (frequency) and changes in the ultimate cost per incident (severity). As of May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006, insurance accruals of \$55.4 million and \$51.1 million, respectively, were recorded in trade accounts payable and accrued expenses and other liabilities. Adjustments to earnings resulting from changes in historical loss trends have been insignificant for the quarters ended May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006.

**Finite-lived assets**. The Company's judgment regarding the existence of impairment indicators is based on market and operational performance. We assess the impairment of long-lived assets, primarily fixed assets, annually and whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Factors we consider important which could trigger an impairment review include the following:

Significant changes in the manner of our use of assets or the strategy for the overall business;

Significant negative industry or economic trends; or

Store closings.

The Company performs an analysis annually as of the last day of the fourth quarter of the anticipated undiscounted future net cash flows of the related finite-lived assets. If the carrying value of the related asset exceeds the undiscounted cash flows, the carrying value is reduced to its fair value. Various factors including future sales growth and profit margins are included in this analysis. To the extent these future projections or the Company's strategies change, the conclusion regarding impairment may differ from the current estimates.

**Goodwill.** The Company evaluates goodwill annually as of the last day of the fourth quarter and whenever events and changes in circumstances suggest that the carrying amount may not be recoverable from its estimated future cash flows. To the extent these future projections or our strategies change, the conclusion regarding impairment may differ from the current estimates.

Estimates of fair value are primarily determined using projected discounted cash flows and are based on our best estimate of future revenue and operating costs and general market conditions. These estimates are subject to review

and approval by senior management. This approach uses significant assumptions, including projected future cash flows, the discount rate reflecting the risk inherent in future cash flows and a terminal growth rate.

**Income taxes**. Temporary differences arising from differing treatment of income and expense items for tax and financial reporting purposes result in deferred tax assets and liabilities that are recorded on the balance sheet. These balances, as well as income tax expense, are determined through management's estimations, interpretation of tax law for multiple jurisdictions and tax planning. If the Company's actual results differ from estimated results due to changes in tax laws, new store locations or tax planning, the Company's effective tax rate and tax balances could be affected. As such these estimates may require adjustment in the future as additional facts become known or as circumstances change.

The Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes—an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 ("FIN 48") effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The Company adopted the new requirement as of February 4, 2007 with the cumulative effects recorded as an adjustment to retained earnings as of the beginning of the period. The Company classifies interest and penalties relating to income tax in the financial statements as income tax expense. The total amount of unrecognized tax benefits as of the date of adoption was \$27.6 million of which \$17.8 million would, if recognized, affect the effective tax rate. The total amount of accrued interest and penalty as of the date of adoption was \$13.7 million.

The Company is currently being examined by the Internal Revenue Service for the fiscal tax years 2003 through 2005. The Company is also under examination by various state and local taxing jurisdictions for various fiscal years. The tax years that remain subject to examination for major tax jurisdictions are fiscal tax years 2003 and forward, with the exception of fiscal 1997 through 2002 amended state and local tax returns related to the reporting of federal audit adjustments. With the exception of amounts that are under examination by income tax authorities, for which an estimate cannot be made due to uncertainties, the Company does not believe it is reasonably possible that its unrecognized tax benefits will significantly change within the next twelve months.

**Discount rate**. The discount rate that the Company utilizes for determining future pension obligations is based on the Citigroup High Grade Corporate Yield Curve on its annual measurement date and is matched to the future expected cash flows of the benefit plans by annual periods. The discount rate had increased to 5.90% as of February 3, 2007 from 5.60% as of January 28, 2006. We believe that these assumptions have been appropriate and that, based on these assumptions, the pension liability of \$105 million was appropriately stated as of February 3, 2007; however, actual results may differ materially from those estimated and could have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements. A further 50 basis point change in the discount rate would generate an experience gain or loss of approximately \$6.3 million.

#### **Seasonality and Inflation**

Our business, like many other retailers, is subject to seasonal influences, with the major portion of sales and income typically realized during the last quarter of each fiscal year due to the holiday season. Because of the seasonality of our business, results from any quarter are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be achieved for a full fiscal year.

We do not believe that inflation has had a material effect on our results during the periods presented; however, there can be no assurance that our business will not be affected by such factors in the future.

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#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table sets forth the results of operations, expressed as a percentage of net sales, for the periods indicated.

|   | Three Months Ended |                   |  |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|--|
|   | May 5,<br>2007     | April 29,<br>2006 |  |
| Net sales   | 100.0%             | 100.0%            |  |
| Service charges and other income                          | 2.1                | 2.3               |  |
|   | 102.1              | 102.3             |  |
| Cost of sales   | 63.9               | 64.3              |  |
| Advertising, selling, administrative and general expenses | 28.3               | 27.0              |  |
| Depreciation and amortization                             | 4.3                | 4.0               |  |
| Rentals   | 0.7                | 0.6               |  |
| Interest and debt expense, net                            | 1.2                | 1.3               |  |
| Gain on sales of assets                                   | -                  | (0.1)             |  |
| Income before income taxes and equity in earnings of      |                    |                   |  |
| joint ventures  | 3.7                | 5.2               |  |
| Income taxes  | 1.5                | 1.9               |  |
| Equity in earnings of joint ventures                      | 0.2                | -                 |  |
| Net income  | 2.4%               | 3.3%              |  |

#### **Net Sales**

The percent change by category in the Company's sales for the three months ended May 5, 2007 compared to the three months ended April 29, 2006 is as follows:

|                                 | % Change |
|---------------------------------|----------|
|                                 | 07-06    |
| Cosmetics                       | -2.0%    |
| Ladies' apparel and accessories | -3.0%    |
| Juniors' and children's apparel | -9.0%    |
| Men's apparel and accessories   | -6.7%    |
| Shoes                           | 0.8%     |
| Home and other                  | -8.5%    |

The percent change by region in the Company's total sales for the three months ended May 5, 2007 compared to the three months ended April 29, 2006 is as follows:

|         | % Change |
|---------|----------|
|         | 07-06    |
| Eastern | -3.2%    |

| Central | -5.1% |
|---------|-------|
| Western | -2.5% |

Net sales decreased 4% on a total basis and 5% on a comparable store basis for the three months ended May 5, 2007 compared to the three months ended April 29, 2006. Net sales of shoes significantly outperformed the average company performance trend for the period while sales of junior's and children's apparel declined significantly more than trend during the period.

During the three months ended May 5, 2007, sales were strongest in the Company's Western region, where performance exceeded the Company's total trend for the period. Net sales were slightly above trend in the Eastern region and slightly below trend in the Central region.

#### **Service Charges and Other Income**

(in millions of dollars)

| Three Months Ended              |    |      |        |      |    |       |         |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|----|------|--------|------|----|-------|---------|--|--|--|--|
| May 5, April 29, Dollar Percent |    |      |        |      |    |       |         |  |  |  |  |
|                                 |    | 2007 | Change |      |    |       |         |  |  |  |  |
| Leased department income        | \$ | 2.6  | \$     | 2.1  | \$ | 0.5   | 23.8%   |  |  |  |  |
| Income from GE                  |    |      |        |      |    |       |         |  |  |  |  |
| marketing and servicing         |    |      |        |      |    |       |         |  |  |  |  |
| alliance                        |    | 27.8 |        | 31.8 |    | (4.0) | (12.6)  |  |  |  |  |
| Other                           |    | 6.1  |        | 7.5  |    | (1.4) | (18.7)  |  |  |  |  |
| Total                           | \$ | 36.5 | \$     | 41.4 | \$ | (4.9) | (11.8)% |  |  |  |  |

Service charges and other income for the quarter ended May 5, 2007 decreased to \$36.5 million or 2.1% of net sales compared to \$41.4 million or 2.3% of net sales for the three months ended April 29, 2006. This change was primarily a result of a \$4.0 million decrease in the income from the marketing and servicing alliance with GE compared to the prior year.

#### **Cost of Sales**

Cost of sales decreased to 63.9% of net sales during the first quarter of 2007 compared with 64.3% for the first quarter of 2006 resulting in gross margin improvement of 40 basis points of sales. The improvement was primarily driven by a \$4.1 million hurricane recovery gain related to recovery of merchandise losses incurred during the fall 2005 hurricane season and decreased markdowns in comparison to the first quarter of 2006. Gross margins improved during the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period in the prior year in men's apparel and accessories, ladies' apparel and accessories and juniors' and children's apparel. Gross margins declined slightly in cosmetics while shoes and home and other categories experienced more significant declines.

Inventory declined 1% as of May 5, 2007 compared to April 29, 2006 on both total and comparable store bases.

#### Advertising, Selling, Administrative and General Expenses

Advertising, selling, administrative and general expenses ("SG&A expenses") for the quarter ended May 5, 2007 increased \$4.8 million to 28.3% of net sales from 27.0% of net sales during the quarter ended April 29, 2006. The change in SG&A was driven by increases of services purchased (\$4.7 million) and payroll (\$3.2 million) partially offset by a decrease in advertising expenses (\$3.6 million).

#### **Depreciation and Amortization Expense**

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$1.5 million to 4.3% of net sales during the three months ended May 5, 2007 compared to 4.0% of net sales during the similar period of fiscal 2006. The increased depreciation and amortization expense is primarily due to Dillard's continued improvements to its stores as well as the addition of new stores.

#### Rentals

Rentals were 0.7% and 0.6% of sales for the three months ended May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006, respectively. Rentals increased \$1.6 million to \$13.2 million for the three months ended May 5, 2007 compared to \$11.6 million for the three months ended April 29, 2006. The increase in rentals is mainly due to an increase in leased equipment.

#### Interest and Debt Expense, Net

Interest and debt expense for the three months ended May 5, 2007 decreased to \$20.7 million or 1.2% of net sales compared to \$23.6 million or 1.3% of net sales for the three months ended April 29, 2006. Average debt outstanding declined approximately \$200 million during the first quarter of fiscal 2007 compared to the same period in fiscal 2006. The debt reduction was due to normal maturities and repurchases of various outstanding notes occurring principally during the last nine months of fiscal 2006.

#### **Income Taxes**

The federal and state income tax rates were approximately 37.2% and 36.4% for the three months ended May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006, including the impact of changes in FIN 48 liabilities and tax contingency estimates, respectively.

Our income tax rate for the remainder of fiscal 2007 is dependent upon results of operations and may change if the results for fiscal 2007 are different from current expectations. We currently estimate that our effective rate for the remainder of fiscal 2007 will approximate 36.7%.

February 3, 2007

\$ Change

% Change

May 5 2007

#### FINANCIAL CONDITION

#### **Financial Position Summary**

(in thousands of dollars)

| (in thousands of donars)  | IVI | iy 3, 2007  | rebrua | ary 5, 2007   | \$ Change                         | % Change                  |
|---|-----|---|--------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents   | \$  | 137,915   | \$     | 193,994   | (56,079)                          | (28.9)                    |
| Current portion of long-term debt   |     | 196,399   |        | 100,635   | 95,764                            | 95.2                      |
| Long-term debt  |     | 860,693   |        | 956,611   | (95,918)                          | (10.0)                    |
| Guaranteed beneficial interests   |     | 200,000   |        | 200,000   | -                                 | -                         |
| Stockholders' equity  |     | 2,631,327   |        | 2,586,953   | 44,374                            | 1.7                       |
|   |     |   |        |   |                                   |                           |
| Current ratio   |     | 1.759   | %      | 2.10%   |                                   |                           |
| Debt to capitalization  |     | 32.39   | %      | 32.7%   |                                   |                           |
|   |     |   |        |   |                                   |                           |
|   |     |   |        |   |                                   |                           |
|   |     |   |        |   |                                   |                           |
| (in thousands of dollars)   | Ma  | y 5, 2007   | April  | 29, 2006  | \$ Change                         | % Change                  |
| (in thousands of dollars) Cash and cash equivalents   | Ma  | ny 5, 2007<br>137,915                                 | -      | 29, 2006<br>301,677                                     | \$ Change (163,762)               | % Change (54.3)           |
| · ·   |     | •   | -      |   | •                                 | Ü                         |
| Cash and cash equivalents   |     | 137,915   | -      | 301,677   | (163,762)                         | (54.3)                    |
| Cash and cash equivalents Current portion of long-term debt   |     | 137,915<br>196,399                                    | -      | 301,677<br>198,465                                      | (163,762)<br>(2,066)              | (54.3)<br>(1.0)           |
| Cash and cash equivalents Current portion of long-term debt Long-term debt  |     | 137,915<br>196,399<br>860,693                         | -      | 301,677<br>198,465<br>1,058,819                         | (163,762)<br>(2,066)              | (54.3)<br>(1.0)           |
| Cash and cash equivalents Current portion of long-term debt Long-term debt Guaranteed beneficial interests                      |     | 137,915<br>196,399<br>860,693<br>200,000              | -      | 301,677<br>198,465<br>1,058,819<br>200,000              | (163,762)<br>(2,066)<br>(198,126) | (54.3)<br>(1.0)<br>(18.7) |
| Cash and cash equivalents Current portion of long-term debt Long-term debt Guaranteed beneficial interests                      |     | 137,915<br>196,399<br>860,693<br>200,000              | \$     | 301,677<br>198,465<br>1,058,819<br>200,000              | (163,762)<br>(2,066)<br>(198,126) | (54.3)<br>(1.0)<br>(18.7) |
| Cash and cash equivalents Current portion of long-term debt Long-term debt Guaranteed beneficial interests Stockholders' equity |     | 137,915<br>196,399<br>860,693<br>200,000<br>2,631,327 | \$     | 301,677<br>198,465<br>1,058,819<br>200,000<br>2,397,988 | (163,762)<br>(2,066)<br>(198,126) | (54.3)<br>(1.0)<br>(18.7) |

Net cash flows from operations of \$37.0 million for the three months ended May 5, 2007 were adequate to fund the Company's operations for the period. Cash flows from operations decreased by \$41.6 million from 2006 levels largely due to a decrease in net income of \$18.4 million and a decrease of \$28.9 million related to trade accounts payable and accrued expenses, other liabilities and income taxes compared with the prior year. These decreases were partially offset by insurance proceeds received during the current year of \$5.9 million related to reimbursement for inventory damages incurred during the 2005 hurricane season; a gain of \$4.1 million was recognized in conjunction with the receipt of these proceeds.

The Company entered into a long-term marketing and servicing alliance with GE Consumer Finance ("GE") following the sale of the Company's assets of its private label credit card business in 2004. The alliance provides for certain payments to be made by GE to the Company, including revenue sharing and marketing reimbursements. The cash flows that the Company receives under this alliance have been greater than the net cash flows provided by the Company's credit business prior to its sale to GE due to quicker cash receipts. The Company received income of approximately \$27.8 million and \$31.8 million from GE during the quarters ended May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006, respectively. While the Company does not expect future cash flows under this alliance to vary significantly from historical levels, future amounts are difficult to predict. The amount the Company receives is dependent on the level of sales on GE accounts, the level of balances carried on the GE accounts by GE customers, payment rates on GE accounts, finance charge rates and other fees on GE accounts, the level of credit losses for the GE accounts as well as GE's funding costs.

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Capital expenditures were \$109.1 million and \$76.9 million for the three months ended May 5, 2007 and April 29, 2006, respectively. These expenditures consist primarily of the construction of new stores, remodeling of existing stores and investments in technology. During the quarter ended May 5, 2007, the Company opened a new location at Eastland Mall in Evansville, Indiana and one replacement store at Stones River Mall in Murfreesboro, Tennessee; these two stores totaled approximately 215,000 square feet net of replaced square footage. Also during the quarter, the Company closed one 156,000 square foot location in Louisville, Kentucky and announced the closure of a 158,000 square foot location in Elyria, Ohio which is expected to close during the second quarter of 2007.

Capital expenditures for fiscal 2007 are expected to be approximately \$360 million compared to actual expenditures of \$321 million during fiscal 2006. The Company plans to open seven additional locations totaling 1.0 million square feet and expand four locations totaling 130,000 square feet net of replaced square footage. Historically, the Company has financed such capital expenditures with cash flow from operations. The Company believes that it will continue to finance capital expenditures in this manner during fiscal 2007.

Insurance proceeds of \$16.1 million were received during the quarter ended May 5, 2007 in settlement with our insurance carriers over property damages incurred during the 2005 hurricane season. These proceeds will be used for future capital expenditures to repair and reconstruct damaged stores.

Cash used in financing activities for the three months ended May 5, 2007 totaled \$0.1 million compared to cash used of \$6.0 million for the three months ended April 29, 2006. Cash flow increased chiefly because no treasury stock was repurchased during the first quarter of 2007 compared to a repurchase of approximately 133,500 shares of Class A common stock for \$3.3 million under the Company's existing share repurchase program. Proceeds of \$4.6 million from the issuance of common stock were also received during the first quarter of 2007 primarily related to the exercise of stock options, an increase of \$2.5 million from the same quarter of the prior year.

The Company had cash on hand of \$138 million as of May 5, 2007. During fiscal 2007, the Company expects to finance its capital expenditures and its working capital requirements including required debt repayments and stock repurchases, if any, from cash on hand and cash flows generated from operations. As part of its overall liquidity management strategy and for peak working capital requirements, the Company has a \$1.2 billion credit facility. The Company expects peak funding requirements of approximately \$275 million during fiscal 2007. At May 5, 2007, letters of credit totaling \$72.3 million were issued under the credit agreement. Availability for borrowings and letter of credit obligations under the credit agreement is limited to 85% of the inventory of certain Company subsidiaries (approximately \$1.2 billion at May 5, 2007) leaving unutilized availability under the facility of \$1.1 billion. Depending on conditions in the capital markets and other factors, the Company will from time to time consider possible financing transactions, the proceeds of which could be used to refinance current indebtedness or other corporate purposes. The Company had no outstanding borrowings under the facility as of May 5, 2007 other than the utilization for unfunded letters of credit.

There have been no material changes in the information set forth under caption "Contractual Obligations and Commercial Commitments" in Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 3, 2007.

#### **Hurricane Update**

One store remains closed as a result of Hurricane Katrina. This store is located in Biloxi, Mississippi and is expected to re-open in early fiscal 2008.

The Company has 95 stores along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts that are not covered by third party insurance but are self-insured for property and merchandise losses related to "named storms" in fiscal 2007. Therefore, repair and replacement costs will be borne by the Company for damage to any of these stores from "named storms" in fiscal 2007. The Company has created early response teams to assess and coordinate clean up efforts should some stores be impacted by storms. The Company has also redesigned certain store features to lessen the impact of storms and has equipment available to assist in the efforts to ready the stores for normal operations.

#### **OFF-BALANCE-SHEET ARRANGEMENTS**

The Company does not have any arrangements or relationships with entities that are not consolidated into the financial statements that are reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's liquidity or the availability of capital resources.

#### **NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS**

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities - Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115* ("SFAS 159"). This statement permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. SFAS 159 is effective at the beginning of an entity's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. We expect that the adoption of SFAS 159 will not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements* ("SFAS 157"). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosure about such fair value measurements. SFAS 157 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We expect that the adoption of SFAS 157 will not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This report contains certain "forward-looking statements" within the definition of federal securities laws. Statements in the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and elsewhere in this document include certain "forward-looking statements," including (without limitation) statements with respect to anticipated future operating and financial performance, growth and acquisition opportunities, financing requirements and other similar forecasts and statements of expectation. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "plans" and "believes," and variations of these words and similar expressions, are intended to identify these forward-looking statements. Statements made regarding funding of cyclical working capital needs, expected participant distributions of defined benefit plans, disposition of legal proceedings, expected insurance recoveries, and estimates of depreciation and amortization, rental expense, interest and debt expense and capital expenditures for fiscal year 2007 are forward-looking statements. The Company cautions that forward-looking statements, as such term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, contained in this report are based on estimates, projections, beliefs and assumptions of management at the time of such statements and are not guarantees of future performance. The Company disclaims any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements based on the occurrence of future events, the receipt of new information, or otherwise.

Forward-looking statements of the Company involve risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various important factors. Actual future performance, outcomes and results may differ materially from those expressed or implied in forward-looking statements made by the Company and its management as a result of a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including the matters described under the caption "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 3, 2007. Representative examples of those factors (without limitation) include general retail industry conditions and macro-economic conditions; economic and weather

conditions for regions in which the Company's stores are located and the effect of these factors on the buying patterns of the Company's customers; the impact of competitive pressures in the department store industry and other retail channels including specialty, off-price, discount, internet, and mail-order retailers; changes in consumer spending patterns and debt levels; adequate and stable availability of materials and production facilities from which the Company sources its merchandise; changes in operating expenses, including employee wages, commission structures and related benefits; possible future acquisitions of store properties from other department store operators and the continued availability of financing in amounts and at the terms necessary to support the Company's future business; fluctuations in LIBOR and other base borrowing rates; expected participant distributions of defined benefit plans; disposition of legal proceedings; expected insurance recoveries; potential disruption from terrorist activity and the effect on ongoing consumer confidence; potential disruption of international trade and supply chain efficiencies; world conflict and the possible impact on consumer spending patterns and other economic and demographic changes of similar or dissimilar nature.

#### Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk

There have been no material changes in the information set forth under caption "Item 7A-Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 3, 2007.

#### **Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

The Company maintains "disclosure controls and procedures", as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Company's reports, pursuant to the Exchange Act, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding the required disclosures. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurances of achieving the desired control objectives, and management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures.

As of May 5, 2007, the Company carried out an evaluation, with the participation of Company's management, including William Dillard, II, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer), and James I. Freeman, Senior Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer (principal financial officer), of the effectiveness of the Company's "disclosure controls and procedures" pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-15. Based on their evaluation, the principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective at the reasonable assurance level. There were no significant changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended May 5, 2007 to which this report relates that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

#### PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

#### **Item 1. Legal Proceedings**

On July 29, 2002, a Class Action Complaint (followed on December 13, 2004 by a Second Amended Class Action Complaint) was filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio against the Company, the Mercantile Stores Pension Plan (the "Plan") and the Mercantile Stores Pension Committee (the "Committee") on behalf of a putative class of former Plan participants. The complaint alleged that certain actions by the Plan and the Committee violated the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), as a result of amendments made to the Plan that allegedly were either improper and/or ineffective and as a result of certain payments made to certain beneficiaries of the Plan that allegedly were improperly calculated and/or discriminatory on account of age. The Second Amended Complaint did not specify any liquidated amount of damages sought and sought recalculation of certain benefits paid to putative class members.

During the year ended February 3, 2007, the Company signed a memorandum of understanding and accrued \$35.0 million to settle the case. The settlement became final in early April 2007. The litigation continues between the Company and the Plan's actuarial firm over the Company's cross claim against the actuarial firm seeking reimbursement for the settlement and additional damages.

From time to time, we are involved in other litigation relating to claims arising out of our operations in the normal course of business. Such issues may relate to litigation with customers, employment related lawsuits, class action lawsuits, purported class action lawsuits and actions brought by governmental authorities. As of June 12, 2007, we are not a party to any legal proceedings that, individually or in the aggregate, are reasonably expected to have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition or cash flows. However, the results of these matters cannot be predicted with certainty, and an unfavorable resolution of one or more of these matters could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

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

There have been no material changes in the information set forth under caption "Item 1A-Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 3, 2007.

#### Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

#### **Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

| Period                                 | (a) Total<br>Number of<br>Shares<br>Purchased | (b) Average<br>Price Paid per<br>Share | (c)Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | (d) Approximate Dollar Value that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| February 4, 2007 through March 3, 2007 | -   |  | - 1081  | A 444 004 070  |
| March 4, 2007 through April 7, 2007    | -   | -                                      | -   | 111,904,853  |
| April 8, 2007 through May 5, 2007      | -   | -                                      | -   | 111,904,853  |
| Total                                  | -   | \$ -                                   | -   | \$ 111,904,853   |

In May 2005, the Board of Directors authorized the Company to repurchase up to \$200 million of the Company's Class A Common Stock. The plan has no expiration date.

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#### **Item 3. Defaults upon Senior Securities**

None

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

None

#### **Item 5. Other Information**

Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges:

The Company has calculated the ratio of earnings to fixed charges pursuant to Item 503 of Regulation S-K of the Securities and Exchange Act as follows:

| Three Mo       | onths Ended       |                   | I                   | d                   |                     |                  |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| May 5,<br>2007 | April 29,<br>2006 | February 3, 2007* | January 28,<br>2006 | January 29,<br>2005 | January 31,<br>2004 | February 1, 2003 |
| 3.42           | 4.30              | 3.34              | 2.01                | 2.12                | 1.05                | 1.88             |

<sup>\* 53</sup> weeks

#### **Item 6. Exhibits**

| Number                     | <b>Description</b>  |      |                    |                     |                         |                    |                                   |                                   |
|----------------------------|---|------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>12</u>                  | Statement re: Computation of Earnings to Fixed Charges.   |      |                    |                     |                         |                    |                                   |                                   |
| 31.1                       | Certification of Chief Executive<br>Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of<br>the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |      |                    |                     |                         |                    |                                   |                                   |
|                            |   |      |                    |                     |                         |                    |                                   |                                   |
|                            | (April 2, 2003) to  |      | 2004 to            | 2004) to            | Year<br>Ended           | Year<br>Ended      | Three<br>Months<br>Ended<br>March | Three<br>Months<br>Ended<br>March |
|                            | December 31,  | No   | ovember 3 <b>0</b> | Qecember <b>D</b> & | <b>£</b> emb <b>D</b> e | <b>&amp;</b> lmber | 31, 31,                           | 31,                               |
|                            | 2003(1)   |      | 2004               | 2004                | 2005(2)                 | 2006(2)            | 2006(2)                           | 2007(2)                           |
| Ratio of earnings to fixed |   |      |                    |                     |                         |                    |                                   |                                   |
| charges                    |   | 3.39 | 4.67               | 2.03                |                         |                    |                                   |                                   |

The predecessor of the Partnership was organized on April 2, 2003 and commenced active operations in June 2003.

(2) Earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 by \$8.2 million and \$14.5 million, respectively and for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2007 by \$7.0 million and \$1.4 million, respectively.

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### DESCRIPTION OF OUR COMMON UNITS

#### The Units

The common units and the subordinated units are separate classes of our limited partner interests. The holders of units are entitled to participate in partnership distributions and exercise the rights or privileges available to limited partners under our partnership agreement. For a description of the relative rights and preferences of holders of common units and subordinated units in and to partnership distributions, please read this section and How We Make Cash Distributions. For a description of the rights and privileges of limited partners under our partnership agreement, including voting rights, please read The Partnership Agreement.

Our outstanding common units are listed on The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC, or Nasdaq, and trade in the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol RGNC.

The transfer agent and registrar for our common units is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company.

### **Transfer of Common Units**

By transfer of our common units in accordance with our partnership agreement, each transferee of our common units will be admitted as a unitholder with respect to the common units transferred when such transfer and admission is reflected in our books and records. Additionally, each transferee of our common units:

represents that the transferee has the capacity, power and authority to become bound by our partnership agreement;

automatically agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of, and is deemed to have executed, our partnership agreement; and

gives the consents and approvals contained in our partnership agreement.

An assignee will become a substituted limited partner of our partnership for the transferred common units automatically upon the recording of the transfer on our books and records. The general partner will cause any transfers to be recorded on our books and records no less frequently than quarterly.

We may, at our discretion, treat the nominee holder of a common unit as the absolute owner. In that case, the beneficial holder s rights are limited solely to those that it has against the nominee holder as a result of any agreement between the beneficial owner and the nominee holder.

Common units are securities and are transferable according to the laws governing transfers of securities. In addition to other rights acquired upon transfer, the transferor gives the transferee the right to become a substituted limited partner in our partnership for the transferred common units.

Until a common unit has been transferred on our books, we and the transfer agent, notwithstanding any notice to the contrary, may treat the record holder of the unit as the absolute owner for all purposes, except as otherwise required by law or stock exchange regulations.

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### DESCRIPTION OF OUR DEBT SECURITIES

We will issue our debt securities under an indenture among us, as issuer, the Trustee and any subsidiary guarantors. The debt securities will be governed by the provisions of the Indenture and those made part of the Indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. We, the Trustee and any subsidiary guarantors may enter into supplements to the Indenture from time to time. If we decide to issue subordinated debt securities, we will issue them under a separate Indenture containing subordination provisions.

This description is a summary of the material provisions of the debt securities and the Indentures. We urge you to read the forms of senior indenture and subordinated indenture filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part because those Indentures, and not this description, govern your rights as a holder of debt securities. References in this prospectus to an Indenture refer to the particular Indenture under which we issue a series of debt securities. References in this prospectus to Trustee refer to the trustee that we appoint for any series of debt, as further described in The Trustee .

Regency Energy Partners LP may issue debt securities in one or more series, and Regency Energy Finance Corp. may be a co-issuer of one or more series of debt securities. Regency Energy Finance Corp. was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware in 2006, is wholly-owned by Regency Energy Partners LP, and has no material assets or any liabilities other than as a co-issuer of debt securities. Its activities will be limited to co-issuing debt securities and engaging in other activities incidental thereto. When used in this section Description of the Debt Securities, the terms we, us, our and issuers refer jointly to Regency Energy Partners LP and Regency Energy Finance Corp., and the terms Regency and Regency Finance Corp refer strictly to Regency Energy Partners LP and Regency Energy Finance Corp., respectively.

### General

#### The Debt Securities

Any series of debt securities that we issue:

will be our general obligations;

will be general obligations of any Subsidiary Guarantors that guarantee that series; and

may be subordinated to our senior indebtedness, with any guarantees also being subordinated to any senior indebtedness.

The Indenture does not limit the total amount of debt securities that we may issue. We may issue debt securities under the Indenture from time to time in separate series, up to the aggregate amount authorized for each such series.

We will prepare a prospectus supplement and either an indenture supplement or a resolution of the board of directors of our general partner and accompanying officers certificate relating to any series of debt securities that we offer, which will include specific terms relating to some or all of the following:

whether Regency Finance Corp. will be a co-issuer of the debt securities;

whether the debt securities are entitled to the benefits of any guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantors;

the form and title of the debt securities;

the total principal amount of the debt securities;

the date or dates on which the debt securities may be issued;

the portion of the principal amount that will be payable if the maturity of the debt securities is accelerated;

any right we may have to defer payments of interest by extending the dates payments are due and whether interest on those deferred amounts will be payable;

the dates on which the principal and premium, if any, of the debt securities will be payable;

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the interest rate that the debt securities will bear and the interest payment dates for the debt securities;

any optional redemption provisions;

any sinking fund or other provisions that would obligate us to repurchase or otherwise redeem the debt securities:

whether the debt securities may be issued in amounts other than \$1,000 each or multiples thereof;

any changes to or additional Events of Default or covenants;

the subordination, if any, of the debt securities and any changes to the subordination provisions of the Indenture; and

any other terms of the debt securities.

This description of debt securities will be deemed modified, amended or supplemented by any description of any series of debt securities set forth in a prospectus supplement related to that series.

The prospectus supplement will also describe any material United States federal income tax consequences or other special considerations regarding the applicable series of debt securities, including those relating to:

debt securities with respect to which payments of principal, premium or interest are determined with reference to an index or formula, including changes in prices of particular securities, currencies or commodities;

debt securities with respect to which principal, premium or interest is payable in a foreign or composite currency;

debt securities that are issued at a discount below their stated principal amount, bearing no interest or interest at a rate that at the time of issuance is below market rates; and

variable rate debt securities that are exchangeable for fixed rate debt securities.

At our option, we may make interest payments by check mailed to the registered holders of any debt securities not in global form or, if so stated in the applicable prospectus supplement, at the option of a holder by wire transfer to an account designated by the holder.

Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, fully registered securities may be transferred or exchanged at the office of the Trustee at which its corporate trust business is principally administered in the United States, subject to the limitations provided in the Indenture, without the payment of any service charge, other than any applicable tax or governmental charge.

Any funds we pay to a paying agent for the payment of amounts due on any debt securities that remain unclaimed for two years will be returned to us, and the holders of the debt securities must look only to us for payment after that time.

### The Subsidiary Guarantees

Our payment obligations under any series of debt securities may be jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally guaranteed by one or more Subsidiary Guarantors. If a series of debt securities is so guaranteed, the Subsidiary Guarantors will execute a notation of guarantee as further evidence of their guarantee. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any guarantee by the Subsidiary Guarantors.

The obligations of each Subsidiary Guarantor under its guarantee of the debt securities will be limited to the maximum amount that will not result in the obligations of the Subsidiary Guarantor under the guarantee constituting a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under federal or state law, after giving effect to:

all other contingent and fixed liabilities of the Subsidiary Guarantor; and

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any collections from or payments made by or on behalf of any other Subsidiary Guarantors in respect of the obligations of the Subsidiary Guarantor under its guarantee.

The guarantee of any Subsidiary Guarantor may be released under certain circumstances. If no default has occurred and is continuing under the Indenture and to the extent not otherwise prohibited by the Indenture, a Subsidiary Guarantor will be unconditionally released and discharged from the guarantee:

automatically upon any sale, exchange or transfer, to any person that is not our affiliate, of all of our direct or indirect limited partnership or other equity interests in the Subsidiary Guarantor;

automatically upon the merger of the Subsidiary Guarantor into us or any other Subsidiary Guarantor or the liquidation and dissolution of the Subsidiary Guarantor; or

upon our delivery of a written notice to the Trustee of the release of all guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantor of any debt of ours for borrowed money (or a guarantee of such debt), except for any series of debt securities, other than a release resulting from a payment of such guarantees.

If a series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors and is designated as subordinate to our senior indebtedness, then the guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantors will be subordinated to the senior indebtedness of the Subsidiary Guarantors to substantially the same extent as the series is subordinated to our senior indebtedness. See Subordination.

#### **Covenants**

### Reports

The Indenture contains the following covenant for the benefit of the holders of all series of debt securities:

So long as any debt securities are outstanding, we will:

for as long as we are required to file information with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act, file with the Trustee, within 30 days after we file with the SEC, copies of the annual reports and of the information, documents and other reports that we are required to file with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act; and

if we are not required to file information with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act, file with the Trustee, within 30 days after we would have been required to file with the SEC, financial statements and a Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, both comparable to what we would have been required to file with the SEC had we been subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act.

### Other Covenants

A series of debt securities may contain additional financial and other covenants applicable to us and our subsidiaries. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain a description of any such covenants that are added to the Indenture specifically for the benefit of holders of a particular series.

## **Events of Default, Remedies and Notice**

# Events of Default

Each of the following events will be an Event of Default under the Indenture with respect to a series of debt securities:

default in any payment of interest on any debt securities of that series when due that continues for 30 days;

default in the payment of principal of or premium, if any, on any debt securities of that series when due at its stated maturity, upon redemption, upon required repurchase or otherwise;

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default in the payment of any sinking fund payment on any debt securities of that series when due;

failure by us or, if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors, by a Subsidiary Guarantor, to comply for 60 days after notice with the other agreements contained in the Indenture, any supplement to the Indenture or any board resolution authorizing the issuance of that series;

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of us or, if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors, of the Subsidiary Guarantors; or

if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors:

any of the guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantors ceases to be in full force and effect, except as otherwise provided in the Indenture;

any of the guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantors is declared null and void in a judicial proceeding; or

any Subsidiary Guarantor denies or disaffirms its obligations under the Indenture or its guarantee.

### Exercise of Remedies

If an Event of Default, other than an Event of Default with respect to us described in the fifth bullet point above, occurs and is continuing, the Trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may declare the entire principal of, premium, if any, and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on all the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately.

A default under the fourth bullet point above will not constitute an Event of Default until the Trustee or the holders of 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series notify us and, if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors, the Subsidiary Guarantors, of the default and such default is not cured within 60 days after receipt of notice.

If an Event of Default with respect to us described in the fifth bullet point above occurs and is continuing, the principal of, premium, if any, and accrued and unpaid interest on all outstanding debt securities of all series will become immediately due and payable without any declaration of acceleration or other act on the part of the Trustee or any holders.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series may rescind any declaration of acceleration by the Trustee or the holders with respect to the debt securities of that series, but only if:

rescinding the declaration of acceleration would not conflict with any judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction; and

all existing Events of Default with respect to that series have been cured or waived, other than the nonpayment of principal, premium, if any, or interest on the debt securities of that series that have become due solely by the declaration of acceleration.

If an Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee will be under no obligation, except as otherwise provided in the Indenture, to exercise any of the rights or powers under the Indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders unless such holders have offered to the Trustee reasonable indemnity or security against any costs, liability or

expense. No holder may pursue any remedy with respect to the Indenture or the debt securities of any series, except to enforce the right to receive payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest when due with respect to its own debt securities, unless:

such holder has previously given the Trustee notice that an Event of Default with respect to that series is continuing;

holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series have requested that the Trustee pursue the remedy;

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such holders have offered the Trustee reasonable indemnity or security against any cost, liability or expense;

the Trustee has not complied with such request within 60 days after the receipt of the request and the offer of indemnity or security; and

the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series have not given the Trustee a direction that is inconsistent with such request within such 60-day period.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series have the right, subject to certain restrictions, to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Trustee or of exercising any right or power conferred on the Trustee with respect to that series of debt securities. The Trustee, however, may refuse to follow any direction that:

conflicts with law;

is inconsistent with any provision of the Indenture;

the Trustee determines is unduly prejudicial to the rights of any other holder; or

would involve the Trustee in personal liability.

## Notice of Event of Default

Within 30 days after the occurrence of an Event of Default, we are required to give written notice to the Trustee and indicate the status of the default and what action we are taking or propose to take to cure the default. In addition, we and any Subsidiary Guarantors are required to deliver to the Trustee, within 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, a compliance certificate indicating that we and any Subsidiary Guarantors have complied with all covenants contained in the Indenture or whether any default or Event of Default has occurred during the previous year.

If an Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee must mail to each holder a notice of the Event of Default by the later of 90 days after the Event of Default occurs or 30 days after the Trustee knows of the Event of Default. Except in the case of a default in the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to any debt securities, the Trustee may withhold such notice, but only if and so long as the board of directors, the executive committee or a committee of directors or responsible officers of the Trustee in good faith determines that withholding such notice is in the interests of the holders.

### **Amendments and Waivers**

We may amend the Indenture without the consent of any holder of debt securities to:

provide for the assumption by a successor of our obligations under the Indenture;

add covenants for the benefit of the holders or surrender any right or power conferred upon us or any Subsidiary Guarantor;

cure any ambiguity, omission, defect or inconsistency;

convey, transfer, assign, mortgage or pledge any property to or with the Trustee;

comply with any requirement of the SEC in connection with the qualification of the Indenture under the Trust Indenture Act;

add Subsidiary Guarantors with respect to the debt securities;

secure the debt securities or any guarantee;

make any change that does not adversely affect the rights under the Indenture of any holder;

add or appoint a successor or separate Trustee;

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change or eliminate any restriction on the payment of principal of, or premium, if any, on any subordinated debt securities; or

establish the form or terms of any new series of debt securities.

In addition, we may amend the Indenture if the holders of a majority in principal amount of all debt securities of each series that would be affected under the Indenture consent to it. We may not, however, without the consent of each holder of outstanding debt securities that would be affected, amend the Indenture to:

reduce the percentage in principal amount of debt securities of any series whose holders must consent to an amendment:

reduce the rate of or extend the time for payment of interest on any debt securities;

reduce the principal of or extend the stated maturity of any debt securities;

reduce any premium payable upon the redemption of any debt securities or change the time at which any debt securities may or shall be redeemed;

make any debt securities payable in other than U.S. dollars;

impair the right of any holder to receive payment of premium, if any, principal or interest with respect to such holder s debt securities on or after the applicable due date;

impair the right of any holder to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment with respect to such holder s debt securities;

release any security that has been granted in respect of the debt securities, other than in accordance with the Indenture;

make any change in the amendment provisions that require each holder s consent;

make any change in the waiver provisions; or

release a Subsidiary Guarantor other than as provided in the Indenture or modify such Subsidiary Guarantor s guarantee in any manner adverse to the holders.

The consent of the holders is not necessary under the Indenture to approve the particular form of any proposed amendment. It is sufficient if such consent approves the substance of the proposed amendment. After an amendment under the Indenture requiring the consent of the holders of any series of debt securities becomes effective, we are required to mail to all holders a notice briefly describing the amendment with respect to other holders. The failure to give, or any defect in, such notice to any holder, however, will not impair or affect the validity of the amendment with respect to other holders.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each affected series, on behalf of all such holders, may waive:

compliance by us or a Subsidiary Guarantor with certain restrictive provisions of the Indenture; and

any past default under the Indenture; except that such majority of holders may not waive a default:

in the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest; or

in respect of a provision that under the Indenture cannot be amended without the consent of all holders of the series of debt securities that is affected.

# **Defeasance**

At any time, we may terminate, with respect to debt securities of a particular series, all our obligations under such series of debt securities and the Indenture, which we call a legal defeasance. If we decide to make a legal defeasance, however, we may not terminate certain of our obligations, including those:

relating to the defeasance trust;

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to register the transfer or exchange of the debt securities of that series;

to replace mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen debt securities of that series; or

to maintain a registrar and paying agent in respect of the debt securities of that series.

At any time we may also affect a covenant defeasance, which means we have elected to terminate our obligations under or the operation of:

covenants applicable to a series of debt securities and described in the prospectus supplement applicable to such series, other than as described in such prospectus supplement;

the bankruptcy provisions with respect to the Subsidiary Guarantors, if any; and

the guarantee provision described under Events of Default, Remedies and Notice Events of Default above with respect to that series of debt securities.

If we exercise either our legal defeasance option or our covenant defeasance option, any subsidiary guarantee will terminate with respect to that series of debt securities.

We may exercise our legal defeasance option notwithstanding our prior exercise of our covenant defeasance option. If we exercise our legal defeasance option, payment of the affected series of debt securities may not be accelerated because of an Event of Default with respect to that series. If we exercise our covenant defeasance option, payment of the affected series of debt securities may not be accelerated because of an Event of Default specified in the fourth, fifth (with respect only to a Subsidiary Guarantor, if any) or sixth bullet points under Events of Default, Remedies and Notice Events of Default above or an Event of Default that is added specifically for such series and described in a prospectus supplement.

If we exercise either our legal defeasance option or our covenant defeasance option, any subsidiary guarantee will terminate with respect to that series of debt securities. In order to exercise either defeasance option, we must:

irrevocably deposit in trust with the Trustee money or certain U.S. government obligations for the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the series of debt securities to redemption or final maturity, as the case may be;

comply with certain other conditions, including that no default has occurred and is continuing after the deposit in trust; and

deliver to the Trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that holders of the series of debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such deposit and defeasance had not occurred. In the case of legal defeasance only, such opinion of counsel must be based on a ruling of the Internal Revenue Service or other change in applicable federal income tax law.

### **No Personal Liability of General Partner**

Regency GP LP, our general partner, and its directors, officers, employees and partners, as such, will not be liable for:

any of our obligations or the obligations of any Subsidiary Guarantors under the debt securities, the Indenture or the guarantees; or

any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation.

By accepting a debt security, each holder will be deemed to have waived and released all such liability. This waiver and release are part of the consideration for our issuance of the debt securities. This waiver may not be effective, however, to waive liabilities under the federal securities laws and it is the view of the SEC that such a waiver is against public policy.

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#### **Subordination**

Debt securities of a series may be subordinated to our Senior Indebtedness, which we define generally to include any obligation created or assumed by us (or, if the series is guaranteed, the Subsidiary Guarantors) for the repayment of borrowed money and any guarantee therefor, whether outstanding or hereafter issued, unless, by the terms of the instrument creating or evidencing such obligation, it is provided that such obligation is subordinate or not superior in right of payment to the debt securities (or, if the series is guaranteed, the guarantee of the Subsidiary Guarantors), or to other obligations that are pari passu with or subordinated to the debt securities (or, if the series is guaranteed, the guarantee of the Subsidiary Guarantors). Subordinated debt securities will be subordinate in right of payment, to the extent and in the manner set forth in the Indenture and the prospectus supplement relating to such series, to the prior payment of all of our indebtedness and that of any Subsidiary Guarantor that is designated as Senior Indebtedness with respect to the series.

The holders of our Senior Indebtedness or, if applicable, of a Subsidiary Guarantor, will receive payment in full of the Senior Indebtedness before holders of subordinated debt securities will receive any payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to the subordinated debt securities upon any payment or distribution of our assets or, if applicable to any series of outstanding debt securities, the Subsidiary Guarantors assets, to creditors:

upon a liquidation or dissolution of us or, if applicable to any series of outstanding debt securities, the Subsidiary Guarantors; or

in a bankruptcy, receivership or similar proceeding relating to us or, if applicable to any series of outstanding debt securities, to the Subsidiary Guarantors.

Until the Senior Indebtedness is paid in full, any distribution to which holders of subordinated debt securities would otherwise be entitled will be made to the holders of Senior Indebtedness, except that the holders of subordinated debt securities may receive units representing limited partner interests in us and any debt securities that are subordinated to Senior Indebtedness to at least the same extent as the subordinated debt securities.

If we do not pay any principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to Senior Indebtedness within any applicable grace period (including at maturity), or any other default on Senior Indebtedness occurs and the maturity of the Senior Indebtedness is accelerated in accordance with its terms, we may not:

make any payments of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to subordinated debt securities;

make any deposit for the purpose of defeasance of the subordinated debt securities; or

repurchase, redeem or otherwise retire any subordinated debt securities, except that in the case of subordinated debt securities that provide for a mandatory sinking fund, we may deliver subordinated debt securities to the Trustee in satisfaction of our sinking fund obligation,

unless, and until,

the default has been cured or waived and any declaration of acceleration has been rescinded;

the Senior Indebtedness has been paid in full in cash; or

we and the Trustee receive written notice approving the payment from the representatives of each issue of Designated Senior Indebtedness.

Generally, Designated Senior Indebtedness will include:

any specified issue of Senior Indebtedness of at least \$100 million; and

any other Senior Indebtedness that we may designate in respect of any series of subordinated debt securities.

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During the continuance of any default, other than a default described in the immediately preceding paragraph, that may cause the maturity of any Designated Senior Indebtedness to be accelerated immediately without further notice, other than any notice required to effect such acceleration, or the expiration of any applicable grace periods, we may not pay the subordinated debt securities for a period called the Payment Blockage Period. A Payment Blockage Period will commence on the receipt by us and the Trustee of written notice of the default, called a Blockage Notice, from the representative of any Designated Senior Indebtedness specifying an election to effect a Payment Blockage Period and will end 179 days thereafter.

The Payment Blockage Period may be terminated before its expiration:

by written notice from the person or persons who gave the Blockage Notice;

by repayment in full in cash of the Designated Senior Indebtedness with respect to which the Blockage Notice was given; or

if the default giving rise to the Payment Blockage Period is no longer continuing.

Unless the holders of the Designated Senior Indebtedness have accelerated the maturity of the Designated Senior Indebtedness, we may resume payments on the subordinated debt securities after the expiration of the Payment Blockage Period.

Generally, not more than one Blockage Notice may be given in any period of 360 consecutive days. The total number of days during which any one or more Payment Blockage Periods are in effect, however, may not exceed an aggregate of 179 days during any period of 360 consecutive days.

After all Senior Indebtedness is paid in full and until the subordinated debt securities are paid in full, holders of the subordinated debt securities shall be subrogated to the rights of holders of Senior Indebtedness to receive distributions applicable to Senior Indebtedness.

As a result of the subordination provisions described above, in the event of insolvency, the holders of Senior Indebtedness, as well as certain of our general creditors, may recover more, ratably, than the holders of the subordinated debt securities.

### **Book Entry, Delivery and Form**

We may issue debt securities of a series in the form of one or more global certificates deposited with a depositary. We expect that The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or DTC, will act as depositary. If we issue debt securities of a series in book-entry form, we will issue one or more global certificates that will be deposited with or on behalf of DTC and will not issue physical certificates to each holder. A global security may not be transferred unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for a certificated security, except that DTC, its nominees and their successors may transfer a global security as a whole to one another.

DTC will keep a computerized record of its participants, such as brokers, whose clients have purchased the debt securities. The participants will then keep records of their clients who purchased the debt securities. Beneficial interests in global securities will be shown on, and transfers of beneficial interests in global securities will be made only through, records maintained by DTC and its participants.

DTC advises us that it 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 the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

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DTC is owned by a number of its participants and by The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC, The American Stock Exchange, Inc. and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. The rules that apply to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

DTC holds securities that its participants deposit with DTC. DTC also records the settlement among participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through computerized records for participants accounts. This eliminates the need to exchange certificates. Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations.

We will wire principal, premium, if any, and interest payments due on the global securities to DTC s nominee. We, any Subsidiary Guarantors, the Trustee and any paying agent will treat DTC s nominee as the owner of the global securities for all purposes. Accordingly, we, any Subsidiary Guarantors, the Trustee and any paying agent will have no direct responsibility or liability to pay amounts due on the global securities to owners of beneficial interests in the global securities.

It is DTC s current practice, upon receipt of any payment of principal, premium, if any, 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. In addition, it is DTC s current practice to assign any consenting or voting rights to participants, whose accounts are credited with debt securities on a record date, by using an omnibus proxy.

Payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in the global securities, as well as voting by participants, will be governed by the customary practices between the participants and the owners of beneficial interests, as is the case with debt securities held for the account of customers registered in street name. Payments to holders of beneficial interests are the responsibility of the participants and not of DTC, the Trustee, any Subsidiary Guarantors or us.

Beneficial interests in global securities will be exchangeable for certificated securities with the same terms in authorized denominations only if:

DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depositary or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under applicable law and, in either event, a successor depositary is not appointed by us within 90 days; or

an Event of Default occurs and DTC notifies the Trustee of its decision to require that all of the debt securities of a series be represented by certificated securities.

#### The Trustee

We may appoint a separate trustee for any series of debt securities. We use the term Trustee to refer to the trustee appointed with respect to any such series of debt securities. We may maintain banking and other commercial relationships with the Trustee and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business, and the Trustee may own debt securities.

### **Governing Law**

The Indenture and the debt securities will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

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### HOW WE MAKE CASH DISTRIBUTIONS

Set forth below is a summary of the significant provisions of our partnership agreement that relate to cash distributions.

### General

Our partnership agreement requires that, within 45 days after the end of each quarter, we distribute all of our available cash to the holders of record of our common units on the applicable record date. All cash distributed to unitholders will be characterized as either operating surplus or capital surplus. We treat distributions of available cash from operating surplus differently than distributions of available cash from capital surplus.

## **Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus**

### Characterization of Cash Distributions

We will treat all available cash distributed as coming from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed since we began operations equals the operating surplus as of the most recent date of determination of available cash. We will treat any amount distributed in excess of operating surplus, regardless of its source, as capital surplus. We do not anticipate that we will make any distributions from capital surplus.

### Definition of Available Cash

Available cash is defined in our partnership agreement and generally means, for each fiscal quarter, all cash on hand at the end of such quarter:

less the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner:

to provide for the proper conduct of our business (including reserves for future capital expenditures and for our anticipated credit needs);

to comply with applicable law, any of our debt instruments or other agreements; and

to provide funds for distribution to our unitholders and to our general partner for any one or more of the next four quarters;

plus all cash on hand on the date of determination of available cash for the quarter resulting from working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter for which the determination is being made. Working capital borrowings are generally borrowings that will be made under our credit facility and in all cases are used solely for working capital purposes or to pay distributions to partners.

### **Definition of Operating Surplus**

Operating surplus is defined in our partnership agreement, and for any period it generally means:

our cash balance on the closing date of our initial public offering in February 2006 offering; plus

\$20.0 million (as described below); plus

all of our cash receipts after the closing of our initial public offering, excluding cash from (1) borrowings that are not working capital borrowings, (2) sales of equity and debt securities and (3) sales or other dispositions of assets outside the ordinary course of business; plus

working capital borrowings made after the end of a quarter but before the date of determination of operating surplus for the quarter; less

operating expenses; less

the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner for future operating expenditures.

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If a working capital borrowing, which increases operating surplus, is not repaid during the twelve-month period following the borrowing, it will be deemed repaid at the end of such period, thus decreasing operating surplus at such time. When such working capital is in fact repaid, it will not be treated as a reduction in operating surplus because operating surplus will have been previously reduced by the deemed repayment.

As described above, operating surplus does not reflect actual cash on hand at closing that is available for distribution to our unitholders. For example, it includes a provision that will enable us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to \$20.0 million of cash we receive in the future from non-operating sources, such as asset sales, issuances of securities, and long-term borrowings, that would otherwise be distributed as capital surplus.

## Definition of Capital Surplus

Capital surplus is defined in our partnership agreement, and it will generally be generated only by:

borrowings other than working capital borrowings;

sales of debt and equity securities; and

sales or other disposition of assets for cash, other than inventory, accounts receivable and other current assets sold in the ordinary course of business or non-current assets sold as part of normal retirements or replacements of assets.

### **Subordination Period**

### **Overview**

During the subordination period, which we define below and is defined in our partnership agreement, the common units have the right to receive distributions of available cash from operating surplus in an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.35 per quarter, plus any arrearages in the payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units from prior quarters, before any distributions of available cash from operating surplus may be made on the subordinated units. Distribution arrearages do not accrue on the subordinated units. The purpose of the subordinated units is to increase the likelihood that during the subordination period there will be available cash from operating surplus to be distributed on the common units.

### **Definition of Subordination Period**

The subordination period is defined in our partnership agreement. Except as described below under Early Termination of Subordination Period, the subordination period will extend until the first day of any quarter beginning after December 31, 2008 that each of the following tests are met:

distributions of available cash from operating surplus on each of the outstanding common units and subordinated units equaled or exceeded the minimum quarterly distribution for each of the three consecutive, non-overlapping four-quarter periods immediately preceding that date;

the adjusted operating surplus (as defined below) generated during each of the three consecutive, non-overlapping four-quarter periods immediately preceding that date equaled or exceeded the sum of the minimum quarterly distributions on all of the outstanding common units and subordinated units during those periods on a fully diluted basis and the related distribution on the 2% general partner interest during those

periods; and

there are no arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units.

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## Early Termination of Subordination Period

The subordination period will automatically terminate and all of the subordinated units will convert into common units on an one-for-one basis if each of the following occurs:

distributions of available cash from operating surplus on each outstanding common unit and subordinated unit equaled or exceeded \$2.10 (150% of the annualized minimum quarterly distribution) for any four-quarter period ending on or after December 31, 2006;

the adjusted operating surplus (as defined below) generated during any four-quarter period immediately preceding that date equaled or exceeded the sum of a distribution of \$2.10 (150% of the annualized minimum quarterly distribution) on all of the outstanding common units and subordinated units on a fully diluted basis; and

there are no arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units.

# Definition of Adjusted Operating Surplus

Adjusted operating surplus is defined in our partnership agreement, and for any period it generally means:

operating surplus generated with respect to that period; less

any net increase in working capital borrowings with respect to that period; less

any net reduction in cash reserves for operating expenditures made with respect to that period not relating to an operating expenditure made with respect to that period; plus

any net decrease in working capital borrowings with respect to that period; plus

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

Adjusted operating surplus is intended to reflect the cash generated from operations during a particular period and therefore excludes net increases in working capital borrowings and net drawdowns of reserves of cash generated in prior periods.

## Effect of Expiration of the Subordination Period

Upon expiration of the subordination period, each outstanding subordinated unit will convert into one common unit and will then participate pro rata with the other common units in distributions of available cash. In addition, if the unitholders remove our general partner other than for cause and units held by our general partner and its affiliates are not voted in favor of such removal:

The subordination period will end and each subordinated unit will immediately convert into one common unit;

any existing arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units will be extinguished; and

our general partner will have the right to convert its general partner interest and, if any, its incentive distribution rights into common units or to receive cash in exchange for those interests.

# Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus During the Subordination Period

We will make distributions of available cash from operating surplus for any quarter during the subordination period in the following manner:

First, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding common unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter;

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second, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding common unit an amount equal to any arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units for any prior quarters during the subordination period;

third, 98% to the subordinated unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each subordinated unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter; and

thereafter, in the manner described in Incentive Distribution Rights below.

The preceding discussion is based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

## Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus After the Subordination Period

We will make distributions of available cash from operating surplus for any quarter after the subordination period in the following manner:

First, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter; and

thereafter, in the manner described in Incentive Distribution Rights below.

The preceding discussion is based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

### **Incentive Distribution Rights**

Incentive distribution rights represent the right to receive an increasing percentage of quarterly distributions of available cash from operating surplus after the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels have been achieved. Our general partner currently holds the incentive distribution rights, but may transfer these rights separately from its general partner interest, subject to restrictions in the partnership agreement.

### If for any quarter:

we have distributed available cash from operating surplus to the common and subordinated unitholders in an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution; and

we have distributed available cash from operating surplus on outstanding common units in an amount necessary to eliminate any cumulative arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution;

then, we will distribute any additional available cash from operating surplus for that quarter among the unitholders and our general partner in the following manner:

first, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.4025 per unit for that quarter (the first target distribution);

second, 85% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.4375 per unit for that quarter (the second target distribution);

third, 75% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.5250 per unit for that quarter (the third target distribution); and

thereafter, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to our general partner.

In each case, the amount of the target distribution set forth above is exclusive of any distributions to common unitholders to eliminate any cumulative arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution. The percentage interests set forth above for our general partner assume that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest, that our general partner has not transferred the incentive distribution rights and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

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## Percentage Allocations of Available Cash from Operating Surplus

The following table illustrates the percentage allocations of the additional available cash from operating surplus among the unitholders and our general partner up to the various target distribution levels. The amounts set forth under Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions—are the percentage interests of the unitholders and our general partner in any available cash from operating surplus we distribute up to and including the corresponding amount in the column Total Quarterly Distribution Target Amount,—until available cash from operating surplus we distribute reaches the next target distribution level, if any. The percentage interests shown for the unitholders and our general partner for the minimum quarterly distribution are also applicable to quarterly distribution amounts that are less than the minimum quarterly distribution. The percentage interests set forth below for our general partner include its 2% general partner interest and assume our general partner has contributed additional capital to maintain its 2% general partner interest, that our general partner has not transferred the incentive distribution rights and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

|                                | Total Quarterly<br>Distribution Target<br>Amount | Marginal Percentage<br>Interest in Distributions |                    |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--------------------|
|                                |  | Unitholders                                      | General<br>Partner |
| Minimum Quarterly Distribution | \$0.3500   | 98%  | 2%                 |
| First Target Distribution      | up to \$0.4025                                   | 98%  | 2%                 |
| Second Target Distribution     | above \$0.4025 up to \$0.4375                    | 85%  | 15%                |
| Third Target Distribution      | above \$0.4375 up to \$0.5250                    | 75%  | 25%                |
| Thereafter                     | above \$0.5250                                   | 50%  | 50%                |

## **Distributions from Capital Surplus**

# How Distributions from Capital Surplus Will Be Made

We will make distributions of available cash from capital surplus, if any, in the following manner:

first, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each common unit an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to the initial public offering price;

second, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each common unit an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units; and

thereafter, we will make all distributions of available cash from capital surplus as if they were from operating surplus.

The preceding discussion is based on the assumption that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

### Effect of a Distribution from Capital Surplus

The partnership agreement treats a distribution of capital surplus as the repayment of the initial unit price from this initial public offering, which is a return of capital. The initial public offering price less any distributions of capital surplus per unit is referred to as the unrecovered initial unit price. Each time a distribution of capital surplus is made the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels will be reduced in the same proportion as the corresponding reduction in the unrecovered initial unit price. Because distributions of capital surplus will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution, after any of these distributions are made it may be easier for our general partner to receive incentive distributions and for the subordinated units to convert into common units. Any distribution of capital surplus before the unrecovered initial unit price is reduced to zero cannot be applied to the payment of the minimum quarterly distribution or any arrearages.

Once we distribute capital surplus on a unit issued in this offering in an amount equal to the initial unit price, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels to zero. We will

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then make all future distributions from operating surplus, with 50% being paid to the holders of units and 50% to our general partner.

### Adjustment to the Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels

In addition to adjusting the minimum quarterly distribution and target distribution levels to reflect a distribution of capital surplus, if we combine our units into fewer units or subdivide our units into a greater number of units, we will proportionately adjust:

the minimum quarterly distribution;

the target distribution levels;

the unrecovered initial unit price; and

the number of common units into which a subordinated unit is convertible.

For example, if a two-for-one split of the common units should occur, the minimum quarterly distribution, the target distribution levels and the unrecovered initial unit price would each be reduced to 50% of its initial level and each subordinated unit would be convertible into two common units. We will not make any adjustment by reason of the issuance of additional units for cash or property.

In addition, if legislation is enacted or if existing law is modified or interpreted by a governmental taxing authority so that we become taxable as a corporation or otherwise subject to taxation as an entity for federal, state or local income tax purposes, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels for each quarter by multiplying each distribution level by a fraction, the numerator of which is available cash for that quarter and the denominator of which is the sum of available cash for that quarter plus our general partner s estimate of our aggregate liability for the quarter for such income taxes payable by reason of such legislation or interpretation. To the extent that the actual tax liability differs from the estimated tax liability for any quarter, the difference will be accounted for in subsequent quarters.

### **Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation**

### Overview

If we dissolve in accordance with the partnership agreement, we will sell or otherwise dispose of our assets in a process called liquidation. We will first apply the proceeds of liquidation to the payment of our creditors. We will distribute any remaining proceeds to the unitholders and our general partner in accordance with their capital account balances, as adjusted to reflect any gain or loss upon the sale or other disposition of our assets in liquidation.

The allocations of gain and loss upon liquidation are intended, to the extent possible, to entitle the holders of outstanding common units to a preference over the holders of outstanding subordinated units upon our liquidation, to the extent required to permit common unitholders to receive their unrecovered initial unit price plus the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which liquidation occurs plus any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units. There may not, however, be sufficient gain upon our liquidation to enable the holders of common units to recover fully all of these amounts, even though there may be cash available to pay distributions to the holders of subordinated units. Any further net gain recognized upon liquidation will be allocated in a manner that takes into account the incentive distribution rights of our general partner.

# Manner of Adjustments for Gain

The manner of the adjustment for gain is set forth in the partnership agreement. If our liquidation occurs before the end of the subordination period, we will allocate any gain to the partners in the following manner:

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

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

- (1) the unrecovered initial unit price for that common unit;
- (2) the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs; and
- (3) any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution;

third, 98% to the subordinated unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner until the capital account for each subordinated unit is equal to the sum of:

- (1) the unrecovered initial unit price for that subordinated unit; and
- (2) the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs;

fourth, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

- (1) the sum of the excess of the first target distribution per unit over the minimum quarterly distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less
- (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the minimum quarterly distribution per unit that we distributed 98% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, for each quarter of our existence;

fifth, 85% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

- (1) the sum of the excess of the second target distribution per unit over the first target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less
- (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the first target distribution per unit that we distributed 85% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner for each quarter of our existence;

sixth, 75% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

- (1) the sum of the excess of the third target distribution per unit over the second target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less
- (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the second target distribution per unit that we distributed 75% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner for each quarter of our existence; and

thereafter, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to our general partner.

The percentage interests set forth above for our general partner assume that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest, that our general partner has not transferred the incentive distribution rights and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

If the liquidation occurs after the end of the subordination period, the distinction between common units and subordinated units will disappear, so that clause (3) of the second bullet point above and all of the third bullet point above will no longer be applicable.

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### Manner of Adjustments for Losses

If our liquidation occurs before the end of the subordination period, we will generally allocate any loss to our general partner and the unitholders in the following manner:

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

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

thereafter, 100% to our general partner.

The percentage interests set forth above for our general partner assume that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest, that our general partner has not transferred the incentive distribution rights and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

If the liquidation occurs after the end of the subordination period, the distinction between common units and subordinated units will disappear, so that all of the first bullet point above will no longer be applicable.

### Adjustments to Capital Accounts

We will make adjustments to capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units. In doing so, we will allocate any unrealized and, for tax purposes, unrecognized gain or loss resulting from the adjustments to the unitholders and our general partner in the same manner as we allocate gain or loss upon liquidation. If we make positive adjustments to the capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units, we will allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional units or upon our liquidation in a manner which results, to the extent possible, in our general partner s capital account balances equaling the amount that they would have been if no earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts had been made.

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# MATERIAL PROVISIONS OF THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT OF REGENCY ENERGY PARTNERS, L.P.

The following is a summary of the material provisions of the Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP, as amended, which is referred to in this prospectus as our partnership agreement. Our partnership agreement is available as described under Where You Can Find More Information. We will provide prospective investors with a copy of this agreement upon request at no charge.

We summarize the following provisions of our partnership agreement elsewhere in this Prospectus:

with regard to distributions of available cash, please read How We Make Cash Distributions;

with regard to the transfer of common units, please read Description of the Common Units Transfer of Common Units ; and

with regard to allocations of taxable income and taxable loss, please read Material Tax Consequences.

# **Organization and Duration**

Our partnership was organized in September 2005 and will have a perpetual existence.

#### **Purpose**

Our purpose under the partnership agreement is to engage in any business activities that are approved by our general partner. Our general partner, however, may not cause us to engage in any business activities that it determines would cause us to be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. Our general partner is authorized in general to perform all acts it determines to be necessary or appropriate to carry out our purposes and to conduct our business.

#### **Power of Attorney**

Each limited partner, and each person who acquires a unit from a unitholder, by accepting the common unit, automatically grants to our general partner and, if appointed, a liquidator, a power of attorney, among other things, to execute and file documents required for our qualification, continuance or dissolution. The power of attorney also grants our general partner the authority to amend, and to grant consents and waivers on behalf of the limited partners under, our partnership agreement.

#### **Capital Contributions**

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

#### **Voting Rights**

The following table includes a summary of the unitholder vote required for the matters specified below. Matters requiring the approval of a unit majority require:

during the subordination period, the approval of a majority of the common units, excluding those common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, and a majority of the subordinated units, voting as separate classes; and

after the subordination period, the approval of a majority of the common units.

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In voting their common and subordinated units, our general partner and its affiliates will have no fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or the limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us or the limited partners.

Issuance of additional units No approval right.

Certain amendments may be made by the general partner without the Amendment of the partnership agreement

> approval of the unitholders. Other amendments generally require the approval of a unit majority. Please read Amendment of the

Partnership Agreement.

Unit majority in certain circumstances. Please read Merger of our partnership or the sale of all Merger, Sale or

or substantially all of our assets Other Disposition of Assets.

Dissolution of our partnership Unit majority. Please read Termination and Dissolution.

Reconstitution of our partnership upon Unit majority. Please read Termination and Dissolution. dissolution

Withdrawal of the general partner Under most circumstances, the approval of a majority of the common

units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, is required for the withdrawal of our general partner prior to December 31, 2015 in a manner that would cause a dissolution of our Withdrawal or Removal of the General

partnership. Please read

Partner.

Not less than 662/3% of the outstanding units, including units held by Removal of the general partner

> our general partner and its affiliates. Please read Withdrawal or

Removal of the General Partner.

Our general partner may transfer all, but not less than all, of its general Transfer of the general partner interest

> partner interest in us without a vote of our unitholders to an affiliate or another person in connection with its merger or consolidation with or into, or sale of all or substantially all of its assets, to such person. The approval of a majority of the common units, excluding common units held by the general partner and its affiliates, is required in other circumstances for a transfer of the general partner interest to a third party prior to December 31, 2015. See Transfer of General Partner

Interest.

Transfer of incentive distribution rights Except for transfers to an affiliate or another person as part of our

> general partner s merger or consolidation, sale of all or substantially all of its assets or the sale of all of the ownership interests in such holder, the approval of a majority of the common units, excluding common units held by the general partner and its affiliates, is required in most circumstances for a transfer of the incentive distribution rights to a third party prior to December 31, 2015. Please read Transfer of

Incentive Distribution Rights.

No approval required at any time. Please read Transfer of ownership interests in our Transfer of Ownership general partner

Interests in the General Partner.

### **Limited Liability**

Assuming that a limited partner does not participate in the control of our business within the meaning of the Delaware Act and that he otherwise acts in conformity with the provisions of the partnership agreement, his liability under the

Delaware Act will be limited, subject to possible exceptions, to the amount of capital he is obligated to contribute to us for his common units plus his share of any undistributed profits and assets. If it were determined, however, that the right, or exercise of the right, by the limited partners as a group:

to remove or replace the general partner;

to approve some amendments to the partnership agreement; or

to take other action under the partnership agreement;

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constituted participation in the control of our business for the purposes of the Delaware Act, then the limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under the laws of Delaware, to the same extent as the general partner. This liability would extend to persons who transact business with us who reasonably believe that the limited partner is a general partner. Neither the partnership agreement nor the Delaware Act specifically provides for legal recourse against the general partner if a limited partner were to lose limited liability through any fault of the general partner. While this does not mean that a limited partner could not seek legal recourse, we know of no precedent for this type of a claim in Delaware case law.

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

Our subsidiaries conduct business in five states. Maintenance of our limited liability as a member of the operating company may require compliance with legal requirements in the jurisdictions in which the operating company conducts business, including qualifying our subsidiaries to do business there.

Limitations on the liability of limited partners for the obligations of a limited partner have not been clearly established in many jurisdictions. If, by virtue of our membership interest in the operating company or otherwise, it were determined that we were conducting business in any state without compliance with the applicable limited partnership or limited liability company statute, or that the right or exercise of the right by the limited partners as a group to remove or replace the general partner, to approve some amendments to the partnership agreement, or to take other action under the partnership agreement constituted participation in the control of our business for purposes of the statutes of any relevant jurisdiction, then the limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under the law of that jurisdiction to the same extent as the general partner under the circumstances. We will operate in a manner that the general partner considers reasonable and necessary or appropriate to preserve the limited liability of the limited partners.

# **Issuance of Additional Securities**

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

In accordance with Delaware law and the provisions of our partnership agreement, we may also issue additional partnership securities that, as determined by our general partner, may have special voting rights to which the common

units are not entitled. In addition, our partnership agreement does not prohibit the issuance by our subsidiaries of equity securities that may effectively rank senior to the common units.

Upon issuance of additional partnership securities, our general partner will be entitled, but not required, to make additional capital contributions to the extent necessary to maintain its 2% general partner interest in us. Our general partner s 2% interest in us will be reduced if we issue additional units in the future and our general partner does not contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its 2% general partner

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interest. Moreover, our general partner will have the right, which it may from time to time assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates, to purchase common units, subordinated units or other partnership securities whenever, and on the same terms that, we issue those securities to persons other than our general partner and its affiliates, to the extent necessary to maintain the percentage interest of the general partner and its affiliates, including such interest represented by common units and subordinated units, that existed immediately prior to each issuance. The holders of common units will not have preemptive rights to acquire additional common units or other partnership securities.

### **Amendment of the Partnership Agreement**

General. Amendments to our partnership agreement may be proposed only by or with the consent of our general partner. Our general partner, however, will have no duty or obligation to propose any amendment and may decline to do so free of any fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or the limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us or the limited partners. In order to adopt a proposed amendment, other than the amendments discussed below, our general partner is required to seek written approval of the holders of the number of units required to approve the amendment or to call a meeting of the limited partners to consider and vote upon the proposed amendment. Except as described below, an amendment must be approved by a unit majority.

Prohibited Amendments. No amendment may be made that would:

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

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

The provision of our partnership agreement preventing the amendments having the effects described in any of the clauses above can only be amended upon the approval of the holders of at least 90% of the outstanding units voting together as a single class (including units owned by our general partner and its affiliates). As of the date of this prospectus, General Electric Company and its affiliates, including our general partner, own approximately 37.0 percent of our outstanding limited partner units.

*No Unitholder Approval.* Our general partner may generally make amendments to our partnership agreement without the approval of any limited partner or assignee to reflect:

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

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

a change that our general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate to qualify or continue our qualification as a limited partnership or a partnership in which the limited partners have limited liability under the laws of any state or to ensure that neither we nor the operating company nor any of its subsidiaries will be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for federal income tax purposes;

an amendment that is necessary, in the opinion of our counsel, to prevent us or our general partner or its directors, officers, agents or trustees from in any manner being subjected to the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Investment Advisors Act of 1940, or plan asset regulations adopted under the

Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, or ERISA, whether or not substantially similar to plan asset regulations currently applied or proposed;

an amendment that our general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate for the authorization of additional partnership securities or rights to acquire partnership securities;

any amendment expressly permitted by our partnership agreement to be made by our general partner acting alone;

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an amendment effected, necessitated or contemplated by a merger agreement that has been approved under the terms of our partnership agreement;

any amendment that our general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate for the formation by us of, or our investment in, any corporation, partnership or other entity, as otherwise permitted by our partnership agreement;

a change in our fiscal year or taxable year and related changes;

mergers with or conveyances to another limited liability entity that is newly formed and has no assets, liabilities or operations at the time of the merger or conveyance other than those it receives by way of the merger or conveyance; or

any other amendments substantially similar to any of the matters described in the clauses above.

In addition, our general partner may make amendments to our partnership agreement without the approval of any limited partner or transferee in connection with a merger or consolidation approved in accordance with our partnership agreement, or if our general partner determines that those amendments:

do not adversely affect the limited partners (or any particular class of limited partners) in any material respect;

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

are necessary or appropriate to facilitate the trading of limited partner interests or to comply with any rule, regulation, guideline or requirement of any securities exchange on which the limited partner interests are or will be listed for trading;

are necessary or appropriate for any action taken by our general partner relating to splits or combinations of units under the provisions of our partnership agreement; or

are required to effect the intent expressed in this prospectus or the intent of the provisions of our partnership agreement or are otherwise contemplated by our partnership agreement.

Opinion of Counsel and Unitholder Approval. Our general partner will not be required to obtain an opinion of counsel that an amendment will not result in a loss of limited liability to the limited partners or result in our being treated as an entity for federal income tax purposes in connection with any of the amendments described under No Unitholder Approval. No other amendments to our partnership agreement will become effective without the approval of holders of at least 90% of the outstanding units voting as a single class unless we first obtain an opinion of counsel to the effect that the amendment will not affect the limited liability under applicable law of any of our limited partners.

In addition to the above restrictions, any amendment that would have a material adverse effect on the rights or preferences of any type or class of outstanding units in relation to other classes of units will require the approval of at least a majority of the type or class of units so affected. Any amendment that reduces the voting percentage required to take any action is required to be approved by the affirmative vote of limited partners whose aggregate outstanding units constitute not less than the voting requirement sought to be reduced.

# Merger, Sale or Other Disposition of Assets

A merger or consolidation of us requires the prior consent of our general partner. Our general partner, however, will have no duty or obligation to consent to any merger or consolidation and may decline to do so free of any fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or the limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interest of us or the limited partners.

In addition, the partnership agreement generally prohibits our general partner, without the prior approval of the holders of a unit majority, from causing us, among other things, to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose

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of all or substantially all of our assets in a single transaction or a series of related transactions, including by way of merger, consolidation or other combination, or approving on our behalf the sale, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of our subsidiaries. Our general partner may, however, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or grant a security interest in all or substantially all of our assets without that approval. Our general partner may also sell all or substantially all of our assets under a foreclosure or other realization upon those encumbrances without that approval. Finally, our general partner may consummate any merger without the prior approval of our unitholders if we are the surviving entity in the transaction, the transaction would not result in a material amendment to the partnership agreement, and each of our units will be an identical unit of our partnership following the transaction.

If the conditions specified in the partnership agreement are satisfied, our general partner may convert us or any of our subsidiaries into a new limited liability entity or merge us or any of our subsidiaries into, or convey all of our assets to, a newly formed entity if the sole purpose of that merger or conveyance is to effect a mere change in our legal form into another limited liability entity. The unitholders are not entitled to dissenters—rights of appraisal under the partnership agreement or applicable Delaware law in the event of a conversion, merger or consolidation, a sale of substantially all of our assets or any other transaction or event.

#### **Termination and Dissolution**

We will continue as a limited partnership until terminated under our partnership agreement. We will dissolve upon:

the election of our general partner to dissolve us, if approved by the holders of units representing a unit majority;

there being no limited partners, unless we are continued without dissolution in accordance with applicable Delaware law;

the entry of a decree of judicial dissolution of our partnership; or

the withdrawal or removal of our general partner or any other event that results in it ceasing to be our general partner other than by reason of a transfer of its general partner interest in accordance with our partnership agreement or withdrawal or removal following approval and admission of a successor.

Upon a dissolution under the last clause above, the holders of a unit majority, may also elect, within specific time limitations, to reconstitute us and continue our business on the same terms and conditions described in our partnership agreement by forming a new limited partnership on terms identical to those in our partnership agreement and having as general partner an entity approved by the holders of units representing a unit majority, subject to our receipt of an opinion of counsel to the effect that:

the action would not result in the loss of limited liability of any limited partner; and

neither our partnership, the reconstituted limited partnership, our operating company nor any of our other subsidiaries, would be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise be taxable as an entity for federal income tax purposes upon the exercise of that right to continue.

# **Liquidation and Distribution of Proceeds**

Upon our dissolution, unless we are reconstituted and continued as a new limited partnership, the liquidator authorized to wind up our affairs will, acting with all of the powers of our general partner that are necessary or appropriate to liquidate our assets and apply the proceeds of the liquidation as provided in How We Make Cash

Distributions Distributions of Cash upon Liquidation. The liquidator may defer liquidation or distribution of our assets for a reasonable period of time or distribute assets to partners in kind if it determines that a sale would be impractical or would cause undue loss to our partners.

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#### Withdrawal or Removal of the General Partner

Except as described below, our general partner has agreed not to withdraw voluntarily as our general partner prior to December 31, 2015 without obtaining the approval of the holders of at least a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding common units held by the general partner and its affiliates, and furnishing an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. On or after December 31, 2015, our general partner may withdraw as general partner without first obtaining approval of any unitholder by giving 90 days written notice, and that withdrawal will not constitute a violation of our partnership agreement. Notwithstanding the information above, our general partner may withdraw without unitholder approval upon 90 days notice to the limited partners if at least 50% of the outstanding common units are held or controlled by one person and its affiliates other than the general partner and its affiliates. In addition, the partnership agreement permits our general partner in some instances to sell or otherwise transfer all of its general partner interest in us without the approval of the unitholders. Please read Transfer of General Partner Interest and Transfer of Incentive Distribution Rights.

Upon withdrawal of our general partner under any circumstances, other than as a result of a transfer by our general partner of all or a part of its general partner interest in us, the holders of a unit majority may select a successor to that withdrawing general partner. If a successor is not elected, or is elected but an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters cannot be obtained, we will be dissolved, wound up and liquidated, unless within a specified period after that withdrawal, the holders of a unit majority agree in writing to continue our business and to appoint a successor general partner. Please read Termination and Dissolution.

Our general partner may not be removed unless that removal is approved by the vote of the holders of not less than 662/3% of the outstanding units, voting together as a single class, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates, and we receive an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. Any removal of our general partner is also subject to the approval of a successor general partner by the vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding common units and subordinated units, voting as separate classes. The ownership of more than 331/3% of the outstanding units by our general partner and its affiliates would give them the practical ability to prevent our general partner s removal. General Electric Company and its affiliates, including our general partner, own approximately 37.0 percent of our outstanding limited partner units.

Our partnership agreement also provides that, if our general partner is removed as our general partner under circumstances in which cause does not exist and units held by the general partner and its affiliates are not voted in favor of that removal:

the subordination period will end, and all outstanding subordinated units will immediately convert into common units on a one-for-one basis:

any existing arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units will be extinguished without payment; and

our general partner will have the right to convert its general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights into common units or to receive cash in exchange for those interests based on the fair market value of those interests at that time.

In the event of removal of a general partner under circumstances in which cause exists or withdrawal of a general partner where that withdrawal violates our partnership agreement, a successor general partner will have the option to purchase the general partner interest and incentive distribution rights of the departing general partner for a cash payment equal to the fair market value of those interests. Under all other circumstances where a general partner

withdraws or is removed by the limited partners, the departing general partner will have the option to require the successor general partner to purchase the general partner interest of the departing general partner and its incentive distribution rights for fair market value. In each case, this fair market value will be determined by agreement between the departing general partner and the successor general partner. If no agreement is reached, an independent investment banking firm or other independent expert selected by the departing general partner and the successor general partner will determine the fair market

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value. Or, if the departing general partner and the successor general partner cannot agree upon an expert, then an expert chosen by agreement of the experts selected by each of them will determine the fair market value.

If the option described above is not exercised by either the departing general partner or the successor general partner, the departing general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights will automatically convert into common units equal to the fair market value of those interests as determined by an investment banking firm or other independent expert selected in the manner described in the preceding paragraph.

In addition, we will be required to reimburse the departing general partner for all amounts due the departing general partner, including all employee-related liabilities, including severance liabilities, incurred for the termination of any employees employed by the departing general partner or its affiliates for our benefit.

#### **Transfer of General Partner Interest**

Except for a transfer by our general partner of all, but not less than all, of its general partner interest in our partnership to:

an affiliate of our general partner (other than an individual); or

another entity as part of the merger or consolidation of our general partner with or into another entity or the transfer by our general partner of all or substantially all of its assets to another entity;

our general partner may not transfer all or any part of its general partner interest in our partnership to another person prior to December 31, 2015 without the approval of the holders of at least a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates. As a condition of this transfer, the transferee must assume, among other things, the rights and duties of our general partner, agree to be bound by the provisions of our partnership agreement, and furnish an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters.

Our general partner and its affiliates may at any time, transfer subordinated units or units to one or more persons, without unitholder approval, except that they may not transfer subordinated units to us.

#### **Transfer of Ownership Interests in the General Partner**

At any time, the General Electric Company and its affiliates may sell or transfer all or part of their membership interest in Regency GP LLC or their limited partner interests in our general partner to an affiliate or third party without the approval of our unitholders.

### **Transfer of Incentive Distribution Rights**

Our general partner or its affiliates or a subsequent holder may transfer its incentive distribution rights to an affiliate of the holder (other than an individual) or another entity as part of the merger or consolidation of such holder with or into another entity, the sale of all of the ownership interest of the holder or the sale of all or substantially all of its assets to that entity, in each case without the prior approval of the unitholders. Prior to December 31, 2015, other transfers of incentive distribution rights will require the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates. On or after December 31, 2015, the incentive distribution rights will be freely transferable.

### **Change of Management Provisions**

Our partnership agreement contains specific provisions that are intended to discourage a person or group from attempting to remove our general partner or otherwise change our management. If any person or group other than our general partner and its affiliates acquires beneficial ownership of 20% or more of any class of units, that person or group loses voting rights on all of its units. This loss of voting rights does not apply to any person or group that acquires the units from our general partner or its affiliates and any transferees of that person or group approved by our general partner or to any person or group who acquires the units with the prior approval of our general partner.

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Our partnership agreement also provides that if our general partner is removed under circumstances in which cause does not exist and units held by our general partner and its affiliates are not voted in favor of that removal:

the subordination period will end and all outstanding subordinated units will immediately convert into common units on a one-for-one basis:

any existing arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units will be extinguished without payment; and

our general partner will have the right to convert its general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights into common units or to receive cash in exchange for those interests.

### **Limited Call Right**

If at any time our general partner and its affiliates own more than 80% of the then issued and outstanding limited partner interests of any class, our general partner will have the right, which it may assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates or to us, to acquire all, but not less than all, of the remaining partnership securities of the class held by unaffiliated persons as of a record date to be selected by our general partner, on at least 10 but not more than 60 days notice. The purchase price shall be the greater of:

the highest cash price paid by our general partner or any of its affiliates for any partnership securities of the class purchased within the 90 days preceding the date on which our general partner first mails notice of its election to purchase those limited partner interests; and

the current market price as of the date three days before the date the notice is mailed.

As a result of our general partner s right to purchase outstanding partnership securities, a holder of partnership securities may have his partnership securities purchased at an undesirable time or price. The tax consequences to a unitholder of the exercise of this call right are the same as a sale by that unitholder of his common units in the market. Please read Material Tax Consequences Disposition of Common Units.

### **Meetings**; Voting

Except as described below regarding a person or group owning 20% or more of any class of units then outstanding, unitholders or transferees who are record holders of units on the record date will be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, meetings of our limited partners and to act upon matters for which approvals may be solicited. In the case of common units held by our general partner on behalf of non-citizen assignees, our general partner will distribute the votes on those common units in the same ratios as the votes of limited partners on other units are cast.

Our general partner does not anticipate that any meeting of unitholders will be called in the foreseeable future. Any action that is required or permitted to be taken by the unitholders may be taken either at a meeting of the unitholders or without a meeting if consents in writing describing the action so taken are signed by holders of the number of units necessary to authorize or take that action at a meeting. Meetings of the unitholders may be called by our general partner or by unitholders owning at least 20% of the outstanding units of the class for which a meeting is proposed. Unitholders may vote either in person or by proxy at meetings. The holders of a majority of the outstanding units of the class or classes for which a meeting has been called represented in person or by proxy will constitute a quorum unless any action by the unitholders requires approval by holders of a greater percentage of the units, in which case the quorum will be the greater percentage.

Each record holder of a unit has a vote according to his percentage interest in us; although additional limited partner interests having special voting rights could be issued. Please read — Issuance of Additional Securities. If, however, at any time any person or group, other than our general partner and its affiliates or a direct or subsequently approved transferee of our general partner or its affiliates, acquires, in the aggregate, beneficial ownership of 20% or more of any class of units then outstanding, that person or group will lose voting rights on all of its units and the units may not be voted on any matter and will not be considered to be

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outstanding when sending notices of a meeting of unitholders, calculating required votes, determining the presence of a quorum or for other similar purposes. Common units held in nominee or street name account will be voted by the broker or other nominee in accordance with the instruction of the beneficial owner unless the arrangement between the beneficial owner and his nominee provides otherwise. Except as our partnership agreement otherwise provides, subordinated units will vote together with common units as a single class.

Any notice, demand, request, report or proxy material required or permitted to be given or made to record holders of common units under our partnership agreement will be delivered to the record holder by us or by the transfer agent.

#### **Status as Limited Partner**

By the transfer of common units in accordance with our partnership agreement, each transferee of common units shall be admitted as a limited partner with respect to the common units transferred when such transfer and admission is reflected in our books and records. Except as described under Limited Liability, the common units will be fully paid, and unitholders will not be required to make additional contributions.

### Non-Citizen Assignees; Redemption

If we are or become subject to federal, state or local laws or regulations that, in the reasonable determination of our general partner, create a substantial risk of cancellation or forfeiture of any property in which we have an interest because of the nationality, citizenship or other related status of any limited partner, we may redeem the units held by the limited partner at their current market price. In order to avoid any cancellation or forfeiture, our general partner may require each limited partner to furnish information about his nationality, citizenship or related status. If a limited partner fails to furnish information about his nationality, citizenship or other related status within 30 days after a request for the information or our general partner determines after receipt of the information that the limited partner is not an eligible citizen; the limited partner may be treated as a non-citizen assignee. A non-citizen assignee, is entitled to an interest equivalent to that of a limited partner for the right to share in allocations and distributions from us, including liquidating distributions. A non-citizen assignee does not have the right to direct the voting of his units and may not receive distributions in kind upon our liquidation.

### Indemnification

Under our partnership agreement, in most circumstances, we will indemnify the following persons, to the fullest extent permitted by law, from and against all losses, claims, damages or similar events:

our general partner;

any departing general partner;

any person who is or was an affiliate of a general partner or any departing general partner;

any person who is or was a director, officer, member, partner, fiduciary or trustee of any entity set forth in the preceding three bullet points;

any person who is or was serving as director, officer, member, partner, fiduciary or trustee of another person at the request of our general partner or any departing general partner; and

any person designated by our general partner.

Any indemnification under these provisions will only be out of our assets. Unless it otherwise agrees, our general partner will not be personally liable for, or have any obligation to contribute or loan funds or assets to us to enable us to effectuate, indemnification. We may purchase insurance against liabilities asserted against and expenses incurred by persons for our activities, regardless of whether we would have the power to indemnify the person against liabilities under our partnership agreement.

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### **Reimbursement of Expenses**

Our partnership agreement requires us to reimburse our general partner for all direct and indirect expenses it incurs or payments it makes on our behalf and all other expenses allocable to us or otherwise incurred by our general partner in connection with operating our business. These expenses include salary, bonus, incentive compensation and other amounts paid to persons who perform services for us or on our behalf and expenses allocated to our general partner by its affiliates and include amounts paid pursuant to indemnification obligations of our general partner or its general partner. The general partner is entitled to determine in good faith the expenses that are allocable to us.

# **Books and Reports**

Our general partner is required to keep appropriate books of our business at our principal offices. The books will be maintained for both tax and financial reporting purposes on an accrual basis. For tax and financial reporting purposes, our fiscal year is the calendar year.

We will furnish or make available to record holders of common units, within 120 days after the close of each fiscal year, an annual report containing audited financial statements and a report on those financial statements by our independent public accountants. Except for our fourth quarter, we will also furnish or make available summary financial information within 90 days after the close of each quarter.

We will furnish each record holder of a unit with information reasonably required for tax reporting purposes within 90 days after the close of each calendar year. This information is expected to be furnished in summary form so that some complex calculations normally required of partners can be avoided. Our ability to furnish this summary information to unitholders will depend on the cooperation of unitholders in supplying us with specific information. Every unitholder will receive information to assist him in determining his federal and state tax liability and filing his federal and state income tax returns, regardless of whether he supplies us with information.

#### **Right to Inspect Our Books and Records**

Our partnership agreement provides that a limited partner can, for a purpose reasonably related to his interest as a limited partner, upon reasonable demand and at his own expense, have furnished to him:

a current list of the name and last known address of each partner;

a copy of our tax returns;

information as to the amount of cash, and a description and statement of the agreed value of any other property or services, contributed or to be contributed by each partner and the date on which each partner became a partner;

copies of our partnership agreement, our certificate of limited partnership, related amendments and powers of attorney under which they have been executed;

information regarding the status of our business and financial condition; and

any other information regarding our affairs as is just and reasonable.

Our general partner may, and intends to, keep confidential from the limited partners trade secrets or other information the disclosure of which our general partner believes in good faith is not in our best interests or that we are required by law or by agreements with third parties to keep confidential.

### **Registration Rights**

Under our partnership agreement, we have agreed to register for resale under the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws any common units, subordinated units or other partnership securities proposed to be sold by our general partner or any of its affiliates or their assignees if an exemption from the registration requirements is not otherwise available. These registration rights continue for two years following any withdrawal or removal of our general partner. We are obligated to pay all expenses incidental to the registration, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions.

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### MATERIAL TAX CONSEQUENCES

This section is a summary of the material tax considerations that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States and, unless otherwise noted in the following discussion, is the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., counsel to our general partner and us, insofar as it relates to legal conclusions with respect to matters of United States federal income tax law. This section is based upon current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, existing and proposed regulations and current administrative rulings and court decisions, all of which are subject to change. Later changes in these authorities may cause the tax consequences to vary substantially from the consequences described below. Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this section to us or we are references to Regency Energy Partners LP and our operating company.

The following discussion does not comment on all federal income tax matters affecting us or our unitholders. Moreover, the discussion focuses on unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States and has only limited application to corporations, estates, trusts, nonresident aliens or other unitholders subject to specialized tax treatment, such as tax-exempt institutions, foreign persons, individual retirement accounts (IRAs), real estate investment trusts (REITs) or mutual funds. Accordingly, we encourage each prospective unitholder to consult, and depend on, his own tax advisor in analyzing the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences particular to him of the ownership or disposition of common units.

All statements as to matters of law and legal conclusions, but not as to factual matters, contained in this section, unless otherwise noted, are the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. and are based on the accuracy of the representations made by us.

No ruling has been or will be requested from the IRS regarding any matter affecting us or prospective unitholders. Instead, we will rely on opinions of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. Unlike a ruling, an opinion of counsel represents only that counsel s best legal judgment and does not bind the IRS or the courts. Accordingly, the opinions and statements made herein may not be sustained by a court if contested by the IRS. Any contest of this sort with the IRS may materially and adversely impact the market for the common units and the prices at which common units trade. In addition, the costs of any contest with the IRS, principally legal, accounting and related fees, will result in a reduction in cash available for distribution to our unitholders and our general partner and thus will be borne indirectly by our unitholders and our general partner. Furthermore, the tax treatment of us, or of an investment in us, may be significantly modified by future legislative or administrative changes or court decisions. Any modifications may or may not be retroactively applied.

For the reasons described below, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not rendered an opinion with respect to the following specific federal income tax issues: (1) the treatment of a unitholder whose common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units (please read — Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership — Treatment of Short Sales ); (2) whether our monthly convention for allocating taxable income and losses is permitted by existing Treasury Regulations (please read — Disposition of Common Units — Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees ); and (3) whether our method for depreciating Section 743 adjustments is sustainable in certain cases (please read — Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership — Section 754 Election ).

# **Partnership Status**

A partnership is not a taxable entity and incurs no federal income tax liability. Instead, each partner of a partnership is required to take into account his share of items of income, gain, loss and deduction of the partnership in computing his federal income tax liability, regardless of whether cash distributions are made to him by the partnership. Distributions

by a partnership to a partner are generally not taxable unless the amount of cash distributed is in excess of the partner s adjusted basis in his partnership interest.

Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code provides that publicly traded partnerships will, as a general rule, be taxed as corporations. However, an exception, referred to as the Qualifying Income Exception, exists with respect to publicly traded partnerships of which 90% or more of the gross income for every taxable year consists of qualifying income. Qualifying income includes income and gains derived from the transportation,

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storage processing and marketing of crude oil, natural gas and products thereof. Other types of qualifying income include interest (other than from a financial business), dividends, gains from the sale of real property and gains from the sale or other disposition of capital assets held for the production of income that otherwise constitutes qualifying income. We estimate that less than 3% of our current gross income is not qualifying income; however, this estimate could change from time to time. Based upon and subject to this estimate, the factual representations made by us and our general partner and a review of the applicable legal authorities, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is of the opinion that at least 90% of our current gross income constitutes qualifying income.

No ruling has been or will be sought from the IRS and the IRS has made no determination as to our status or the status of the operating company for federal income tax purposes or whether our operations generate—qualifying income—under Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code. Instead, we will rely on the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. on such matters. It is the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. that, based upon the Internal Revenue Code, its regulations, published revenue rulings and court decisions and the representations described below, we will be classified as a partnership and our operating company will be disregarded as an entity separate from us for federal income tax purposes.

In rendering its opinion, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has relied on factual representations made by us and our general partner. The representations made by us and our general partner upon which Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has relied are:

- (a) Neither we nor the operating company has elected or will elect to be treated as a corporation; and
- (b) For each taxable year, more than 90% of our gross income has been and will be income that Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has opined or will opine is qualifying income within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code.

If we fail to meet the Qualifying Income Exception, other than a failure that is determined by the IRS to be inadvertent and that is cured within a reasonable time after discovery, in which case the IRS may also require us to make adjustments with respect to our unitholders or pay other amounts, we will be treated as if we had transferred all of our assets, subject to liabilities, to a newly formed corporation, on the first day of the year in which we fail to meet the Qualifying Income Exception, in return for stock in that corporation, and then distributed that stock to the unitholders in liquidation of their interests in us. This deemed contribution and liquidation should be tax-free to unitholders and us so long as we, at that time, do not have liabilities in excess of the tax basis of our assets. Thereafter, we would be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes.

If we were treated as a corporation in any taxable year, either as a result of a failure to meet the Qualifying Income Exception or otherwise, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction would be reflected only on our tax return rather than being passed through to our unitholders, and our net income would be taxed to us at corporate rates. In addition, any distribution made to a unitholder would be treated as either taxable dividend income, to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, or, in the absence of earnings and profits, a nontaxable return of capital, to the extent of the unitholder s tax basis in his common units, or taxable capital gain, after the unitholder s tax basis in his common units is reduced to zero. Accordingly, taxation as a corporation would result in a material reduction in a unitholder s cash flow and after-tax return and thus would likely result in a substantial reduction of the value of the units.

The discussion below is based on Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. s opinion that we will be classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

#### **Limited Partner Status**

Unitholders who have become limited partners of Regency Energy Partners LP will be treated as partners of Regency Energy Partners LP for federal income tax purposes. Also:

(a) assignees who have executed and delivered transfer applications, and are awaiting admission as limited partners, and

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(b) unitholders whose common units are held in street name or by a nominee and who have the right to direct the nominee in the exercise of all substantive rights attendant to the ownership of their common units

will be treated as partners of Regency Energy Partners LP for federal income tax purposes.

A beneficial owner of common units whose units have been transferred to a short seller to complete a short sale would appear to lose his status as a partner with respect to those units for federal income tax purposes. Please read Consequences of Unit Ownership Treatment of Short Sales.

Income, gain, deductions or losses would not appear to be reportable by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes, and any cash distributions received by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes would therefore appear to be fully taxable as ordinary income. These holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors with respect to their tax consequences of holding common units in Regency Energy Partners LP.

### **Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership**

Flow-Through of Taxable Income. We will not pay any federal income tax. Instead, each unitholder will be required to report on his income tax return his share of our income, gains, losses and deductions without regard to whether we make cash distributions to him. Consequently, we may allocate income to a unitholder even if he has not received a cash distribution. Each unitholder will be required to include in income his allocable share of our income, gains, losses and deductions for our taxable year ending with or within his taxable year. Our taxable year ends on December 31.

Treatment of Distributions. Distributions by us to a unitholder generally will not be taxable to the unitholder for federal income tax purposes, except to the extent the amount of any such cash distribution exceeds his tax basis in his common units immediately before the distribution. Our cash distributions in excess of a unitholder s tax basis generally will be considered to be gain from the sale or exchange of the common units, taxable in accordance with the rules described under Disposition of Common Units below. Any reduction in a unitholder s share of our liabilities for which no partner, including the general partner, bears the economic risk of loss, known as nonrecourse liabilities, will be treated as a distribution of cash to that unitholder. To the extent our distributions cause a unitholder s at risk amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year, he must recapture any losses deducted in previous years. Please read Limitations on Deductibility of Losses.

A decrease in a unitholder s percentage interest in us because of our issuance of additional common units will decrease his share of our nonrecourse liabilities, and thus will result in a corresponding deemed distribution of cash. A non-pro rata distribution of money or property may result in ordinary income to a unitholder, regardless of his tax basis in his common units, if the distribution reduces the unitholder s share of our unrealized receivables, including depreciation recapture, and/or substantially appreciated inventory items, both as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, and collectively, Section 751 Assets. To that extent, he will be treated as having been distributed his proportionate share of the Section 751 Assets and having exchanged those assets with us in return for the non-pro rata portion of the actual distribution made to him. This latter deemed exchange will generally result in the unitholder s realization of ordinary income, which will equal the excess of (1) the non-pro rata portion of that distribution over (2) the unitholder s tax basis for the share of Section 751 Assets deemed relinquished in the exchange.

Basis of Common Units. A unitholder s initial tax basis for his common units will be the amount he paid for the common units plus his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. That basis will be increased by his share of our income and by any increases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. That basis will be decreased, but not below zero, by distributions from us, by the unitholder s share of our losses, by any decreases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities and by his share of our expenditures that are not deductible in computing taxable income and are not

required to be capitalized. A unitholder will have no share of our debt that is recourse to our general partner, but will have a share, generally based on his share of profits, of our nonrecourse liabilities. Please read Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss.

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Limitations on Deductibility of Losses. The deduction by a unitholder of his share of our losses will be limited to the tax basis in his units and, in the case of an individual unitholder or a corporate unitholder, if more than 50% of the value of the corporate unitholder s stock is owned directly or indirectly by or for five or fewer individuals or some tax-exempt organizations, to the amount for which the unitholder is considered to be at risk with respect to our activities, if that is less than his tax basis. A unitholder must recapture losses deducted in previous years to the extent that distributions cause his at risk amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year. Losses disallowed to a unitholder or recaptured as a result of these limitations will carry forward and will be allowable to the extent that his tax basis or at risk amount, whichever is the limiting factor, is subsequently increased. Upon the taxable disposition of a unit, any gain recognized by a unitholder can be offset by losses that were previously suspended by the at risk limitation but may not be offset by losses suspended by the basis limitation. Any excess loss above that gain previously suspended by the at risk or basis limitations is no longer utilizable.

In general, a unitholder will be at risk to the extent of the tax basis of his units, excluding any portion of that basis attributable to his share of our nonrecourse liabilities, reduced by (i) any portion of that basis representing amounts otherwise protected against loss because of a guarantee, stop loss agreement or other similar arrangement and (ii) any amount of money he borrows to acquire or hold his units, if the lender of those borrowed funds owns an interest in us, is related to the unitholder or can look only to the units for repayment. A unitholder s at risk amount will increase or decrease as the tax basis of the unitholder s units increases or decreases, other than tax basis increases or decreases attributable to increases or decreases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities.

The passive loss limitations generally provide that individuals, estates, trusts and some closely-held corporations and personal service corporations can deduct losses from passive activities, which are generally trade or business activities in which the taxpayer does not materially participate, only to the extent of the taxpayer s income from those passive activities. The passive loss limitations are applied separately with respect to each publicly traded partnership. Consequently, any passive losses we generate will only be available to offset our passive income generated in the future and will not be available to offset income from other passive activities or investments, including our investments or investments in other publicly traded partnerships, or salary or active business income. Passive losses that are not deductible because they exceed a unitholder s share of income we generate may be deducted in full when he disposes of his entire investment in us in a fully taxable transaction with an unrelated party. The passive loss limitations are applied after other applicable limitations on deductions, including the at risk rules and the basis limitation.

A unitholder s share of our net income may be offset by any of our suspended passive losses, but it may not be offset by any other current or carryover losses from other passive activities, including those attributable to other publicly traded partnerships.

*Limitations on Interest Deductions*. The deductibility of a non-corporate taxpayer s investment interest expense is generally limited to the amount of that taxpayer s net investment income. Investment interest expense includes:

interest on indebtedness properly allocable to property held for investment;

our interest expense attributed to portfolio income; and

the portion of interest expense incurred to purchase or carry an interest in a passive activity to the extent attributable to portfolio income.

The computation of a unitholder s investment interest expense will take into account interest on any margin account borrowing or other loan incurred to purchase or carry a unit. Net investment income includes gross income from

property held for investment and amounts treated as portfolio income under the passive loss rules, less deductible expenses, other than interest, directly connected with the production of investment income, but generally does not include gains attributable to the disposition of property held for investment. The IRS has indicated that the net passive income earned by a publicly traded partnership will be treated as investment income to its unitholders. In addition, the unitholder s share of our portfolio income will be treated as investment income.

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Entity-Level Collections. If we are required or elect under applicable law to pay any federal, state, local or foreign income tax on behalf of any unitholder or our general partner or any former unitholder, we are authorized to pay those taxes from our funds. That payment, if made, will be treated as a distribution of cash to the unitholder on whose behalf the payment was made. If the payment is made on behalf of a person whose identity cannot be determined, we are authorized to treat the payment as a distribution to all current unitholders. We are authorized to amend our partnership agreement in the manner necessary to maintain uniformity of intrinsic tax characteristics of units and to adjust later distributions, so that after giving effect to these distributions, the priority and characterization of distributions otherwise applicable under our partnership agreement is maintained as nearly as is practicable. Payments by us as described above could give rise to an overpayment of tax on behalf of an individual unitholder in which event the unitholder would be required to file a claim in order to obtain a credit or refund.

Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction. In general, if we have a net profit, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated among our general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us. At any time that distributions are made to the common units in excess of distributions to the subordinated units, or incentive distributions are made to our general partner, gross income will be allocated to the recipients to the extent of these distributions. If we have a net loss for the entire year, that loss will be allocated first to our general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us to the extent of their positive capital accounts and, second, to our general partner.

Specified items of our income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated to account for the difference between the tax basis and fair market value of our assets at the time of an offering, referred to in this discussion as Contributed Property. The effect of these allocations, referred to as Section 704(c) allocations, to a unitholder purchasing common units in this offering will be essentially the same as if the tax basis of our assets were equal to their fair market value at the time of this offering. In the event we issue additional common units or engage in certain other transactions in the future reverse Section 704(c) allocations, similar to the Section 704(c) allocations described above, will be made to all holders of partnership interests, including purchasers of common units in this offering, to account for the difference between the book basis for purposes of maintaining capital accounts and the fair market value of all property held by us at the time of the future transaction. In addition, items of recapture income will be allocated to the extent possible to the unitholder who was allocated the deduction giving rise to the treatment of that gain as recapture income in order to minimize the recognition of ordinary income by some unitholders. Finally, although we do not expect that our operations will result in the creation of negative capital accounts, if negative capital accounts nevertheless result, items of our income and gain will be allocated in an amount and manner to eliminate the negative balance as quickly as possible.

An allocation of items of our income, gain, loss or deduction, other than an allocation required by the Internal Revenue Code to eliminate the difference between a partner s book capital account, credited with the fair market value of Contributed Property, and tax capital account, credited with the tax basis of Contributed Property, referred to in this discussion as the Book-Tax Disparity, will generally be given effect for federal income tax purposes in determining a partner s share of an item of income, gain, loss or deduction only if the allocation has substantial economic effect. In any other case, a partner s share of an item will be determined on the basis of his interest in us, which will be determined by taking into account all the facts and circumstances, including:

his relative contributions to us:

the interests of all the partners in profits and losses;

the interest of all the partners in cash flow; and

the rights of all the partners to distributions of capital upon liquidation.

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is of the opinion that, with the exception of the issues described in Section 754 Election and Disposition of Common Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees, allocations under our partnership agreement will be given effect for federal income tax purposes in determining a partner s share of an item of income, gain, loss or deduction.

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Treatment of Short Sales. A unitholder whose units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of units may be considered as having disposed of those units. If so, he would no longer be treated for tax purposes as a partner with respect to those units during the period of the loan and may recognize gain or loss from the disposition. As a result, during this period:

any of our income, gain, loss or deduction with respect to those units would not be reportable by the unitholder;

any cash distributions received by the unitholder as to those units would be fully taxable; and

all of these distributions would appear to be ordinary income.

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not rendered an opinion regarding the treatment of a unitholder where common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units; therefore, unitholders desiring to assure their status as partners and avoid the risk of gain recognition from a loan to a short seller are urged to modify any applicable brokerage account agreements to prohibit their brokers from loaning their units. The IRS has announced that it is actively studying issues relating to the tax treatment of short sales of partnership interests. Please also read Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss.

Alternative Minimum Tax. Each unitholder will be required to take into account his distributive share of any items of our income, gain, loss or deduction for purposes of the alternative minimum tax. The current minimum tax rate for noncorporate taxpayers is 26% on the first \$175,000 of alternative minimum taxable income in excess of the exemption amount and 28% on any additional alternative minimum taxable income. Prospective unitholders are urged to consult with their tax advisors as to the impact of an investment in units on their liability for the alternative minimum tax.

*Tax Rates.* In general, the highest effective United States federal income tax rate for individuals is currently 35.0% and the maximum United States federal income tax rate for net capital gains of an individual is currently 15.0% if the asset disposed of was held for more than twelve months at the time of disposition.

Section 754 Election. We have made the election permitted by Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code. That election is irrevocable without the consent of the IRS. The election will generally permit us to adjust a common unit purchaser s tax basis in our assets (inside basis) under Section 743(b) of the Internal Revenue Code to reflect his purchase price. This election does not apply to a person who purchases common units directly from us. The Section 743(b) adjustment belongs to the purchaser and not to other unitholders. For purposes of this discussion, a unitholder s inside basis in our assets will be considered to have two components: (1) his share of our tax basis in our assets (common basis) and (2) his Section 743(b) adjustment to that basis.

Where the remedial allocation method is adopted (which we have adopted as to property other than certain goodwill properties), the Treasury Regulations under Section 743 of the Internal Revenue Code require a portion of the Section 743(b) adjustment that is attributable to recovery property under Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code to be depreciated over the remaining cost recovery period for the Section 704(c) built-in gain. If we elect a method other than the remedial method with respect to a goodwill property, Treasury Regulation Section 1.197-2(g)(3) generally requires that the Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to an amortizable Section 197 intangible, which includes goodwill property, should be treated as a newly-acquired asset placed in service in the month when the purchaser acquires the common unit. Under Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to property subject to depreciation under Section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code, rather than cost recovery deductions under Section 168, is generally required to be depreciated using either the straight-line method or the 150% declining balance method. If we elect a method other than the remedial method, the depreciation and

amortization methods and useful lives associated with the Section 743(b) adjustment, therefore, may differ from the methods and useful lives generally used to depreciate the inside basis in such properties. Under our partnership agreement, our general partner is authorized to take a position to preserve the uniformity of units even if that position is not consistent with these and any other Treasury Regulations. If we elect a method other than the remedial method with respect to a goodwill property, the common basis of such property is not amortizable. Please read 
Uniformity of Units.

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Although Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is unable to opine as to the validity of this approach because there is no direct or indirect controlling authority on this issue, we intend to depreciate the portion of a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the value of Contributed Property, to the extent of any unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, using a rate of depreciation or amortization derived from the depreciation or amortization method and useful life applied to the common basis of the property, or treat that portion as non-amortizable to the extent attributable to property the common basis of which is not amortizable. This method is consistent with the methods employed by other publicly traded partnerships but is arguably inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), which is not expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets, and Treasury Regulation Section 1.197-2(g)(3). To the extent this Section 743(b) adjustment is attributable to appreciation in value in excess of the unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, we will apply the rules described in the Treasury Regulations and legislative history. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may take a depreciation or amortization position under which all purchasers acquiring units in the same month would receive depreciation or amortization, whether attributable to common basis or a Section 743(b) adjustment, based upon the same applicable rate as if they had purchased a direct interest in our assets. This kind of aggregate approach may result in lower annual depreciation or amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to some unitholders. Uniformity of Units. A unitholder s tax basis for his common units is reduced by his share of our Please read deductions (whether or not such deductions were claimed on an individual s income tax return) so that any position we take that understates deductions will overstate the common unitholder s basis in his common units, which may cause the unitholder to understate gain or overstate loss on any sale of such units. Please read Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss. The IRS may challenge our position with respect to depreciating or amortizing the Section 743(b) adjustment we take to preserve the uniformity of the units. If such a challenge were sustained, the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions.

A Section 754 election is advantageous if the transferee s tax basis in his units is higher than the units—share of the aggregate tax basis of our assets immediately prior to the transfer. In that case, as a result of the election, the transferee would have, among other items, a greater amount of depreciation and depletion deductions and his share of any gain or loss on a sale of our assets would be less. Conversely, a Section 754 election is disadvantageous if the transferee s tax basis in his units is lower than those units—share of the aggregate tax basis of our assets immediately prior to the transfer. Thus, the fair market value of the units may be affected either favorably or unfavorably by the election. A basis adjustment is required regardless of whether a Section 754 election is made in the case of a transfer of an interest in us if we have a substantial built—in loss immediately after the transfer, or if we distribute property and have a substantial basis reduction. Generally a built—in loss or a basis reduction is substantial if it exceeds \$250,000.

The calculations involved in the Section 754 election are complex and will be made on the basis of assumptions as to the value of our assets and other matters. For example, the allocation of the Section 743(b) adjustment among our assets must be made in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS could seek to reallocate some or all of any Section 743(b) adjustment allocated by us to our tangible assets to goodwill instead. Goodwill, as an intangible asset, is generally nonamortizable or amortizable over a longer period of time or under a less accelerated method than our tangible assets. We cannot assure you that the determinations we make will not be successfully challenged by the IRS and that the deductions resulting from them will not be reduced or disallowed altogether. Should the IRS require a different basis adjustment to be made, and should, in our opinion, the expense of compliance exceed the benefit of the election, we may seek permission from the IRS to revoke our Section 754 election. If permission is granted, a subsequent purchaser of units may be allocated more income than he would have been allocated had the election not been revoked.

### **Tax Treatment of Operations**

Accounting Method and Taxable Year. We use the year ending December 31 as our taxable year and the accrual method of accounting for federal income tax purposes. Each unitholder will be required to include in income his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our taxable year ending within or with his taxable year. In addition, a unitholder who has a taxable year ending on a date other than December 31 and who disposes of all of his units following the close of our taxable year but before the close of his taxable year

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must include his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction in income for his taxable year, with the result that he will be required to include in income for his taxable year his share of more than one year of our income, gain, loss and deduction. Please read Disposition of Common Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees.

Initial Tax Basis, Depreciation and Amortization. The tax basis of our assets will be used for purposes of computing depreciation and cost recovery deductions and, ultimately, gain or loss on the disposition of these assets. The federal income tax burden associated with the difference between the fair market value of our assets and their tax basis immediately prior to this offering will be borne by our partners holding interests in us prior to the offering. Please read Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction.

To the extent allowable, we may elect to use the depreciation and cost recovery methods that will result in the largest deductions being taken in the early years after assets are placed in service. Because our general partner may determine not to adopt the remedial method of allocation with respect to any difference between the tax basis and the fair market value of goodwill immediately prior to this or any future offering, we may not be entitled to any amortization deductions with respect to any goodwill conveyed to us on formation or held by us at the time of any future offering. Please read 
Uniformity of Units. Property we subsequently acquire or construct may be depreciated using accelerated methods permitted by the Internal Revenue Code.

If we dispose of depreciable property by sale, foreclosure or otherwise, all or a portion of any gain, determined by reference to the amount of depreciation previously deducted and the nature of the property, may be subject to the recapture rules and taxed as ordinary income rather than capital gain. Similarly, a unitholder who has taken cost recovery or depreciation deductions with respect to property we own will likely be required to recapture some or all of those deductions as ordinary income upon a sale of his interest in us. Please read Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction and Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss.

The costs incurred in selling our units (called syndication expenses) must be capitalized and cannot be deducted currently, ratably or upon our termination. There are uncertainties regarding the classification of costs as organization expenses, which may be amortized by us, and as syndication expenses, which may not be amortized by us. The underwriting discounts and commissions we incur will be treated as syndication expenses.

Valuation and Tax Basis of Our Properties. The federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of units will depend in part on our estimates of the relative fair market values, and the initial tax bases, of our assets. Although we may from time to time consult with professional appraisers regarding valuation matters, we will make many of the relative fair market value estimates ourselves. These estimates and determinations of basis are subject to challenge and will not be binding on the IRS or the courts. If the estimates of fair market value or basis are later found to be incorrect, the character and amount of items of income, gain, loss or deductions previously reported by unitholders might change, and unitholders might be required to adjust their tax liability for prior years and incur interest and penalties with respect to those adjustments.

## **Disposition of Common Units**

Recognition of Gain or Loss. Gain or loss will be recognized on a sale of units equal to the difference between the amount realized and the unitholder s tax basis for the units sold. A unitholder s amount realized will be measured by the sum of the cash or the fair market value of other property received by him plus his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. Because the amount realized includes a unitholder s share of our nonrecourse liabilities, the gain recognized on the sale of units could result in a tax liability in excess of any cash received from the sale.

Prior distributions from us in excess of cumulative net taxable income for a common unit that decreased a unitholder s tax basis in that common unit will, in effect, become taxable income if the common unit is sold

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at a price greater than the unitholder s tax basis in that common unit, even if the price received is less than his original cost.

Except as noted below, gain or loss recognized by a unitholder, other than a dealer in units, on the sale or exchange of a unit held for more than one year will generally be taxable as capital gain or loss. Capital gain recognized by an individual on the sale of units held more than twelve months will generally be taxed at a maximum rate of 15%. However, a portion of this gain or loss will be separately computed and taxed as ordinary income or loss under Section 751 of the Internal Revenue Code to the extent attributable to assets giving rise to depreciation recapture or other unrealized receivables or to inventory items we own. The term unrealized receivables includes potential recapture items, including depreciation recapture. Ordinary income attributable to unrealized receivables, inventory items and depreciation recapture may exceed net taxable gain realized upon the sale of a unit and may be recognized even if there is a net taxable loss realized on the sale of a unit. Thus, a unitholder may recognize both ordinary income and a capital loss upon a sale of units. Net capital losses may offset capital gains and no more than \$3,000 of ordinary income, in the case of individuals, and may only be used to offset capital gains in the case of corporations.

The IRS has ruled that a partner who acquires interests in a partnership in separate transactions must combine those interests and maintain a single adjusted tax basis for all those interests. Upon a sale or other disposition of less than all of those interests, a portion of that tax basis must be allocated to the interests sold using an equitable apportionment method, which generally means that the tax basis allocated to the interest sold equals an amount that bears the same relation to the partner s tax basis in his entire interest in the partnership as the value of the interest sold bears to the value of the partner s entire interest in the partnership. Treasury Regulations under Section 1223 of the Internal Revenue Code allow a selling unitholder who can identify common units transferred with an ascertainable holding period to elect to use the actual holding period of the common units transferred. Thus, according to the ruling, a common unitholder will be unable to select high or low basis common units to sell as would be the case with corporate stock, but, according to the regulations, may designate specific common units sold for purposes of determining the holding period of units transferred. A unitholder electing to use the actual holding period of common units transferred must consistently use that identification method for all subsequent sales or exchanges of common units. A unitholder considering the purchase of additional units or a sale of common units purchased in separate transactions is urged to consult his tax advisor as to the possible consequences of this ruling and application of the regulations.

Specific provisions of the Internal Revenue Code affect the taxation of some financial products and securities, including partnership interests, by treating a taxpayer as having sold an appreciated partnership interest, one in which gain would be recognized if it were sold, assigned or terminated at its fair market value, if the taxpayer or related persons enter(s) into:

a short sale;

an offsetting notional principal contract; or

a futures or forward contract with respect to the partnership interest or substantially identical property.

Moreover, if a taxpayer has previously entered into a short sale, an offsetting notional principal contract or a futures or forward contract with respect to the partnership interest, the taxpayer will be treated as having sold that position if the taxpayer or a related person then acquires the partnership interest or substantially identical property. The Secretary of the Treasury is also authorized to issue regulations that treat a taxpayer that enters into transactions or positions that have substantially the same effect as the preceding transactions as having constructively sold the financial position.

Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees. In general, our taxable income and losses will be determined annually, will be prorated on a monthly basis and will be subsequently apportioned among the unitholders in proportion to the number of units owned by each of them as of the opening of the applicable exchange on the first business day of the month, which we refer to in this prospectus as the Allocation Date. However, gain or loss realized on a sale or other disposition of our assets other than in the ordinary course of

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business will be allocated among the unitholders on the Allocation Date in the month in which that gain or loss is recognized. As a result, a unitholder transferring units may be allocated income, gain, loss and deduction realized after the date of transfer.

The use of this method may not be permitted under existing Treasury Regulations. Accordingly, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is unable to opine on the validity of this method of allocating income and deductions between transferor and transferee unitholders. If this method is not allowed under the Treasury Regulations, or only applies to transfers of less than all of the unitholder s interest, our taxable income or losses might be reallocated among the unitholders. We are authorized to revise our method of allocation between transferor and transferee unitholders, as well as unitholders whose interests vary during a taxable year, to conform to a method permitted under future Treasury Regulations.

A unitholder who owns units at any time during a quarter and who disposes of them prior to the record date set for a cash distribution for that quarter will be allocated items of our income, gain, loss and deductions attributable to that quarter but will not be entitled to receive that cash distribution.

Notification Requirements. A unitholder who sells any of his units is generally required to notify us in writing of that sale within 30 days after the sale (or, if earlier, January 15 of the year following the sale). A purchaser of units who purchases units from another unitholder is also generally required to notify us in writing of that purchase within 30 days after the purchase. Upon receiving such notifications, we are required to notify the IRS of that transaction and to furnish specified information to the transferor and transferee. Failure to notify us of a purchase may, in some cases, lead to the imposition of penalties. However, these reporting requirements do not apply to a sale by an individual who is a citizen of the United States and who effects the sale or exchange through a broker who will satisfy such requirements.

Constructive Termination. We will be considered to have terminated for federal income tax purposes if there is a sale or exchange of 50% or more of the total interests in our capital and profits within a twelve-month period. Pursuant to the GP Acquisition, GE EFS acquired (i) a 37.3% limited partner interest in us (reduced to 37.0% after giving effect to the contemporaneous awards under our long-term incentive plan), (ii) the 2% general partner interest in us, and (iii) the right to receive the incentive distributions associated with the general partner interest. We believe, and will take the position, that the GP Acquisition, together with all other common units sold within the prior twelve-month period, represented a sale or exchange of 50% or more of the total interest in our capital and profits interests. Our termination would, among other things, result in the closing of our taxable year for all unitholders on June 18, 2007 and upon any future termination. Such a closing of the books could result in a significant deferral of depreciation deductions allowable in computing our taxable income. We anticipate that the impact of this termination to our unitholders will be an increased amount of taxable income as a percentage of the cash distributed to our unitholders. Although the amount of increase cannot be estimated because it depends upon numerous factors including the timing of the termination, the amount could be material. Moreover, in the case of a unitholder reporting on a taxable year other than a fiscal year ending December 31, the closing of our taxable year may result in more than twelve months of our taxable income or loss being includable in his taxable income for the year of termination. Our termination currently would not affect our classification as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, but instead, we would be treated as a new partnership for tax purposes. If treated as a new partnership, we must make new tax elections and could be subject to penalties if we are unable to determine that a termination occurred. Additionally, a termination might either accelerate the application of, or subject us to, any tax legislation enacted before the termination.

## **Uniformity of Units**

Because we cannot match transferors and transferees of units, we must maintain uniformity of the economic and tax characteristics of the units to a purchaser of these units. In the absence of uniformity, we may be unable to completely comply with a number of federal income tax requirements, both statutory and regulatory. A lack of uniformity can

result from a literal application of Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6) and Treasury Regulation Section 1.197-2(g)(3). Any non-uniformity could have a negative impact on the value of the units. Please read Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Section 754 Election.

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We intend to depreciate the portion of a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the value of Contributed Property, to the extent of any unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, using a rate of depreciation or amortization derived from the depreciation or amortization method and useful life applied to the common basis of that property, or treat that portion as nonamortizable, to the extent attributable to property the common basis of which is not amortizable, consistent with the regulations under Section 743 of the Internal Revenue Code, even though that position may be inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), which is not expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets, and Treasury Regulation Section 1.197-2(g)(3). Please read Consequences of Unit Ownership Section 754 Election. To the extent that the Section 743(b) adjustment is attributable to appreciation in value in excess of the unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, we will apply the rules described in the Treasury Regulations and legislative history. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may adopt a depreciation and amortization position under which all purchasers acquiring units in the same month would receive depreciation and amortization deductions, whether attributable to a common basis or Section 743(b) adjustment, based upon the same applicable rate as if they had purchased a direct interest in our property. If this position is adopted, it may result in lower annual depreciation and amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to some unitholders and risk the loss of depreciation and amortization deductions not taken in the year that these deductions are otherwise allowable. This position will not be adopted if we determine that the loss of depreciation and amortization deductions will have a material adverse effect on the unitholders. If we choose not to utilize this aggregate method, we may use any other reasonable depreciation and amortization method to preserve the uniformity of the intrinsic tax characteristics of any units that would not have a material adverse effect on the unitholders. The IRS may challenge any method of depreciating the Section 743(b) adjustment described in this paragraph. If this challenge were sustained, the uniformity of units might be affected, and the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions. Please read Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss.

## **Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors**

Ownership of units by employee benefit plans, other tax-exempt organizations, non-resident aliens, foreign corporations and other foreign persons raises issues unique to those investors and, as described below, may have substantially adverse tax consequences to them.

Employee benefit plans and most other organizations exempt from federal income tax, including individual retirement accounts and other retirement plans, are subject to federal income tax on unrelated business taxable income. Virtually all of our income allocated to a unitholder that is a tax-exempt organization will be unrelated business taxable income and will be taxable to them.

Non-resident aliens and foreign corporations, trusts or estates that own units will be considered to be engaged in business in the United States because of the ownership of units. As a consequence, they will be required to file federal tax returns to report their share of our income, gain, loss or deduction and pay federal income tax at regular rates on their share of our net income or gain. Moreover, under rules applicable to publicly traded partnerships, we will withhold at the highest applicable effective tax rate from cash distributions made quarterly to foreign unitholders. Each foreign unitholder must obtain a taxpayer identification number from the IRS and submit that number to our transfer agent on a Form W-8BEN or applicable substitute form in order to obtain credit for these withholding taxes. A change in applicable law may require us to change these procedures.

In addition, because a foreign corporation that owns units will be treated as engaged in a United States trade or business, that corporation may be subject to the United States branch profits tax at a rate of 30%, in addition to regular federal income tax, on its share of our income and gain, as adjusted for changes in the foreign corporation s U.S. net equity, which is effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business. That tax may be reduced

or eliminated by an income tax treaty between the United States and the country in which the foreign corporate unitholder is a qualified resident. In addition, this type of unitholder is subject to special information reporting requirements under Section 6038C of the Internal Revenue Code.

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Under a ruling of the IRS, a foreign unitholder who sells or otherwise disposes of a unit will be subject to federal income tax on gain realized on the sale or disposition of that unit to the extent that this gain is effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the foreign unitholder. Because a foreign unitholder is considered to be engaged in business in the United States by virtue of the ownership of units, under this ruling a foreign unitholder who sells or otherwise disposes of a unit generally will be subject to federal income tax on gain realized on the sale or disposition of units. Apart from the ruling, a foreign unitholder will not be taxed or subject to withholding upon the sale or disposition of a unit if he has owned less than 5% in value of the units during the five-year period ending on the date of the disposition and if the units are regularly traded on an established securities market at the time of the sale or disposition.

#### **Administrative Matters**

Information Returns and Audit Procedures. We intend to furnish to each unitholder, within 90 days after the close of each calendar year, specific tax information, including a Schedule K-1, which describes his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our preceding taxable year. In preparing this information, which will not be reviewed by counsel, we will take various accounting and reporting positions, some of which have been mentioned earlier, to determine each unitholder s share of income, gain, loss and deduction. We cannot assure you that those positions will yield a result that conforms to the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, Treasury Regulations or administrative interpretations of the IRS. Neither we nor Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. can assure prospective unitholders that the IRS will not successfully contend in court that those positions are impermissible. Any challenge by the IRS could negatively affect the value of the units.

The IRS may audit our federal income tax information returns. Adjustments resulting from an IRS audit may require each unitholder to adjust a prior year s tax liability, and possibly may result in an audit of his return. Any audit of a unitholder s return could result in adjustments not related to our returns as well as those related to our returns.

Partnerships generally are treated as separate entities for purposes of federal tax audits, judicial review of administrative adjustments by the IRS and tax settlement proceedings. The tax treatment of partnership items of income, gain, loss and deduction are determined in a partnership proceeding rather than in separate proceedings with the partners. The Internal Revenue Code requires that one partner be designated as the Tax Matters Partner for these purposes. Our partnership agreement names Regency GP LP as our Tax Matters Partner.

The Tax Matters Partner will make some elections on our behalf and on behalf of unitholders. In addition, the Tax Matters Partner can extend the statute of limitations for assessment of tax deficiencies against unitholders for items in our returns. The Tax Matters Partner may bind a unitholder with less than a 1% profits interest in us to a settlement with the IRS unless that unitholder elects, by filing a statement with the IRS, not to give that authority to the Tax Matters Partner. The Tax Matters Partner may seek judicial review, by which all the unitholders are bound, of a final partnership administrative adjustment and, if the Tax Matters Partner fails to seek judicial review, judicial review may be sought by any unitholder having at least a 1% interest in profits or by any group of unitholders having in the aggregate at least a 5% interest in profits. However, only one action for judicial review will go forward, and each unitholder with an interest in the outcome may participate.

A unitholder must file a statement with the IRS identifying the treatment of any item on his federal income tax return that is not consistent with the treatment of the item on our return. Intentional or negligent disregard of this consistency requirement may subject a unitholder to substantial penalties.

Nominee Reporting. Persons who hold an interest in us as a nominee for another person are required to furnish to us:

- (a) the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the beneficial owner and the nominee;
- (b) whether the beneficial owner is:
- 1. a person that is not a United States person;

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- 2. a foreign government, an international organization or any wholly owned agency or instrumentality of either of the foregoing; or
- 3. a tax-exempt entity;
- (c) the amount and description of units held, acquired or transferred for the beneficial owner; and
- (d) specific information including the dates of acquisitions and transfers, means of acquisitions and transfers, and acquisition cost for purchases, as well as the amount of net proceeds from sales.

Brokers and financial institutions are required to furnish additional information, including whether they are United States persons and specific information on units they acquire, hold or transfer for their own account. A penalty of \$50 per failure, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per calendar year, is imposed by the Internal Revenue Code for failure to report that information to us. The nominee is required to supply the beneficial owner of the units with the information furnished to us.

Accuracy-Related Penalties. An additional tax equal to 20% of the amount of any portion of an underpayment of tax that is attributable to one or more specified causes, including negligence or disregard of rules or regulations, substantial understatements of income tax and substantial valuation misstatements, is imposed by the Internal Revenue Code. No penalty will be imposed, however, for any portion of an underpayment if it is shown that there was a reasonable cause for that portion and that the taxpayer acted in good faith regarding that portion.

For individuals, a substantial understatement of income tax in any taxable year exists if the amount of the understatement exceeds the greater of 10% of the tax required to be shown on the return for the taxable year or \$5,000. The amount of any understatement subject to penalty generally is reduced if any portion is attributable to a position adopted on the return:

- (1) for which there is, or was, substantial authority; or
- (2) as to which there is a reasonable basis and the pertinent facts of that position are disclosed on the return.

If any item of income, gain, loss or deduction included in the distributive shares of unitholders might result in that kind of an understatement of income for which no substantial authority exists, we must disclose the pertinent facts on our return. In addition, we will make a reasonable effort to furnish sufficient information for unitholders to make adequate disclosure on their returns and to take other actions as may be appropriate to permit unitholders to avoid liability for this penalty. More stringent rules apply to tax shelters, which we do not believe includes us.

A substantial valuation misstatement exists if the value of any property, or the adjusted basis of any property, claimed on a tax return is 200% or more of the amount determined to be the correct amount of the valuation or adjusted basis. No penalty is imposed unless the portion of the underpayment attributable to a substantial valuation misstatement exceeds \$5,000 (\$10,000 for most corporations). If the valuation claimed on a return is 400% or more than the correct valuation, the penalty imposed increases to 40%.

Reportable Transactions. If we were to engage in a reportable transaction, we (and possibly you and others) would be required to make a detailed disclosure of the transaction to the IRS. A transaction may be a reportable transaction based upon any of several factors, including the fact that it is a type of tax avoidance transaction publicly identified by the IRS as a listed transaction or that it produces certain kinds of losses for partnerships, individuals, S corporations, and trusts in excess of \$2 million in any single year, or \$4 million in any combination of tax years. Our participation

in a reportable transaction could increase the likelihood that our federal income tax information return (and possibly your tax return) would be audited by the IRS. Please read Information Returns and Audit Procedures.

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Moreover, if we were to participate in a reportable transaction with a significant purpose to avoid or evade tax, or in any listed transaction, you may be subject to the following provisions of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004:

accuracy-related penalties with a broader scope, significantly narrower exceptions, and potentially greater amounts than described above at Accuracy-Related Penalties,

for those persons otherwise entitled to deduct interest on federal tax deficiencies, nondeductibility of interest on any resulting tax liability and

in the case of a listed transaction, an extended statute of limitations.

We do not expect to engage in any reportable transactions.

### State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Considerations

In addition to federal income taxes, you likely will be subject to other taxes, such as state, local and foreign income taxes, unincorporated business taxes, and estate, inheritance or intangible taxes that may be imposed by the various jurisdictions in which we do business or own property or in which you are a resident. Although an analysis of those various taxes is not presented here, each prospective unitholder should consider their potential impact on his investment in us. We will initially own property or conduct business in Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. Each of these states, other than Texas, currently imposes a personal income tax on individuals. Most of these states also impose an income tax on corporations and other entities. We may also own property or do business in other jurisdictions in the future. Although you may not be required to file a return and pay taxes in some jurisdictions because your income from that jurisdiction falls below the filing and payment requirement, you will be required to file income tax returns and to pay income taxes in many of these jurisdictions in which we do business or own property and may be subject to penalties for failure to comply with those requirements. In some jurisdictions, tax losses may not produce a tax benefit in the year incurred and may not be available to offset income in subsequent taxable years. Some of the jurisdictions may require us, or we may elect, to withhold a percentage of income from amounts to be distributed to a unitholder who is not a resident of the jurisdiction. Withholding, the amount of which may be greater or less than a particular unitholder s income tax liability to the jurisdiction, generally does not relieve a nonresident unitholder from the obligation to file an income tax return. Amounts withheld will be treated as if distributed to unitholders for purposes of determining the amounts distributed by us. Please read Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Entity-Level Collections. Based on current law and our estimate of our future operations, our general partner anticipates that any amounts required to be withheld will not be material.

It is the responsibility of each unitholder to investigate the legal and tax consequences, under the laws of pertinent jurisdictions, of his investment in us. Accordingly, each prospective unitholder is urged to consult, and depend upon, his tax counsel or other advisor with regard to those matters. Further, it is the responsibility of each unitholder to file all state, local and foreign, as well as United States federal tax returns, that may be required of him. Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not rendered an opinion on the state, local or foreign tax consequences of an investment in us.

### Tax Consequences of Ownership of Debt Securities

A description of the material federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of debt securities will be set forth on the prospectus supplement relating to the offering of debt securities.

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### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Under this prospectus, we intend to offer our securities to the public:

through one or more broker-dealers;

through underwriters; or

directly to investors.

We will fix a price or prices of our securities at:

market prices prevailing at the time of any sale under this registration statement;

prices related to market prices; or

negotiated prices.

We may change the price of the securities offered from time to time.

We will pay or allow distributors or sellers commissions that will not exceed those customary in the types of transactions involved. Broker-dealers may act as agent or may purchase securities as principal and thereafter resell the securities from time to time:

in or through one or more transactions (which may involve crosses and block transactions) or distributions;

on The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC;

in the over-the-counter market; or

in private transactions.

Broker-dealers or underwriters may receive compensation in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions and may receive commissions from purchasers of the securities for whom they may act as agents. If any broker-dealer purchases the securities as principal, it may effect resales of the securities from time to time to or through other broker-dealers, and other broker-dealers may receive compensation in the form of concessions or commissions from the purchasers of securities for whom they may act as agents.

To the extent required, the names of the specific managing underwriter or underwriters, if any, as well as other important information, will be set forth in prospectus supplements. In that event, the discounts and commissions we will allow or pay to the underwriters, if any, and the discounts and commissions the underwriters may allow or pay to dealers or agents, if any, will be set forth in, or may be calculated from, the prospectus supplements. Any underwriters, brokers, dealers and agents who participate in any sale of the securities may also engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us or our affiliates in the ordinary course of their businesses. We may indemnify underwriters, brokers, dealers and agents against specific liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

To the extent required, this prospectus may be amended or supplemented from time to time to describe a specific plan of distribution.

In connection with offerings under this shelf registration and in compliance with applicable law, underwriters, brokers or dealers may engage in transactions that stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities at levels above those that might otherwise prevail in the open market. Specifically, underwriters, brokers or dealers may over-allot in connection with offerings, creating a short position in the securities for their own accounts. For the purpose of covering a syndicate short position or stabilizing the price of the securities, the underwriters, brokers or dealers may place bids for the securities or effect purchases of the securities in the open market. Finally, the underwriters may impose a penalty whereby selling concessions allowed to syndicate members or other brokers or dealers for distribution the securities in offerings may be reclaimed by the syndicate if the syndicate repurchases previously distributed securities in transactions to cover short positions, in stabilization transactions or otherwise. These activities may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the securities, which may be higher than the price that might otherwise prevail in the open market, and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

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#### **LEGAL MATTERS**

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., Houston, Texas, and Kean Miller Hawthorne D Armond McCowan & Jarman, LLP Baton Rouge, Louisiana will pass upon the validity of the securities offered in this registration statement.

### **EXPERTS**

The (1) consolidated financial statements of Regency Energy Partners LP and subsidiaries and (2) the consolidated balance sheet of Regency GP LP incorporated in this prospectus by reference from Regency Energy Partners LP s Annual Report on Form 10-K have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference, and have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Pueblo Midstream Gas Corporation and subsidiary as of and for the year ended December 31, 2006 incorporated in this prospectus by reference from the Regency Energy Partners LP s Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 10, 2007 have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent auditors, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference, and have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

### WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus, including any documents incorporated herein by reference, constitutes a part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the SEC under the Securities Act. This prospectus does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement. You should refer to the registration statement and its related exhibits and schedules, and the documents incorporated herein by reference, for further information about our company and the securities offered in this prospectus. Statements contained in this prospectus concerning the provisions of any document are not necessarily complete and, in each instance, reference is made to the copy of that document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement or otherwise filed with the SEC, and each such statement is qualified by this reference. The registration statement and its exhibits and schedules, and the documents incorporated herein by reference, are on file at the offices of the SEC and may be inspected without charge.

We file annual, quarterly, and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You can read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can obtain information about the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains a website that contains information that we file electronically with the SEC, which you can access over the Internet at http://www.sec.gov.

Our home page is located at http://www.regencyenergy.com. Our annual reports on Form 10-K, our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and other filings with the SEC are available free of charge through our web site as soon as reasonably practicable after those reports or filings are electronically filed or furnished to the SEC. Information on our web site or any other web site is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus and does not constitute a part of this prospectus.

### INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

We are incorporating by reference in this prospectus information we file with the SEC, which means that we are disclosing important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information that we incorporate by

reference is an important part of this prospectus, and later information that we file with the SEC automatically will update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the

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Exchange Act, excluding any information in those documents that is deemed by the rules of the SEC to be furnished not filed, until we close this offering:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006; and

Our Current Reports on Form 8-K and Form 8-K/A filed for January 26, 2007, February 16, 2007, March 6, 2007, April 3, 2007, April 27, 2007, May 11, 2007, May 25, 2007, June 12, 2007, June 19, 2007, June 28, 2007, July 3, 2007 and July 12, 2007.

the description of our common units contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed on January 24, 2006, and including any other amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

You may request a copy of these filings, which we will provide to you at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address and telephone number:

Regency GP LLC 1700 Pacific, Suite 2900 Dallas, Texas 75201 (214) 750-1771

Attention: Investor Relations

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