

GENESIS ENERGY LP
Form 424B3
November 03, 2010
Table of Contents

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)3
Registration No. 333-167189

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities, and we are not soliciting offers to buy these securities, in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED NOVEMBER 3, 2010

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(to Prospectus dated August 4, 2010)

4,500,000 Common Units

Genesis Energy, L.P.

Common Units Representing Limited Partner Interests

We are offering 4,500,000 common units representing limited partner interests of Genesis Energy, L.P. Our common units are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol GEL. The last reported sale price of our common units on the New York Stock Exchange on November 2, 2010 was \$25.03 per common unit.

Investing in our common units involves risks. Read Risk Factors beginning on page S-10 of this prospectus supplement and beginning on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus.

	Per Common Unit	Total
Initial Price to Public	\$	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to Genesis Energy, L.P.	\$	\$

Edgar Filing: GENESIS ENERGY LP - Form 424B3

The underwriters may also purchase up to an additional 675,000 common units from us at the public offering price, less underwriting discounts and commissions payable by us, to cover over-allotments, if any, within 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement. If the underwriters exercise the option in full, the total underwriting discounts and commissions will be \$, and the net proceeds, before expenses, to us will be \$.

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

The underwriters are offering the common units as set forth under Underwriting. Delivery of the common units will be made on or about November , 2010.

Joint Book-Running Managers

Wells Fargo Securities

RBC Capital Markets

UBS Investment Bank

BofA Merrill Lynch

Deutsche Bank Securities

Co-Manager

Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc.

The date of this prospectus supplement is November , 2010

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

	Page
<u>SUMMARY</u>	S-1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	S-10
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	S-11
<u>CAPITALIZATION</u>	S-12
<u>PRICE RANGE OF COMMON UNITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS</u>	S-13
<u>MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS</u>	S-14
<u>UNDERWRITING (Conflicts of Interest)</u>	S-16
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	S-22
<u>EXPERTS</u>	S-22
<u>INFORMATION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	S-22
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	S-23
PROSPECTUS	

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>GENESIS ENERGY, L.P.</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	2
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	2
<u>DESCRIPTION OF OUR EQUITY SECURITIES</u>	3
<u>General</u>	3
<u>Our Common Units</u>	3
<u>Our Preferred Securities</u>	6
<u>Our Subordinated Securities</u>	6
<u>Our Options</u>	7
<u>Our Warrants</u>	9
<u>Our Rights</u>	10
<u>CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY</u>	12
<u>Distributions of Available Cash</u>	12
<u>Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus</u>	12
<u>Distributions of Available Cash From Operating Surplus</u>	13
<u>Distributions from Capital Surplus</u>	14
<u>Adjustment of Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels</u>	15
<u>Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation</u>	15
<u>DESCRIPTION OF OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT</u>	17
<u>Purpose</u>	17
<u>Power of Attorney</u>	17
<u>Reimbursements of Our General Partner</u>	17
<u>Issuance of Additional Securities</u>	17
<u>Amendments to Our Partnership Agreement</u>	18
<u>Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner</u>	18
<u>Liquidation and Distribution of Proceeds</u>	19
<u>Change of Management Provisions</u>	19
<u>Limited Call Right</u>	19
<u>Indemnification</u>	19
<u>Registration Rights</u>	19

Table of Contents

	Page
<u>MATERIAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES</u>	21
<u>Partnership Status</u>	22
<u>Limited Partner Status</u>	23
<u>Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership</u>	23
<u>Tax Treatment of Operations</u>	29
<u>Disposition of Common Units</u>	30
<u>Uniformity of Units</u>	32
<u>Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors</u>	33
<u>Administrative Matters</u>	34
<u>State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Consequences</u>	36
<u>INVESTMENT IN GENESIS BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS</u>	37
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	38
<u>INFORMATION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	40
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	42
<u>EXPERTS</u>	42
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	42

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us relating to this offering of common units. Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide you with additional or different information. If anyone provides you with additional, different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are offering to sell the common units, and seeking offers to buy the common units, only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any free writing prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the dates shown in these documents or that any information we have incorporated by reference herein is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since such dates.

None of Genesis Energy, L.P., the underwriters or any of their respective representatives is making any representation to you regarding the legality of an investment in our common units by you under applicable laws. You should consult your own legal, tax and business advisors regarding an investment in our common units. Information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is not legal, tax or business advice to any prospective investor.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering of common units. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering of common units. Generally, when we refer only to the prospectus, we are referring to both parts combined. If the information about the common unit offering varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement.

Any statement made in this prospectus or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or in any other subsequently filed document that is also incorporated by reference into this prospectus modifies or supersedes that statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus. Please read **Where You Can Find More Information** on page S-23 of this prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

*This summary highlights some basic information from other sections of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. It likely does not contain all the information that is important to you or that you may wish to consider before making an investment decision. You should read carefully the entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference and the other documents to which we refer for a more complete understanding of our business and the terms of this offering, as well as the tax and other considerations that are important to you in making your investment decision. Please read *Risk Factors* beginning on page S-10 of this prospectus supplement and beginning on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus for information regarding risks you should consider before investing in our common units. Unless the context otherwise indicates, the information included in this prospectus supplement assumes that the underwriters do not exercise their option to purchase additional common units.*

*Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus supplement to *Genesis Energy, L.P.*, *Genesis*, *we*, *our*, *us* or like terms refer to *Genesis Energy, L.P.* and its operating subsidiaries; *our general partner* refers to *Genesis Energy, LLC*, the general partner of *Genesis*; *Free State* refers to *Genesis Free State Pipeline, LLC*; *Quintana* refers to *Quintana Capital Group II, L.P.* and its affiliates; *Davison family* refers to, collectively, *James E. Davison, James E. Davison, Jr., Steven K. Davison and Todd A. Davison* and each of their respective families; *DG Marine* refers to *DG Marine Transportation, LLC* and its subsidiaries. *CO₂* means carbon dioxide; and *NaHS*, which is commonly pronounced as *nash*, means sodium hydrosulfide.*

Our Company

We are a growth-oriented limited partnership focused on the midstream segment of the oil and gas industry in the Gulf Coast region of the United States, primarily Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. We were formed in 1996 as a master limited partnership, or MLP. We have a diverse portfolio of customers, operations and assets, including refinery-related plants, pipelines, storage tanks and terminals, barges, and trucks. We provide an integrated suite of services to refineries; oil, natural gas and CO₂ producers; industrial and commercial enterprises that use NaHS and caustic soda; and businesses that use CO₂ and other industrial gases. Substantially all of our revenues are derived from providing services to integrated oil companies, large independent oil and gas or refinery companies, and large industrial and commercial enterprises.

We conduct our operations through subsidiaries and joint ventures. As is common with MLPs, our general partner is responsible for operating our business, including providing all necessary personnel and other resources.

We manage our businesses through four divisions that constitute our reportable segments:

Pipeline Transportation

We transport crude oil and CO₂ for others for a fee in the Gulf Coast region of the U.S. through approximately 550 miles of pipeline. Our Pipeline Transportation segment owns and operates three crude oil common carrier pipelines and two CO₂ pipelines. Our 235-mile Mississippi System provides shippers of crude oil in Mississippi indirect access to refineries, pipelines, storage terminals and other crude oil infrastructure located in the Midwest. Our 100-mile Jay System originates in southern Alabama and the panhandle of Florida and provides crude oil shippers access to refineries, pipelines and storage near Mobile, Alabama. Our 90-mile Texas System transports crude oil from West Columbia to several delivery points near Houston. Our crude oil pipeline systems include access to a total of approximately 0.7 million barrels of crude oil storage.

Table of Contents

Our Free State Pipeline is an 86-mile, 20" CO₂ pipeline that extends from CO₂ source fields near Jackson, Mississippi, to oil fields in eastern Mississippi. We have a twenty-year transportation services agreement (through 2028) related to the transportation of CO₂ on our Free State Pipeline.

In addition, Denbury Resources, Inc. and its subsidiaries, or Denbury, have leased from us (through 2028) the Northeast Jackson Dome Pipeline System, or the NEJD System, a 183-mile, 20" CO₂ pipeline extending from the Jackson Dome, near Jackson, Mississippi, to near Donaldsonville, Louisiana. The NEJD System transports CO₂ to tertiary oil recovery operations in southwest Mississippi.

Refinery Services

We primarily (i) provide services to eight refining operations located predominantly in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas; (ii) operate significant storage and transportation assets in relation to our business and (iii) sell NaHS and caustic soda to large industrial and commercial companies. Our refinery services primarily involve processing refiners' high sulfur (or sour) gas streams to remove the sulfur. Our refinery services footprint also includes terminals, and we utilize railcars, ships, barges and trucks to transport product. Our refinery services contracts are typically long-term in nature and have an average remaining term of four years. NaHS is a by-product derived from our refinery services process, and it constitutes the sole consideration we receive for these services. A majority of the NaHS we receive is sourced from refineries owned and operated by large companies, including ConocoPhillips, CITGO, Holly Corp. and Ergon. We believe we are one of the largest marketers of NaHS in North and South America.

Supply and Logistics

We provide services primarily to Gulf Coast oil and gas producers and refineries through a combination of purchasing, transporting, storing, blending and marketing crude oil and refined products, primarily fuel oil. In connection with these services, we utilize our portfolio of logistical assets consisting of trucks, terminals, pipelines and barges. We have access to a suite of more than 270 trucks, 270 trailers, 20 barges (with an aggregate of approximately 660,000 barrels of refined product transportation capacity), 1.6 million barrels of terminal storage capacity in multiple locations along the Gulf Coast, and our three common carrier crude oil pipelines. Usually, our supply and logistics segment experiences limited commodity price risk because it involves back-to-back purchases and sales, matching our sale and purchase volumes on a monthly basis. Unsold volumes are hedged with NYMEX derivatives to offset the remaining price risk.

Industrial Gases

We provide CO₂ and certain other industrial gases and related services to industrial and commercial enterprises. We supply CO₂ to industrial customers under long-term contracts, with an average remaining contract life of seven years. We acquired those contracts, as well as the CO₂ necessary to satisfy substantially all of our expected obligations under those contracts, in three separate transactions. Our compensation for supplying CO₂ to our industrial customers is the effective difference between the price at which we sell our CO₂ under each contract and the price at which we acquired our CO₂ pursuant to our volumetric production payments (also known as VPPs), minus transportation costs. In addition to supplying CO₂, we own a 50% joint venture interest in T&P Syngas, from which we receive distributions earned from fees for manufacturing syngas (a combination of carbon monoxide and hydrogen) by Praxair Hydrogen Supply Inc., our 50% joint venture partner. Our other joint venture is a 50% interest in Sandhill Group, LLC through which we process raw CO₂ for sale to other customers for uses ranging from completing oil and natural gas producing wells to food processing.

Table of Contents

Our General Partner

On February 5, 2010, affiliates and co-investors of Quintana along with members of the Davison family and members of our senior executive management team, acquired control of our general partner. Our general partner owns all of our general partner interest and all of our incentive distribution rights.

Quintana includes a number of energy and energy-related enterprises and investments managed and/or controlled in part by Corbin J. Robertson, Jr. and certain Robertson family trusts. Members of the Davison family have invested in us since 2007. In addition to their investment in our general partner, members of the Davison family own approximately 22% of our common units.

Our Objectives and Strategies

Our primary business objectives are to generate stable cash flows that allow us to make quarterly cash distributions to our unitholders and to increase those distributions over time. We plan to achieve those objectives by executing the following business and financial strategies.

Business Strategy

Our primary business strategy is to provide an integrated suite of transportation, storage and marketing services to oil and gas producers, refineries and other customers. Successfully executing this strategy should enable us to generate and grow sustainable cash flows. We intend to develop our business by:

Identifying and exploiting incremental profit opportunities, as well as cost synergies, across an increasingly integrated footprint;

Optimizing our existing assets and creating synergies through additional commercial and operating advancement;

Leveraging customer relationships across business segments;

Attracting new customers and expanding our scope of services offered to existing customers;

Expanding the geographic reach of our refinery services and supply and logistics segments;

Economically expanding pipeline and terminal operations; and

Evaluating internal and third party growth opportunities that leverage our core competencies and strengths and further integrate our businesses.

Financial Strategy

We believe that preserving financial flexibility is an important factor in our overall strategy and success. Over the long-term, we intend to:

Increase the relative contribution of recurring and throughput-based revenues, emphasizing longer-term contractual arrangements;

Balance opportunistic transactions with long-term customer services;

Prudently manage our limited commodity price risks;

Maintain a sound, disciplined capital structure; and

Create strategic arrangements and share capital costs and risks through joint ventures and strategic alliances.

S-3

Table of Contents

Our Competitive Strengths

We believe we are well positioned to execute our strategies and ultimately achieve our objectives due primarily to the following competitive strengths:

Our businesses encompass a balanced, diversified portfolio of customers, operations and assets. We operate four business segments and own and operate assets that enable us to provide a number of services to refinery owners; oil, natural gas and CO₂ producers; industrial and commercial enterprises that use NaHS and caustic soda; and businesses that use CO₂ and other industrial gases. Our business lines complement each other as they allow us to offer an integrated suite of services to common customers across segments.

We have indirect exposure to fast-growing, developing economies outside of the U.S. The by-product NaHS derived from our refinery services process is sold to the mining and pulp and paper industries where it is utilized in the production of products that are sold into global markets.

We have low commodity price risk exposure. The volumes of crude oil, refined products or intermediate feedstocks that we purchase are either subject to back-to-back sales contracts or are hedged with NYMEX derivatives to limit our exposure to movements in the price of the commodity. We monitor the effectiveness of the hedges to require that our value at risk of such hedged inventory does not exceed \$2.5 million.

Our businesses provide consistent consolidated financial performance. During the adverse economic environment that began in the third quarter of 2008 and continued until earlier this year, our businesses provided consistent performance that, when combined with our conservative capital structure, has allowed us to increase our distribution for the twenty-first consecutive quarter as of our most recent distribution declaration.

Our pipeline transportation and related assets are strategically located. Our owned and operated crude oil pipelines are located in the Gulf Coast region and provide our customers access to multiple delivery points. In addition, a majority of our terminals are located in areas that can be accessed by either truck, rail or barge.

The scale of our refinery services operations as well as our expertise and reputation for high performance standards and quality enable us to provide refiners with economic and proven services. We believe we are one of the largest marketers of NaHS in North and South America and we have a suite of assets that enables us to facilitate growth in our business. In addition, our extensive understanding of the sulfur removal process and refinery services market provides us with an advantage when evaluating new opportunities and/or markets.

Our supply and logistics business is operationally flexible. Our portfolio of trucks, barges and terminals affords us flexibility within our existing regional footprint and the capability to enter new markets and expand our customer relationships.

We are financially flexible and have significant liquidity. As of September 30, 2010, we had \$426 million borrowed under our \$525 million credit agreement, with \$50.4 million of that amount designated as a loan under the \$75 million petroleum products inventory loan sublimit. We also had \$4.3 million in letters of credit outstanding. Our inventory borrowing base was \$50.4 million at September 30, 2010.

Edgar Filing: GENESIS ENERGY LP - Form 424B3

We have an experienced, knowledgeable and motivated senior executive management team with a proven track record. Our senior executive management team has an average of more than 25 years of experience in the midstream sector. They have worked in leadership roles at a number

S-4

Table of Contents

of large, successful public companies, including other publicly-traded partnerships. Through their equity interest in us and our general partner, our senior executive management team is incentivized to create value by increasing cash flows.

Recent Events

Twenty-One Consecutive Distribution Rate Increases

We have increased our quarterly distribution rate for 21 consecutive quarters. On October 13, 2010, our board of directors declared a cash distribution of \$0.3875 per unit to unitholders of record as of November 2, 2010, an approximate 3.3% increase per unit from the distribution in the prior quarter, and an increase of approximately 9.9% from the distribution in November 2009. As in the past, future increases (if any) in our quarterly distribution rate will depend on our ability to execute critical components of our business strategy.

CHOPS Acquisition

On October 22, 2010, we entered into a purchase and sale agreement to acquire from Valero Energy Corporation a 50% equity interest in the Cameron Highway Oil Pipeline Company for approximately \$330 million. Cameron Highway, a joint venture with Enterprise Products Partners, L.P., owns and operates the Cameron Highway pipeline system, a crude oil pipeline in the Gulf of Mexico. Constructed in 2004, the Cameron Highway pipeline system is a 24- and 30- inch diameter pipeline with capacity to deliver up to 500,000 barrels per day of crude oil from developments in the Gulf of Mexico to refining markets along the Texas Gulf Coast located in Port Arthur and Texas City and includes approximately \$50 million of crude oil linefill and \$9 million in pumping equipment (in each case, net to Valero's interest). Valero's share of annualized distributions from the joint venture was approximately \$27 million and \$33 million at December 31, 2009 and June 30, 2010, respectively. There can be no assurance that future distributions from the joint venture will be consistent with historical distributions. Enterprise Products owns the remaining 50% interest in, and operates, the joint venture. The consummation of the acquisition is subject to the satisfaction or waiver of customary conditions, including receiving all applicable governmental approvals. The purchase price is subject to customary adjustments, including for the amount of working capital as of the closing date.

We intend to finance the approximate \$330 million purchase price for the acquisition of Cameron Highway Oil Pipeline Company with the net proceeds from this offering, including our general partner's proportionate capital contribution, and \$ of debt financing. However, to protect against the possibility of a rapid deterioration in the capital markets, we entered into an agreement with a group of banks to provide up to \$300 million of unsecured financing. This unsecured facility allows for borrowings through December 31, 2011.

The sale of our common units in this offering is not conditioned on the consummation of that acquisition. Purchasers of our common units should not assume that the acquisition will close in a timely manner, if at all.

Acquisition of DG Marine

Originally formed in 2008, DG Marine was a joint venture in which we owned a 49% economic interest and TD Marine, a related party, owned the remaining 51% economic interest. On July 28, 2010, we acquired the 51% economic interest in DG Marine held by TD Marine for \$25.5 million, resulting in DG Marine become our wholly-owned subsidiary. DG Marine provides transportation services of petroleum products by barge that complements our other supply and logistics operations.

Table of Contents

Restructured Credit Agreement

On June 29, 2010, we restructured our credit agreement. Our credit agreement now provides for a \$525 million senior secured revolving credit facility, includes an accordion feature whereby the total credit available can be increased up to \$650 million under certain circumstances, and matures on June 30, 2015. Among other modifications, our credit agreement now includes a \$75 million sublimit tranche designed for more efficient financing of crude oil and petroleum products inventory.

Change of Control of Our General Partner

In February 2010, Quintana, along with members of the Davison family, our senior executive management team and certain other investors acquired control of our general partner. Our general partner owns all of our general partner interest and all of our incentive distribution rights.

Possible Partnership Simplification or IDR Restructuring Transaction

Our senior management has continuously evaluated strategic alternatives in an effort to enhance unitholder value. Among other things, senior management has focused on improving our competitive position and enhancing our long-term growth prospects by reducing our equity cost of capital, the impact of which it believes would benefit the holders of our common units. Senior management believes that our cost of capital potentially has (and will continue to) become high in comparison to a number of publicly traded limited partnerships in our peer group. Our cost of issuing new units to facilitate our continuing growth includes not only the distributions payable to such new unitholders, but also the percent of our aggregate quarterly distributions we pay to our general partner in respect of our general partner interest (2%) and incentive distribution rights (currently, approximately 49%), or IDRs.

Our general partner's Board of Directors has authorized us to analyze alternative restructuring transactions, and it granted our Conflicts Committee the authority to analyze, negotiate, and consider for Special Approval (as defined in our partnership agreement) and recommendation to the Board such a restructuring. In September 2010, we engaged a financial advisor to assist us, and in October 2010, our Conflicts Committee engaged legal and financial advisors to assist it in the Special Approval process.

Senior management believes that, under the right circumstances, the most desirable restructuring transaction would be to alleviate the burden to our equity cost of capital through the complete elimination (in one form or another) of our IDRs. It is impossible, at this time, to determine (i) whether or not we will consummate any form of a restructuring transaction, or (ii) if we were to consummate a restructuring transaction, when such transaction would be consummated and what terms such a transaction would include, such as (a) whether we would reset, cap, repurchase or eliminate our IDRs; (b) whether the consideration therefore would be in the form of common units, other equity, debt, cash, other consideration or any combination thereof; and (c) what other terms might be required.

Our Offices

Our executive offices are located at 919 Milam, Suite 2100, Houston, Texas 77002, and the phone number at this address is (713) 860-2500.

Table of Contents

Ownership Structure

We conduct our operations through, and our operating assets are owned by, our subsidiaries and joint ventures. As is customary with publicly-traded limited partnerships, Genesis Energy, LLC, our general partner, is responsible for operating our business, including providing all necessary personnel and other resources.

Genesis Energy, LLC is a holding company with employees, but with no independent assets or operations other than its general partner interest in us and several of our subsidiaries. Our general partner is dependent upon the cash distributions it receives from us to service any obligations it may incur. Our general partner is controlled by Quintana, its co-investors, members of the Davison family and members of our senior executive management team.

Below is a chart depicting our ownership structure after giving effect to this offering.

S-7

Table of Contents

The Offering

Common Units Offered by Us	4,500,000 common units (5,175,000 common units if the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full).
Common Units Outstanding Before this Offering	39,585,692 common units.
Common Units Outstanding After this Offering	44,085,692 common units (44,760,692 common units if the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full).
Use of Proceeds	We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering of \$ million (before payment of offering expenses), including our general partner's proportionate capital contribution to maintain its 2% general partner interest and any net proceeds from the underwriters' exercise of their over-allotment option, for general partnership purposes, including funding a portion of the approximately \$330 million purchase price and related transaction costs for our pending acquisition of a 50% equity interest in the Cameron Highway Oil Pipeline Company. If that acquisition is not consummated, all of the net proceeds will be used for other general partnership purposes, including the repayment of borrowings outstanding under our credit agreement. Please read Use of Proceeds on page S-11 of this prospectus supplement.
Cash Distributions	<p>Within approximately 45 days after the end of each quarter, we will distribute all available cash to unitholders of record on the applicable record date. However, there is no guarantee that we will pay a distribution on the common units in any quarter, and we will be prohibited from making any distributions to unitholders if it would cause an event of default, or if an event of default then exists, under our credit agreement. Please read Cash Distribution Policy beginning on page 12 of the accompanying prospectus.</p> <p>On October 13, 2010, the board of directors of our general partner declared a cash distribution to our unitholders of \$0.3875 per common unit for the quarter ended September 30, 2010, which will be paid on November 12, 2010 to unitholders of record at the close of business on November 2, 2010. This distribution represents an increase of approximately 9.9% over the third quarter 2009 quarterly distribution of \$0.3525 per unit, and an approximately 3.3% increase over the distribution paid with respect to the second quarter of 2010. This is the twenty-first consecutive quarter in which we have increased our quarterly distribution. Purchasers in this offering will not receive the distribution payable on November 12, 2010.</p>
Incentive Distributions	Our general partner is entitled to receive incentive distributions if the amount we distribute with respect to any quarter exceeds levels specified in our partnership

Table of Contents

agreement. Under the quarterly incentive distribution provisions, our general partner is entitled to receive 13.3% of any distributions in excess of \$0.25 per unit, 23.5% of any distributions in excess of \$0.28 per unit, and 49% of any distributions in excess of \$0.33 per unit, without duplication. Please read **Cash Distribution Policy Distributions of Available Cash From Operating Surplus Incentive Distribution Rights** beginning on page 13 of the accompanying prospectus.

Estimated Ratio of Taxable Income to Distributions We estimate that if you own the common units you purchase in this offering through the record date for the distribution with respect to the final calendar quarter of 2012, you will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for that period that will be 20% or less of the cash distributed to you with respect to that period. Please read **Material Tax Considerations** beginning on page S-14 of this prospectus supplement for the basis of this estimate.

Conflicts of Interest As described in **Use of Proceeds**, some of the net proceeds of this offering may be used to repay borrowings under our credit agreement. Because affiliates of Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, RBC Capital Markets, LLC, UBS Securities LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc. are lenders under our credit agreement, certain of the underwriters or their affiliates may receive more than 5% of the proceeds of this offering (not including underwriting discounts and commissions). Nonetheless, in accordance with the Financial Industry Authority Rule 2720, the appointment of a qualified independent underwriter is not necessary in connection with this offering because the common units offered hereby are interests in a direct participation program. Investor suitability with respect to the common units will be judged similarly to the suitability with respect to other securities that are listed for trading on a national securities exchange.

New York Stock Exchange Symbol GEL

Material Tax Consequences For a discussion of material federal income tax consequences that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States, please read **Material Income Tax Consequences** beginning on page 21 of the accompanying prospectus.

Risk Factors You should read **Risk Factors** beginning on page S-10 of this prospectus supplement and beginning on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus and found in the documents incorporated herein by reference, as well as the other cautionary statements throughout this prospectus supplement, to ensure you understand the risks associated with an investment in our common units.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common units involves risk. We urge you to read and consider carefully the risk factors included under the caption "Risk Factors" beginning on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus and those risk factors discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, together with all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, before deciding whether this investment is suitable for you. If any of these risks were to occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. In such case, the trading price of the common units could decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment.

S-10

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will receive net cash proceeds from this offering of approximately \$ million, after payment of underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses, and approximately \$ million from our general partner's proportionate capital contribution to maintain its 2% general partner interest. Should the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full, we will receive approximately \$ million from this offering and approximately \$ million from our general partner for a total of approximately \$ million.

We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering, including any net proceeds from the underwriters' exercise of their over-allotment option, for general partnership purposes, including funding a portion of the approximately \$330 million purchase price and related transaction costs for our pending acquisition of a 50% equity interest in the Cameron Highway Oil Pipeline Company. Please read "Summary Recent Events CHOPS Acquisition." If that acquisition is not consummated, all of the net proceeds will be used for other general partnership purposes, including the repayment of borrowings outstanding under our credit agreement.

At September 30, 2010, we had \$426 million borrowed under our credit agreement and \$4.3 million in letters of credit outstanding. Due to the revolving nature of loans under our credit agreement, additional borrowings and periodic repayments and re-borrowings may be made until the maturity date of June 30, 2015. At September 30, 2010, our borrowing rate margins were 2.75% and 1.75% for eurodollar rate and alternate base rate borrowings, respectively.

During the last 12 months, we have used proceeds from our credit agreement for general partnership purposes, primarily for:

acquiring the 51% economic interest of DG Marine that we did not own (\$25.5 million) and paying off DG Marine's stand-alone credit facility (\$44.4 million); and

infrastructure and improvements (\$10.5 million).

Affiliates of certain of the underwriters participating in this offering are lenders under our credit agreement and may receive a portion of the proceeds of this offering through the repayment by us of the indebtedness outstanding under our credit agreement with such proceeds. Please read "Underwriting" beginning on page S-16 of this prospectus supplement for further details.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our consolidated capitalization as of September 30, 2010:

(1) on a historical basis;

(2) on an adjusted basis to give effect to the sale of common units by us in this offering, the contribution by our general partner to maintain its 2% general partner interest and the application of the net proceeds for general partnership purposes, including the repayment of borrowings outstanding under our credit agreement as described under "Use of Proceeds" on page S-11 of this prospectus supplement; and

(3) on an adjusted pro forma basis to give effect to the sale of common units by us in this offering, the contribution by our general partner to maintain its 2% general partner interest and the application of the net proceeds for general partnership purposes, including funding a portion of the approximately \$330 million purchase price for our pending acquisition of a 50% equity interest in the Cameron Highway Oil Pipeline Company and related transaction costs.

The following table should be read together with our historical financial statements and the related notes thereto that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Please read "Use of Proceeds" on page S-11 of this prospectus supplement.

	As of September 30, 2010		
	Historical	As adjusted for this offering (in thousands)	Pro forma adjusted for this offering and the acquisition
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,058	\$ 3,058	\$ 3,058
Long-term debt:			
Genesis revolving credit facility due June 2015	\$ 426,000	\$	\$
Other long-term debt			
Total long-term debt	\$ 426,000	\$	\$
Partners' capital:			
Common unitholders	\$ 557,079	\$	\$
General partner interest	10,608		
Noncontrolling interests	560	560	560
Total partners' capital	\$ 568,247	\$	\$
Total capitalization	\$ 994,247	\$	\$

Table of Contents**PRICE RANGE OF COMMON UNITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

Our common units trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol GEL. As of November 2, 2010, there were 39,585,692 common units outstanding, held by approximately 20,100 record holders and beneficial owners (held in street name).

We are required by our partnership agreement to distribute 100% of our available cash within 45 days after the end of each quarter to our unitholders of record and to our general partner. Available cash consists generally of all of our cash receipts less cash disbursements adjusted for net changes to reserves. Cash reserves are the amounts deemed necessary or appropriate, in the reasonable discretion of our general partner, to provide for the proper conduct of our business or to comply with applicable law, any of our debt instruments or other agreements. The full definition of available cash is set forth in our partnership agreement and amendments thereto. Please read [Where You Can Find More Information](#).

Our general partner is entitled to receive incentive distributions if the amount we distribute with respect to any quarter exceeds levels specified in our partnership agreement. Under the quarterly incentive distribution provisions, the general partner is entitled to receive 13.3% of any distributions in excess of \$0.25 per unit, 23.5% of any distributions in excess of \$0.28 per unit, and 49% of any distributions in excess of \$0.33 per unit, without duplication. The likelihood and timing of the payment of any incentive distributions will depend on our ability to increase the cash flow from our existing operations and to make cash flow accretive acquisitions. In addition, our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue additional equity interests in our partnership with such rights, powers and preferences (which may be senior to our common units) as our general partner may determine in its sole discretion, including with respect to the right to share in distributions and profits and losses of the partnership.

The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices for our common units in each quarter, as reported by the NYSE (or, on or prior to September 14, 2010, the NYSE Amex LLC), and the declared cash distributions for our common units in each quarter.

	Price range per common unit		Cash distributions per common unit(1)(2)
	High	Low	
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2010			
Fourth Quarter (through November 2, 2010)	\$ 26.45	\$ 23.08	\$ 0.388
Third Quarter	23.52	18.43	0.375
Second Quarter	20.64	15.47	0.368
First Quarter	21.67	17.94	0.360
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2009			
Fourth Quarter	\$ 19.95	\$ 15.10	\$ 0.353
Third Quarter	16.89	12.01	0.345
Second Quarter	13.92	9.82	0.338
First Quarter	12.60	7.57	0.330
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2008			
Fourth Quarter	\$ 16.00	\$ 6.42	\$ 0.323
Third Quarter	19.85	11.75	0.315
Second Quarter	22.09	17.02	0.300
First Quarter	25.00	15.07	0.285

(1) Cash distributions are shown in the quarter paid.

(2) The distribution attributable to the quarter ended September 30, 2010 will be paid on November 12, 2010 to unitholders of record at the close of business on November 2, 2010. Purchasers in this offering will not receive the distribution payable on November 12, 2010. The last reported sales price of our common units on the NYSE on November 2, 2010 was \$25.03 per unit.

Table of Contents

MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The tax consequences to you of an investment in our common units will depend in part on your own tax circumstances. For a discussion of the principal federal income tax considerations associated with our operations and the purchase, ownership and disposition of our common units, please read *Material Income Tax Consequences* beginning on page 21 of the accompanying prospectus. Please also read *Item 1A. Risk Factors Tax Risks to Common Unitholders* in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 for a discussion of the tax risks related to purchasing and owning our common units. You are urged to consult with your own tax advisor about the federal, state, local, and foreign tax consequences peculiar to your circumstances.

Partnership Status

The anticipated after-tax economic benefit of an investment in our common units depends largely on our being treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. No ruling has been or will be sought from the Internal Revenue Service, or the IRS, and the IRS has made no determination as to our status as a partnership 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 Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP 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 for federal income tax purposes.

In rendering its opinion, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP has relied on factual representations made by us and our general partner, including the following:

Neither we nor the operating company has elected or will elect to be treated as a corporation; and

For each taxable year, more than 90% of our gross income has been and will be income from sources that Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP has opined or will opine is *qualifying income* within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code. In order to be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, at least 90% of our gross income must be from specific qualifying sources, such as the transportation, processing or marketing of natural gas and natural gas products or other passive types of income such as dividends. For a more complete description of this qualifying income requirement, please read *Material Income Tax Consequences Partnership Status* beginning on page 22 of the accompanying prospectus.

If we were treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, we would pay federal income tax on our taxable income at the corporate tax rate, which is currently a maximum of 35%, and would likely pay state income tax at varying rates. Distributions would generally be taxed again to unitholders as corporate distributions and no income, gains, losses, or deductions would flow through to unitholders. Because a tax would be imposed upon us as a corporation, our cash available for distribution to unitholders would be substantially reduced. Therefore, treatment of us as a corporation would result in a material reduction in the anticipated cash flow and after-tax return to our unitholders likely causing a substantial reduction in the value of our common units.

Current law may change so as to cause us to be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes or otherwise subject us to entity-level taxation. For example, in response to certain developments, members of Congress are considering substantive changes to the definition of *qualifying income*. It is possible that these efforts could result in changes to the existing U.S. tax laws that affect publicly traded partnerships including us. We are unable to predict whether any of these changes or other proposals will ultimately be enacted. Any such changes could negatively impact an investment in our common units. In addition, because of widespread state budget deficits and other

Table of Contents

reasons, several states are evaluating ways to subject partnerships to entity-level taxation through the imposition of state income, franchise and other forms of taxation. For example, in 2008, we began paying Texas franchise tax at a maximum effective rate of 0.5% of our gross income apportioned to Texas in the prior year.

Ratio of Taxable Income to Distributions

We estimate that if you purchase a common unit in this offering and hold the unit through the record date for the distribution with respect to the final calendar quarter of 2012, you will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for that period that will be 20% or less of the amount of cash distributed to you with respect to that period. This estimate is based upon many assumptions regarding our business and operations, including assumptions as to tariffs, capital expenditures, cash flows, net working capital, and anticipated cash distributions. This estimate and the underlying assumptions are subject to, among other things, numerous business, economic, regulatory, competitive and political uncertainties beyond our control. Further, this estimate is based on current tax law and tax reporting positions that we have adopted. The IRS could disagree with our tax reporting positions, including estimates of the relative fair market values of our assets and the validity of certain allocations. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that the estimate will prove to be correct. The actual percentage of distributions that will constitute taxable income could be higher or lower than our estimate, and any differences could be material and could materially affect the value of the common units. For example, the ratio of allocable taxable income to cash distributions to a purchaser of common units in this offering could be greater, and perhaps substantially greater, than our estimate with respect to the period described above if:

gross income from operations exceeds the amount required to make the minimum quarterly distribution on all units, yet we only distribute the minimum quarterly distribution on all units;

we make a future offering of common units and use the proceeds of the offering in a manner that does not produce substantial additional deductions during the period described above, such as to repay indebtedness outstanding at the time of this offering or to acquire property that is not eligible for depreciation or amortization for federal income tax purposes or that is depreciable or amortizable at a rate significantly slower than the rate applicable to our assets at the time of this offering; or

we complete a partnership simplification or IDR restructuring transaction.

Tax Exempt Organizations and Other Investors

Ownership of common units by tax-exempt entities, regulated investment companies, and non-U.S. investors raises issues unique to such persons. Please read **Material Income Tax Consequences Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors** beginning on page 33 of the accompanying prospectus.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

We are offering the common units described in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus through the underwriters named below. Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, RBC Capital Markets, LLC, UBS Securities LLC and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. (collectively, the Representatives) are acting as joint book-running managers and representatives of the underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions stated in the underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, each underwriter named below has severally agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to that underwriter, the number of common units set forth opposite the underwriter's name.

Underwriters	Number of Units
Wells Fargo Securities, LLC	
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated	
RBC Capital Markets, LLC	
UBS Securities LLC	
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.	
Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc.	
Total	4,500,000

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the units included in this offering are subject to approval of legal matters by counsel and to other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to purchase all of the units (other than those covered by the underwriters option to purchase additional units described below) if they purchase any of the units.

Option to Purchase Additional Units

We have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for up to 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to 675,000 additional units at the public offering price less the underwriting discount. To the extent the option is exercised, each underwriter must purchase the number of additional units approximately proportionate to that underwriter's initial purchase commitment.

Underwriting Discount and Expenses

The underwriters propose to offer some of the units directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and some of the units to dealers at the public offering price less a concession not to exceed \$ per unit. After the offering, the underwriters may change the public offering price and the other selling terms. The offering of the common units by the underwriters is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriters' right to reject any order in whole or in part.

The following table shows the underwriting discounts that we are to pay to the underwriters in connection with this offering. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional units.

	No Exercise	Full Exercise
Per unit	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$

We estimate that our total expenses of this offering, other than underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$500,000.

Table of Contents

Lock-Up Agreements

We, our subsidiaries, our general partner, and certain of its affiliates, including certain executive officers and directors of our general partner, have agreed that during the 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement and subject to certain exceptions, we and they will not, without the prior written consent of Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, (i) issue, sell, offer to sell, contract or agree to sell, hypothecate, pledge, grant any option to purchase or otherwise dispose of or agree to dispose of, directly or indirectly, or establish or increase a put equivalent position or liquidate or decrease a call equivalent position within the meaning of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the SEC promulgated thereunder, with respect to any of our common units or securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for our common units or warrants or other rights to purchase our common units or any other securities of ours that are substantially similar to our common units, (ii) file or cause to become effective a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, relating to the offer and sale of any of our common units or securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for our common units or warrants or other rights to purchase our common units or any other of our securities that are substantially similar to common units, (iii) enter into any swap or other arrangement that transfers to another, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of our common units or any securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for our common units or warrants or other rights to purchase our common units or any such securities, whether any such transaction is to be settled by delivery of our common units or such other securities, in cash or otherwise or (iv) publicly announce an intention to effect any transaction specified in clause (i), (ii) or (iii). These restrictions do not, among other things, apply to:

the sale of common units pursuant to the underwriting agreement;

issuances of common units by us upon the exercise of options or warrants disclosed as outstanding in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference herein;

the issuance of employee unit stock options, phantom units or dividend equivalent rights that are not exercisable or do not vest, as applicable, during the 60-day period pursuant to benefit plans described in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference herein;

the filing of a registration statement on Form S-8 to register common units under benefit plans disclosed in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference herein;

the filing of a universal shelf registration statement on Form S-3 to register common units or other partnership securities, provided that we shall not issue any common units thereunder until expiration of the 60-day period;

the issuance of common units in a private placement exempt from registration under the Act, provided that the purchaser of such common units enters into an agreement to be subject to the same restrictions for the remainder of the 60-day period; and

the pledge of common units or other partnership securities to secure loans to such persons or entities in connection with any financing transaction to which such persons or entities are parties, provided that such common units or other partnership securities may not be sold or disposed of in connection with the exercise by the lender of any remedies as a secured party until the expiration of the 60-day period.

NYSE Listing

Our common units are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol GEL.

Table of Contents

Price Stabilization, Short Positions and Penalty Bids

In connection with the offering, the Representatives, on behalf of the underwriters, may purchase and sell common units in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, syndicate covering transactions and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve syndicate sales of common units in excess of the number of common units to be purchased by the underwriters in the offering, which creates a syndicate short position. Covered short sales are sales of common units made in an amount up to the number of common units represented by the underwriters over-allotment option. In determining the source of common units to close out the covered syndicate short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of common units available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase units through the over-allotment option. Transactions to close out the covered syndicate short position involve either purchases of the common units in the open market after the distribution has been completed or the exercise of the over-allotment option. The underwriters may also make naked short sales of common units in excess of the over-allotment option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing common units in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the common units in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of bids for or purchases of common units in the open market while the offering is in progress.

The underwriters also may impose a penalty bid. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the Representatives repurchase common units originally sold by that syndicate member in order to cover syndicate short positions or make stabilizing purchases.

Any of these activities may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common units. They may also cause the price of the common units to be higher than the price that would otherwise exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. The underwriters may conduct these transactions on the NYSE or in the over-the-counter market, or otherwise. If the underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time. Neither we nor the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the common units.

Conflicts of Interest

As described in Use of Proceeds, some of the net proceeds of this offering may be used to repay borrowings under our credit agreement. Because affiliates of Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, RBC Capital Markets, LLC, UBS Securities LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc. are lenders under our credit agreement, certain of the underwriters or their affiliates may receive more than 5% of the proceeds of this offering (not including underwriting discounts and commissions). Nonetheless, in accordance with the Financial Industry Authority Rule 2720, the appointment of a qualified independent underwriter is not necessary in connection with this offering because the common units offered hereby are interests in a direct participation program. Investor suitability with respect to the common units will be judged similarly to the suitability with respect to other securities that are listed for trading on a national securities exchange.

Other Relationships

The underwriters and their affiliates have provided, or may in the future provide, various investment banking, commercial banking, financial advisory, brokerage and other services to us and our affiliates for which services they have received, and may in the future receive, customary fees and expense reimbursement. The underwriters and their affiliates may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for us in the ordinary course of their business for which they may receive customary fees and reimbursement of expenses.

Table of Contents

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and such investment and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of the Company. The underwriters and their respective affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Electronic Distribution

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses in electronic format may be made available on the websites maintained by one or more of the underwriters. The underwriters may agree to allocate a number of common units for sale to their online brokerage account holders. The common units will be allocated to underwriters that may make Internet distributions on the same basis as other allocations. In addition, common units may be sold by the underwriters to securities dealers who resell common units to online brokerage account holders.

Other than this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses in electronic format, information contained in any website maintained by an underwriter is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectuses or registration statement of which the accompanying prospectus forms a part, has not been endorsed by us and should not be relied on by investors in deciding whether to purchase common units. The underwriters are not responsible for information contained in websites that they do not maintain.

Indemnification

We and our general partner have agreed to indemnify the several underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make because of any of those liabilities.

Selling Restrictions

Sales Outside the United States

No action has been taken in any jurisdiction (except in the United States) that would permit a public offering of the common units, or the possession, circulation or distribution of this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any other material relating to us or the common units in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required. Accordingly, the common units may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, and none of this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any other offering material or advertisements in connection with the common units may be distributed or published, in or from any country or jurisdiction except in compliance with any applicable rules and regulations of any such country or jurisdiction.

Each of the underwriters may arrange to sell common units offered hereby in certain jurisdictions outside the United States, either directly or through affiliates, where they are permitted to do so. In that regard, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC may arrange to sell common units in certain jurisdictions through an affiliate, Wells Fargo Securities International Limited, or WFSIL. WFSIL is a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Wells Fargo & Company and an affiliate of Wells Fargo Securities, LLC. WFSIL is a U.K. incorporated investment firm regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Wells Fargo Securities is the trade name for certain corporate and investment banking services of Wells Fargo & Company and its affiliates, including Wells Fargo Securities, LLC and WFSIL.

Table of Contents

Public Offer Selling Restrictions Under the Prospectus Directive

In relation to each member state of the European Economic Area that has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a relevant member state), with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that relevant member state (the relevant implementation date), an offer of securities described in this prospectus may not be made to the public in that relevant member state other than:

to any legal entity that is authorized or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorized or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities;

to any legal entity that has two or more of (1) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (2) a total balance sheet of more than 43,000,000 and (3) an annual net turnover of more than 50,000,000, as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts;

to fewer than 100 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive) subject to obtaining the prior consent of the representatives; or

in any other circumstances that do not require the publication of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive, provided that no such offer of securities shall require us or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

For purposes of this provision, the expression an offer of securities to the public in any relevant member state means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the securities to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the securities, as the expression may be varied in that member state by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that member state, and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC and includes any relevant implementing measure in each relevant member state.

We have not authorized and do not authorize the making of any offer of securities through any financial intermediary on their behalf, other than offers made by the underwriters with a view to the final placement of the securities as contemplated in this prospectus. Accordingly, no purchaser of the securities, other than the underwriters, is authorized to make any further offer of the securities on behalf of us or the underwriters.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Germany

This prospectus has not been prepared in accordance with the requirements for a securities or sales prospectus under the German Securities Prospectus Act (Wertpapierprospektgesetz), the German Sales Prospectus Act (Verkaufprospektgesetz), or the German Investment Act (Investmentgesetz). Neither the German Federal Financial Services Supervisory Authority (Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht BaFin) nor any other German authority has been notified of the intention to distribute our common units in Germany. Consequently, our common units may not be distributed in Germany by way of public offering, public advertisement or in any similar manner and this prospectus and any other document relating to this offering, as well as information or statements contained therein, may not be supplied to the public in Germany or used in connection with any offer for subscription of the common units to the public in Germany or any other means of public marketing. Our common units are being offered and sold in Germany only to qualified investors which are referred to in Section 3, paragraph 2 no. 1, in connection with Section 2, no. 6, of the German Securities Prospectus Act, Section 8f paragraph 2 no. 4 of the German Sales Prospectus Act, and in Section 2 paragraph 11 sentence 2 no. 1 of the German Investment Act. This prospectus is strictly for use of the person who has received it. It may not be forwarded to other persons or published in Germany.

This offering of our common units does not constitute an offer to buy or the solicitation of an offer to sell our common units in any circumstances in which such offer or solicitation is unlawful.

Table of Contents

Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland

This prospectus is being communicated in Switzerland to a small number of selected investors only. Each copy of this prospectus is addressed to a specifically named recipient and may not be copied, reproduced, distributed or passed on to third parties. Our common units are not being offered to the public in Switzerland, and neither this prospectus, nor any other offering materials relating to our common units may be distributed in connection with any such public offering.

We have not been registered with the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA as a foreign collective investment scheme pursuant to Article 120 of the Collective Investment Schemes Act of June 23, 2006 (CISA). Accordingly, our common units may not be offered to the public in or from Switzerland, and neither this prospectus, nor any other offering materials relating to our common units may be made available through a public offering in or from Switzerland. Our common units may only be offered and this prospectus may only be distributed in or from Switzerland by way of private placement exclusively to qualified investors (as this term is defined in the CISA and its implementing ordinance).

Selling Restrictions Addressing Additional Security Laws in the United Kingdom

We may constitute a collective investment scheme as defined by section 235 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (FSMA) that is not a recognized collective investment scheme for the purposes of FSMA (CIS) and that has not been authorised or otherwise approved. As an unregulated scheme, it cannot be marketed in the United Kingdom to the general public, except in accordance with FSMA. This prospectus is only being distributed in the United Kingdom to, and is only directed at:

- (i) if we are a CIS and are marketed by a person who is an authorised person under FSMA, (a) investment professionals falling within Article 14(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Promotion of Collective Investment Schemes) Order 2001, as amended (the CIS Promotion Order) or (b) high net worth companies and other persons falling within Article 22(2)(a) to (d) of the CIS Promotion Order; or
- (ii) otherwise, if marketed by a person who is not an authorised person under FSMA, (a) persons who fall within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the Financial Promotion Order) or (b) Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Financial Promotion Order; and
- (iii) in both cases (i) and (ii) to any other person to whom it may otherwise lawfully be made (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons). The common units are only available to, and any invitation, offer or agreement to subscribe, purchase or otherwise acquire such common units will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this prospectus or any of its contents.

An invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of FSMA) in connection with the issue or sale of common units which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this prospectus will only be communicated or caused to be communicated in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of FSMA does not apply to us.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the Netherlands

Our common units may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in the Netherlands, other than to qualified investors (gekwalificeerde beleggers) within the meaning of Article 1:1 of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (Wet op het financieel toezicht).

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the common units offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP. Certain legal matters with respect to the common units offered hereby will be passed upon for the underwriters by Andrews Kurth LLP.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and the related financial statement schedule, incorporated in this Prospectus Supplement by reference from Genesis Energy L.P.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, and the effectiveness of Genesis Energy L.P.'s internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

INFORMATION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The statements in this prospectus supplement or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement that are not historical information may be forward-looking statements within the meaning of the various provisions of the Securities Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act.

All statements, other than historical facts, included in this document that address activities, events or developments that we expect or anticipate will or may occur in the future, including things such as plans for growth of the business, future capital expenditures, competitive strengths, goals, references to future goals or intentions, and other such references are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are identified as any statement that does not relate strictly to historical or current facts. They use words such as anticipate, believe, continue, estimate, expect, forecast, goal, intend, may, could, plan, position, projection, strategy, should or will, or the negative variations of them or by comparable terminology. In particular, statements, expressed or implied, concerning future actions, conditions or events or future operating results or the ability to generate sales, income or cash flow are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of performance. They involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Future actions, conditions or events and future results of operations may differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements. Many of the factors that will determine these results are beyond our ability or the ability of our affiliates to control or predict.

You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. When considering forward-looking statements, please review the risk factors identified in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus under Risk Factors, as well as the section entitled Risk Factors included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the other documents incorporated by reference. These risks may also be specifically described in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and 8-K/A and other documents we have filed with the SEC. Except as required by applicable securities laws, we do not intend to update these forward-looking statements and information.

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and other reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F. Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information on their public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information that we file with it. This procedure means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to documents filed with the SEC. The information that we incorporate by reference is an integral part of this prospectus supplement, and references to this prospectus supplement include the documents (or portions of documents) incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement. Any future filings we make with the SEC prior to the completion of this offering under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, and which are deemed to be filed, are also incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. Any statement contained in the filings (or portions of filings) incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus supplement to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus supplement or in any filing by us with the SEC prior to the completion of this offering modifies, conflicts with or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus supplement. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2010, June 30, 2010 and September 30, 2010; and

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed January 22, 2010, February 11, 2010, February 26, 2010, March 5, 2010, March 22, 2010, July 2, 2010, August 3, 2010 and October 28, 2010.

You may request a copy of these filings at no cost by making written or telephone requests for copies to:

Investor Relations

Genesis Energy, L.P.

919 Milam, Suite 2100

Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 860-2500

We also make available free of charge on our internet website at <http://www.genesisenergy.com> our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to those reports, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. Information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with any information. You should not assume that the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of each document.

Table of Contents

Prospectus

\$750,000,000

Common Units

Preferred Securities

Subordinated Securities

Options

Warrants

Rights

We may from time to time offer one or more classes or series of these equity securities as described in this prospectus, in one or more separate offerings under this prospectus. This prospectus provides you with the general terms of these equity securities and the general manner in which we will offer these equity securities. We may offer and sell securities using this prospectus only if it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement. We will include the specific terms of any securities we offer in a prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement will also describe the specific manner in which we will offer these equity securities. You should read this prospectus and the prospectus supplement carefully.

We may sell these securities to underwriters or dealers, or we may sell them directly to other purchasers. See Plan of Distribution. The prospectus supplement will list any underwriters and the compensation they will receive. The prospectus supplement will also show you the total amount of money that we will receive from selling these securities, after we pay certain expenses of the offering.

Our common units are listed on NYSE Amex Equities under the symbol GEL.

Investing in our securities involves risks. Limited partnerships are inherently different from corporations. You should carefully consider the Risk Factors beginning on page 2 of this prospectus and contained in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein before you make an investment in our securities.

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

The date of this prospectus is August 4, 2010.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>GENESIS ENERGY, L.P.</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	2
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	2
<u>DESCRIPTION OF OUR EQUITY SECURITIES</u>	3
<u>General</u>	3
<u>Our Common Units</u>	3
<u>Our Preferred Securities</u>	6
<u>Our Subordinated Securities</u>	6
<u>Our Options</u>	7
<u>Our Warrants</u>	9
<u>Our Rights</u>	10
<u>CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY</u>	12
<u>Distributions of Available Cash</u>	12
<u>Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus</u>	12
<u>Distributions of Available Cash From Operating Surplus</u>	13
<u>Distributions from Capital Surplus</u>	14
<u>Adjustment of Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels</u>	15
<u>Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation</u>	15
<u>DESCRIPTION OF OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT</u>	17
<u>Purpose</u>	17
<u>Power of Attorney</u>	17
<u>Reimbursements of Our General Partner</u>	17
<u>Issuance of Additional Securities</u>	17
<u>Amendments to Our Partnership Agreement</u>	18
<u>Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner</u>	18
<u>Liquidation and Distribution of Proceeds</u>	19
<u>Change of Management Provisions</u>	19
<u>Limited Call Right</u>	19
<u>Indemnification</u>	19
<u>Registration Rights</u>	19
<u>MATERIAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES</u>	21
<u>Partnership Status</u>	22
<u>Limited Partner Status</u>	23
<u>Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership</u>	23
<u>Tax Treatment of Operations</u>	29
<u>Disposition of Common Units</u>	30
<u>Uniformity of Units</u>	32
<u>Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors</u>	33
<u>Administrative Matters</u>	34
<u>State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Consequences</u>	36
<u>INVESTMENT IN GENESIS BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS</u>	37
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	38
<u>INFORMATION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	40
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	42
<u>EXPERTS</u>	42
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	42

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus, including any information incorporated by reference herein, is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the Commission, using a shelf registration or continuous offering process. Under this shelf registration process, we may sell one or more series or classes of equity securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings up to an aggregate offering price of \$750,000,000. This prospectus generally describes Genesis Energy, L.P. and our equity securities, including our common units. Each time we sell securities with this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement containing specific information about the terms of a particular offering. A prospectus supplement may also add to, update or change information in this prospectus. The information in this prospectus is accurate as of the date on the cover page. You should read carefully the section entitled Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements summarized on page 40. If the description of the offering varies between the prospectus supplement and this prospectus, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. Therefore, you should carefully read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, together with additional information described under the heading Where You Can Find More Information before you invest in our securities. You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated by reference. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. We will disclose any material changes in our affairs in an amendment to this prospectus, a prospectus supplement or a future filing with the Commission incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents.

Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus to Genesis Energy, L.P., Genesis, we, our, us or like terms refer to Genesis Energy, L.P. and its operating subsidiaries and joint ventures; Quintana means Quintana Capital Group II, L.P. and its affiliates; CO₂ means carbon dioxide; and NaHS, which is commonly pronounced as nash, means sodium hydrosulfide.

GENESIS ENERGY, L.P.

We are a growth-oriented limited partnership focused on the midstream segment of the oil and gas industry in the Gulf Coast region of the United States, primarily Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. We have a diverse portfolio of customers, operations and assets, including refinery-related plants, pipelines, storage tanks and terminals, barges, and trucks. We provide an integrated suite of services to refineries; oil and CO₂ producers; industrial and commercial enterprises that use NaHS and caustic soda; and businesses that use CO₂ and other industrial gases.

Quintana controls our general partner. On February 5, 2010, Quintana (along with its co-investors, certain members of the Davison family and our senior management team) acquired control of our general partner.

We were formed in 1996. Our executive offices are located at 919 Milam, Suite 2100, Houston, Texas 77002, and our telephone number is (713) 860-2500.

For additional information regarding our business properties and financial condition, please refer to the documents referenced in the section entitled Where You Can Find More Information.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our securities involves risks. You should consider carefully the risk factors and other information included in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement in evaluating an investment in our securities. We hereby incorporate by reference into this prospectus the risk factors included in Item 1A. Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 and all other risk factors contained in any other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. This prospectus also contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. If any of these risks occur, our business, financial condition or results of operation could be adversely affected. Please read Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise specified in an accompanying prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds we receive from the sale of the securities described in this prospectus for general partnership purposes, which may include, among other things, repayment of indebtedness, the acquisition of businesses and other capital expenditures, payment of distributions and additions to working capital. The exact amounts to be used and when the net proceeds will be applied will depend on a number of factors, including our funding requirements and the availability of alternative funding sources.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR EQUITY SECURITIES

General

As of the date of this prospectus, we have outstanding only common units. In the future, we may issue one or more series or classes of additional common units as well as the following other types of equity securities preferred securities, subordinated securities, options securities, warrant securities or rights securities. Those equity securities may have rights to distributions and allocations junior, equal or superior to our common units. Our general partner can determine the voting powers, designations, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other special rights, duties and qualifications, limitations or restrictions of any series or class and the number constituting any series or class of equity securities.

Our Common Units

Our common units represent limited partner interests in Genesis Energy, L.P. that entitle the holders to participate in our cash distributions and to exercise the rights or privileges available to limited partners under our partnership agreement.

Our outstanding common units are listed on NYSE Amex Equities under the symbol GEL.

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

Status as Limited Partner or Assignee. Except as described under Limited Liability, the common units will be fully paid, and the unitholders will not be required to make additional capital contributions to us.

Subsequent Transfer of Common Units. Each purchaser of common units offered by this prospectus must execute a transfer application. By executing and delivering a transfer application, the purchaser of common units:

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

automatically requests admission as a substituted limited partner in our partnership;

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

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

grants powers of attorney to officers of the general partner and any liquidator of our partnership as specified in the partnership agreement; and

makes the consents and waivers contained in the partnership agreement.

An assignee will become a substituted limited partner of our partnership for the transferred common units upon the consent of our general partner and the recording of the name of the assignee on our books and records. The general partner may withhold its consent in its sole discretion.

Transfer applications may be completed, executed and delivered by a purchaser's broker, agent or nominee. We are entitled to treat the nominee holder of a common unit as the absolute owner. In that case, the beneficial holders' 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.

Table of Contents

Common units are securities and are transferable according to the laws governing transfer of securities. In addition to other rights acquired, the purchaser has the right to request admission as a substituted limited partner in our partnership for the purchased common units. A purchaser of common units who does not execute and deliver a transfer application obtains only:

the right to assign the common unit to a purchaser or transferee; and

the right to transfer the right to seek admission as a substituted limited partner in our partnership for the purchased common units. Thus, a subsequent purchaser of common units who does not execute and deliver a transfer application:

will not receive cash distributions or federal income tax allocations, unless the common units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application; and

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

Limited Liability. Assuming that a limited partner does not participate in the control of our business within the meaning of the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act (the Delaware Act) and that he otherwise acts in conformity with the provisions of our 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 our partnership agreement; or

to take other action under our partnership agreement

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 Delaware law, to the same extent as the general partner. This liability would extend to persons who transact business with us and who reasonably believe that the limited partner is a general partner. Neither our partnership agreement nor the Delaware Act specifically provides for legal recourse against our 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 have found 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 our partnership, 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

Table of Contents

Act, an assignee who becomes a substituted limited partner of a limited partnership is liable for the obligations of his assignor to make contributions to our partnership, except the assignee is not obligated for liabilities unknown to him at the time he became a limited partner and which could not be ascertained from our partnership agreement.

Meetings; Voting. Except as described below regarding a person or group owning 20% or more of any class of units then outstanding, unitholders or assignees 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. Common units that are owned by an assignee who is a record holder, but who has not yet been admitted as a limited partner, will be voted by our general partner at the written direction of the record holder. Absent direction of this kind, the common units will not be voted, except that, 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 as would be 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 and which are entitled to vote thereat. 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 shall 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 shall be the greater percentage.

Each record holder of a unit has a vote according to his percentage interest in our partnership, although additional limited partner interests having special voting rights could be issued. However, if 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 or a person or group who acquires the units with the prior approval of the board of directors, acquires, in the aggregate, beneficial ownership of 20% or more of any class of units then outstanding, the person or group will lose voting rights on any matter relating to the succession, election, removal, withdrawal, replacement or substitution of the general partner and will not be considered to be outstanding when sending notices of a meeting of unitholders, calculating required votes, determining the presence of a quorum or for other similar purposes *if* the matter to be voted on relates to the succession, election, removal, withdrawal, replacement or substitution of the general partner. 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.

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.

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

We will furnish or make available to record holders of common units, within 75 days after the close of each fiscal year (or such shorter period as the Commission may prescribe), an annual report

Table of Contents

containing audited financial statements and a report on those financial statements by our independent registered public accountants. Except for our fourth quarter, we will also furnish or make available unaudited financial information within 40 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.

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 became a partner;

copies of our partnership agreement, the certificate of limited partnership of the 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 which we are required by law or by agreements with third parties to keep confidential.

Summary of Partnership Agreement. For a summary of the important provisions of our partnership agreement, many of which apply to holders of common units, see *Description of Our Partnership Agreement* in this prospectus.

Our Preferred Securities

Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of additional limited partner interests and other equity securities for the consideration and with the designations, rights, preferences, and privileges established by our general partner without the approval of any of our limited partners. In accordance with Delaware law and the provisions of our partnership agreement, we may issue additional partnership interests that have certain preferential rights to which our common units are not entitled, including, without limitation, preferences regarding voting and distributions. As of the date of this prospectus, we have no preferred securities outstanding.

Should we offer preferred securities under this prospectus, a prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of preferred securities offered will include the specific terms of those preferred securities, including, among other things, the following:

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

Table of Contents

the initial public offering price at which the preferred securities will be issued;

the conversion or exchange provisions of the preferred securities;

any redemption or sinking fund provisions of the preferred securities;

the distribution rights of the preferred securities, if any;

a discussion of any additional material federal income tax considerations (other than as discussed in this prospectus), if any, regarding the preferred securities; and

any additional rights, preferences, privileges, limitations, and restrictions of the preferred securities.

The transfer agent, registrar, and distributions disbursement agent for the preferred securities will be designated in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Our Subordinated Securities

Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of additional limited partner interests and other equity securities for the consideration and with the designations, rights, preferences, and privileges established by our general partner without the approval of any of our limited partners. In accordance with Delaware law and the provisions of our partnership agreement, we may issue additional partnership interests that have certain rights, including, without limitation, rights regarding voting and distributions, subordinate to the rights of our common units or preferred securities. As of the date of this prospectus, we have no subordinated securities outstanding.

Should we offer subordinated securities under this prospectus, a prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of subordinated securities offered will include the specific terms of those subordinated securities, including, among other things, the following:

the designation, stated value, and liquidation rights of the subordinated securities and the number of subordinated securities offered;

the initial public offering price at which the subordinated securities will be issued;

the conversion or exchange provisions of the subordinated securities;

any redemption or sinking fund provisions of the subordinated securities;

the distribution rights of the subordinated securities, if any;

a discussion of any additional material federal income tax considerations (other than as discussed in this prospectus), if any, regarding the subordinated securities; and

any additional rights, limitations, and restrictions of the subordinated securities.

The transfer agent, registrar, and distributions disbursement agent for the subordinated securities will be designated in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Our Options

We may issue options for the purchase of common units, preferred securities, subordinated securities or any combination of the foregoing. Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of options to purchase common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities for the consideration and with the rights, preferences, and privileges established by our general partner without the approval of any of our limited partners. Options may be issued independently or together with other securities and may be attached to or separate from any offered securities. Each series of options will be issued under a separate option agreement to be entered into between us and a

Table of Contents

bank or trust company, as option agent. The option agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the options and will not have any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of options. A copy of the option agreement will be filed with the Commission in connection with the offering of options.

The prospectus supplement relating to a particular issue of options to purchase common units, preferred securities, subordinated securities or any combination of the foregoing will describe the terms of such options, including, among other things, the following:

the title of the options;

the offering price for the options, if any;

the aggregate number of the options;

the designation and terms of the common units, preferred securities, or subordinated securities that may be purchased upon exercise of the options;

if applicable, the designation and terms of the securities that the options are issued with and the number of options issued with each security;

if applicable, the date from and after which the options and any securities issued with the options will be separately transferable;

the number of common units, preferred securities, or subordinated securities that may be purchased upon exercise of a option and the price at which such securities may be purchased upon exercise;

the dates on which the right to exercise the options commence and expire;

if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of the options that may be exercised at any one time;

the currency or currency units in which the offering price, if any, and the exercise price are payable;

if applicable, a discussion of material federal income tax considerations;

anti-dilution provisions of the options, if any;

redemption or call provisions, if any, applicable to the options;

Edgar Filing: GENESIS ENERGY LP - Form 424B3

any additional terms of the options, including terms, procedures, and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the options;
and

any other information we think is important about the options.

Each option will entitle the holder of the option to purchase at the exercise price set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement the number of common units, preferred securities, or subordinated securities being offered. Holders may exercise options at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised options are void. Holders may exercise options as set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the options being offered.

Until you exercise your options to purchase our common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities, you will not have any rights as a holder of common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities, as the case may be, by virtue of your ownership of options.

Table of Contents

Our Warrants

We may issue warrants for the purchase of common units, preferred securities, subordinated securities or any combination of the foregoing. Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of warrants to purchase common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities for the consideration and with the rights, preferences, and privileges established by our general partner without the approval of any of our limited partners. Warrants may be issued independently or together with other securities and may be attached to or separate from any offered securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as warrant agent. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants and will not have any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants. A copy of the warrant agreement will be filed with the Commission in connection with the offering of warrants.

The prospectus supplement relating to a particular issue of warrants to purchase common units, preferred securities, subordinated securities or any combination of the foregoing will describe the terms of such warrants, including, among other things, the following:

the title of the warrants;

the offering price for the warrants, if any;

the aggregate number of the warrants;

the designation and terms of the common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities that maybe purchased upon exercise of the warrants;

if applicable, the designation and terms of the securities that the warrants are issued with and the number of warrants issued with each security;

if applicable, the date from and after which the warrants and any securities issued with the warrants will be separately transferable;

the number of common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities that may be purchased upon exercise of a warrant and the price at which such securities may be purchased upon exercise;

the dates on which the right to exercise the warrants commence and expire;

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

the currency or currency units in which the offering price, if any, and the exercise price are payable;

if applicable, a discussion of material federal income tax considerations;

anti-dilution provisions of the warrants, if any;

redemption or call provisions, if any, applicable to the warrants;

any additional terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures, and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants; and

any other information we think is important about the warrants.

Each warrant will entitle the holder of the warrant to purchase at the exercise price set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement the number of common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities being offered. Holders may exercise warrants at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the

Table of Contents

expiration date, unexercised warrants are void. Holders may exercise warrants as set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the warrants being offered.

Until you exercise your warrants to purchase our common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities, you will not have any rights as a holder of common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities, as the case may be, by virtue of your ownership of warrants.

Our Rights

We may issue rights to purchase common units, preferred securities, subordinated securities or any combination of the foregoing. Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of rights to purchase common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities for the consideration and with the rights, preferences, and privileges established by our general partner without the approval of any of our limited partners. These rights may be issued independently or together with any other security offered hereby and may or may not be transferable by the holder receiving the rights in such offering. In connection with any offering of such rights, we may enter into a standby arrangement with one or more underwriters or other purchasers pursuant to which the underwriters or other purchasers may be required to purchase any securities remaining unsubscribed for after such offering.

Each series of rights will be issued under a separate rights agreement, which we will enter into with a bank or trust company, as rights agent, all as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The rights agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the certificates relating to the rights and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust with any holders of rights certificates or beneficial owners of rights. We will file the rights agreement and the rights certificates relating to each series of rights with the Commission, and incorporate them by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part on or before the time we issue a series of rights.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of any offering of rights for which this prospectus is being delivered, including, among other things, the following:

the date of determining the unitholders entitled to the rights distribution;

the number of rights issued or to be issued to each unitholder;

the exercise price payable for each common unit, preferred security or subordinated security upon the exercise of the rights;

the number and terms of the common units, preferred securities or subordinated securities, which may be purchased per each right;

the extent to which the rights are transferable;

the date on which the holder's ability to exercise the rights shall commence, and the date on which the rights shall expire;

the extent to which the rights may include an over-subscription privilege with respect to unsubscribed securities;

if applicable, the material terms of any standby underwriting or purchase arrangement entered into by us in connection with the offering of such rights;

Edgar Filing: GENESIS ENERGY LP - Form 424B3

any other terms of the rights, including the terms, procedures, conditions, and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the rights; and

any other information we think is important about the rights.

Table of Contents

The description in the applicable prospectus supplement of any rights that we may offer will not necessarily be complete and will be qualified in its entirety by reference to the applicable rights certificate, which will be filed with the Commission.

Table of Contents

CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY

Distributions of Available Cash

General. Within approximately 45 days after the end of each quarter, Genesis Energy, L.P. will distribute all available cash to unitholders of record on the applicable record date. However, there is no guarantee that we will pay a distribution on the common units in any quarter, and we will be prohibited from making any distributions to unitholders if it would cause an event of default, or if an event of default then exists, under our credit facility.

Definition of Available Cash. Available cash generally means, for each fiscal quarter, all cash on hand at the end of the quarter:

less the amount of cash reserves that the general partner determines in its reasonable discretion is necessary or appropriate to:

provide for the proper conduct of our business;

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

provide funds for distributions 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.

Working capital borrowings are generally borrowings that are made under our credit facility and in all cases are used solely for working capital purposes or to pay distributions to partners.

Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus

General. All cash distributed to unitholders will be characterized either as operating surplus or capital surplus. We distribute available cash from operating surplus differently than available cash from capital surplus.

Maintenance capital expenditures are capital expenditures made to maintain, over the long term, the operating capacity of our assets as they existed at the time of the expenditure. Expansion capital expenditures are capital expenditures made to increase over the long term the operating capacity of our assets as they existed at the time of the expenditure. The general partner has the discretion to determine how to allocate a capital expenditure for the acquisition or expansion of our pipeline systems, storage facilities and related assets between maintenance capital expenditures and expansion capital expenditures, and its good faith allocation will be conclusive. Maintenance capital expenditures reduce operating surplus, from which we pay the minimum quarterly distribution, but expansion capital expenditures do not.

Definition of Operating Surplus. For any period, operating surplus generally means:

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

\$20.0 million (as described below); plus

Edgar Filing: GENESIS ENERGY LP - Form 424B3

all of our cash receipts since the closing of our initial public offering, excluding cash from borrowings that are not working capital borrowings, sales of equity and debt securities and 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 that quarter;
less

Table of Contents

all of our operating expenses since the closing of our initial public offering, including the repayment of working capital borrowings and the payment of capital expenditures, other than:

repayments of indebtedness that are required in connection with the sale or other disposition of assets or that are made in connection with the refinancing or refunding of indebtedness with the proceeds from new indebtedness or from the sale of equity securities;

expansion capital expenditures;

transaction expenses relating to borrowings or refinancings of indebtedness (other than for working capital purposes), sales of debt or equity securities or sales or other dispositions of assets other than in the ordinary course of business; less

the amount of cash reserves that the general partner deems necessary or advisable to provide funds for future operating expenditures. *Definition of Capital Surplus.* Capital surplus will generally be generated only by:

borrowings other than working capital borrowings;

sales of debt and equity securities; or

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 as part of normal retirements or replacements of assets.

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. As reflected above, operating surplus includes \$20.0 million in addition to our cash balance on the closing date of our initial public offering, cash receipts from our operations and cash from working capital borrowings. This amount does not reflect actual cash on hand at closing that is available for distribution to our unitholders. Rather, it is a provision that will enable us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to \$20 million of cash we receive in the future from non-operating sources, such as assets sales, issuances of securities and long-term borrowings, which would otherwise be considered distributions of capital surplus. Any distributions of capital surplus would trigger certain adjustment provisions in our partnership agreement as described below. See *Distributions From Capital Surplus* and *Adjustment to the Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels*.

Distributions of Available Cash From Operating Surplus

We will make distributions of available cash from operating surplus in the following manner:

First, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the 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 under *Incentive Distribution Rights* below.

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 holds all of the incentive distribution rights. There are no restrictions on the ability of our general partner to transfer the incentive distribution rights.

Table of Contents

If for any quarter we have distributed available cash from operating surplus to the common unitholders in an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution, then we will distribute any additional available cash from operating surplus for that quarter among the unitholders and the general partner in the following manner:

First, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.25 per unit for that quarter (the first target distribution);

Second, 84.74% to all unitholders, pro rata, 13.26% to the holder of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.28 per unit for that quarter (the second target distribution);

Third, 74.53% to all unitholders, pro rata, 23.47% to the holder of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.33 per unit for that quarter (the third target distribution); and

Thereafter, 49.02% to all unitholders, pro rata, 48.98% to the holder of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to the general partner.
Percentage allocations of available cash from operating surplus

The following table illustrates the percentage allocations of the additional available cash from operating surplus between 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 our general partner and the unitholders 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 the general partner for the minimum quarterly distribution are also applicable to quarterly distribution amounts that are less than the minimum quarterly distribution.

	Total Quarterly Distribution Target Amount	Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions		
		Unitholders	General Partner	Holder of Incentive Distribution Rights
Minimum Quarterly Distribution	up to \$0.20	98%	2%	
First Target Distribution	above \$0.20 up to \$0.25	98%	2%	
Second Target Distribution	above \$0.25 up to \$0.28	84.74%	2%	13.26%
Third Target Distribution	above \$0.28 up to \$0.33	74.53%	2%	23.47%
Thereafter	above \$0.33	49.02%	2%	48.98%

Distributions from Capital Surplus

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 the general partner, until we distribute for each common unit that was issued in the initial public offering, an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to the initial public offering price; and

Thereafter, we will make all distributions of available cash from capital surplus as if they were from operating surplus.
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 the initial public offering, which is a return of capital. The initial public offering price less any distributions of capital surplus per

Edgar Filing: GENESIS ENERGY LP - Form 424B3

unit is referred to as the unrecovered initial unit price. Each time a distribution of capital surplus is made, the minimum

Table of Contents

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 the general partner to receive incentive distributions.

Once we distribute capital surplus on a unit in an amount equal to the initial unit price, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels to zero and we will make all future distributions from operating surplus, with 49.02% being paid to the unitholders and 50.98% to the general partner.

Adjustment of 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; and

the unrecovered initial unit price.

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. 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 in a manner that causes us to 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 by multiplying the same by one minus the sum of the highest marginal federal corporate income tax rate that could apply and the effective overall state and local income tax rates. For example, if we became subject to a maximum marginal federal, and effective state and local income tax rate of 38%, then the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distributions levels would each be reduced to 62% of their previous levels.

Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation

If we dissolve in accordance with our partnership agreement, we will sell or otherwise dispose of our assets in a process called a 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 the 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.

Manner of Adjustment for Gain. The manner of the adjustment is set forth in the partnership agreement. Upon liquidation, 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;

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

(1) the unrecovered initial unit price; plus

Table of Contents

- (2) the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs;

Third, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, pro rata, 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 was distributed 98% to the units, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, pro rata, for each quarter of our existence;

Fourth, 84.74% to all unitholders, pro rata, 13.26% to the holder of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to the 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 was distributed 84.74% to the unitholders, pro rata, 13.26% to the holder of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to the general partner for each quarter of our existence;

Fifth, 74.53% to all unitholders, pro rata, 23.47% to the holder of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to the 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 was distributed 74.53% to the unitholders, pro rata, 23.47% to the holder of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to the general partner for each quarter of our existence;

Thereafter, 49.02% to all unitholders, pro rata, 48.98% to the holder of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to the general partner. *Manner of Adjustment for Losses*. Upon our liquidation, we will generally allocate any loss to the general partner and the unitholders in the following manner:

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

Edgar Filing: GENESIS ENERGY LP - Form 424B3

Thereafter, 100% to the general partner.

Adjustments to Capital Accounts Upon the Issuance of Additional Units. We will make adjustments to capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units. In doing so, we will allocate any gain or loss resulting from the adjustments to the unitholders and the general partner in the same manner as we allocate gain or loss upon liquidation. In the event that we make positive interim adjustments to the capital accounts, we will allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional units or distributions of property or upon liquidation in a manner which results, to the extent possible, in the capital account balance of the general partner equaling the amount which would have been in its capital account if no earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts had been made.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The following is a summary of the material provisions of our partnership agreement. Our partnership agreement has been filed with the Commission, and is incorporated by reference in this prospectus. The following provisions of our partnership agreement are summarized elsewhere in this prospectus:

allocations of taxable income and other tax matters are described under **Material Income Tax Consequences** ; and

rights of holders of common units are described under **Description of Our Equity Securities** **Our Common Units**.

Purpose

Our purpose under our partnership agreement is to engage directly or indirectly in any business activity that is approved by our general partner and that may be lawfully conducted by a limited partnership under the Delaware Act. All of our operations are conducted through our subsidiaries and joint ventures.

Power of Attorney

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

Reimbursements of Our General Partner

Our general partner does not receive any compensation for its services as our general partner. It is, however, entitled to be reimbursed for all of its costs incurred in managing and operating our business. Our partnership agreement provides that our general partner will determine the expenses that are allocable to us in any reasonable manner determined by our general partner in its sole discretion. In addition, our general partner owns certain of our equity interest, including our general partner interest and our incentive distribution rights.

Issuance of Additional Securities

Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of additional partner securities and rights to buy partnership securities that are equal in rank with or junior to our common units on terms and conditions established by our general partner in its sole discretion without the approval of the unitholders.

It is possible that we will fund acquisitions through the issuance of additional common units or other equity 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 equity 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 equity securities that, in the sole discretion of our general partner, may have special voting rights to which common units are not entitled.

Table of Contents

Our general partner has the right, which it may from time to time assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates, to purchase common units or other equity 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 its percentage interest, including its interest represented by common units, that existed immediately prior to the issuance. The holders of common units will not have preemptive rights to acquire additional common units or other partnership securities.

Amendments to Our Partnership Agreement

Amendments to our partnership agreement may be proposed only by or with the consent of our general partner. Any amendment that materially and adversely affects the rights or preferences of any type or class of limited partner interests in relation to other types or classes of limited partner interests or our general partner interest will require the approval of at least a majority of the type or class of limited partner interests or general partner interests so affected.

However, in some circumstances, more particularly described in our partnership agreement, our general partner may make amendments to our partnership agreement without the approval of our limited partners or assignees.

Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner

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.

Upon the voluntary withdrawal of our general partner, the holders of a majority of our outstanding common units may elect a successor to the 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 180 days after that withdrawal, the holders of a majority of our outstanding common units agree in writing to continue our business and to appoint a successor general partner.

Our general partner may be removed with or without cause. Cause means that a court of competent jurisdiction has entered a final, non-appealable judgment finding our general partner liable for actual fraud, gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct in its capacity as our general partner. If cause exists, our general partner may not be removed unless that removal is approved by the vote of the holders of not less than two-thirds of our outstanding units, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates. The removal of our general partner for cause is also subject to the approval of a successor general partner by a vote of the holders of not less than two-thirds of our outstanding units, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates. If no cause exists, our general partner may not be removed unless that removal is approved by the vote of the holders of not less than a majority of our outstanding units, excluding units held by our general partner and its affiliates. Any removal of our general partner by the unitholders without cause is also subject to the approval of a successor general partner by the vote of the holders of a majority of our outstanding common units and the receipt of an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. Additionally, upon removal of the general partner without cause, our general partner will have the option to convert its interest in us (other than its common units) into common units or to require our replacement general partner to purchase such interest for cash at its then fair market value.

While our partnership agreement limits the ability of our general partner to withdraw, it allows the general partner interest to be transferred to an affiliate or to a third party in conjunction with a merger or sale of all or substantially all of the assets of our general partner. In addition, our partnership

Table of Contents

agreement expressly permits the sale, in whole or in part, of the ownership of our general partner. Our general partner may also transfer, in whole or in part, the common units and any other partnership securities it owns, including the incentive distribution rights.

Liquidation and Distribution of Proceeds

Upon our dissolution, unless we are reconstituted and continued as a new limited partnership, the person authorized to wind up our affairs (the liquidator) will, acting with all the powers of our general partner that the liquidator deems necessary or desirable in its judgment, liquidate our assets. The proceeds of the liquidation will be applied as follows:

first, towards the payment of all of our creditors; and

then, to our unitholders and our general partner in accordance with the positive balance in their respective capital accounts.

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

Change of Management Provisions

Our partnership agreement contains the following specific provisions that are intended to discourage a person or group from attempting to remove our general partner or otherwise change management:

any units held by a person that owns 20% or more of any class of units then outstanding, other than our general partner and its affiliates, cannot be voted on any matters pertaining to the succession, election, removal, withdrawal, replacement or substitution of our general partner; and

the partnership agreement contains provisions limiting the ability of unitholders to call meetings or to acquire information about our operations, as well as other provisions limiting the unitholders' ability to influence the manner or direction of management.

Limited Call Right

If at any time our general partner and its affiliates own more than 80% of the issued and outstanding limited partner interests of any class, our general partner will have the right to acquire all, but not less than all, of the outstanding limited partner interests of that class that are held by non-affiliated persons. The record date for determining ownership of the limited partner interests would be selected by our general partner on at least ten but not more than 60 days notice. The purchase price in the event of a purchase under these provisions would be the greater of (1) the current market price (as defined in our partnership agreement) of the limited partner interests of the class as of the date three days prior to the date that notice is mailed to the limited partners as provided in the partnership agreement and (2) 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 our general partner first mails notice of its election to purchase those partnership securities.

Indemnification

Under our partnership agreement, in most circumstances, we will indemnify our general partner, its affiliates and their officers and directors to the fullest extent permitted by law, from and against all losses, claims or damages any of them may suffer by reason of their status as general partner, officer or

Table of Contents

director, as long as the person seeking indemnity acted in good faith and in a manner believed to be in or not opposed to our best interest. Any indemnification under these provisions will only be out of our assets. Our general partner and its affiliates shall not be personally liable for, or have any obligation to contribute or loan funds or assets to us to enable us to effectuate any indemnification. We are authorized to 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. In addition, we typically enter into indemnification agreements with each director of our general partner covering any costs, claims or expenses such director incurs in connection with serving in her/his capacity as a director or any other capacity at the request of our general partner or us.

Registration Rights

Under our partnership agreement, we have agreed to register for resale under the Securities Act of 1933 (the Securities Act), and applicable state securities laws any common 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. We are obligated to pay all expenses incidental to the registration, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions.

Table of Contents

MATERIAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

This section is a discussion of the material income tax consequences 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, expresses the opinion of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, 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 of 1986, as amended (the Internal Revenue Code), existing and proposed Treasury Regulations promulgated under the Internal Revenue Code (the Treasury 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, we, our, or ours are references to Genesis Energy, L.P. and its subsidiaries.

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 urge 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 Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP and are based on the accuracy of the representations made by us and our general partner. No ruling has been or will be requested from the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS) regarding any matter affecting us or prospective unitholders. Instead, we will rely on opinions and advice of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP. 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 our 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 directly or 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, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP 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 see 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 see Disposition of Common Units Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees); and
- (3) whether our method for depreciating Section 743 adjustments is sustainable (please see Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Section 754 Election).

Table of Contents

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 to the partnership or to the partner unless the amount of cash distributed to him 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, storage, processing, and marketing of crude oil, natural gas and products thereof and fertilizer. 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 at least 90% of our current gross income is qualifying income. Based upon and subject to this estimate, the factual representations made by us and the general partner and a review of the applicable legal authorities, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP 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 as a partnership 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 Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP. It is the opinion of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP that, based upon the Internal Revenue Code, the Treasury Regulations, published revenue rulings and court decisions and the representations described below, we will be classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

In rendering its opinion, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP has relied on factual representations made by us and our general partner. The representations made by us and our general partner upon which counsel has relied include:

- (a) Neither we nor the operating company has elected or will elect to be treated as a corporation;
- (b) For each taxable year, more than 90% of our gross income has been and will be income from sources that Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP has opined or will opine is qualifying income within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code; and
- (c) Each hedging transaction that we treat as resulting in qualifying income has been and will be appropriately identified as a hedging transaction pursuant to applicable Treasury Regulations, and has been and will be associated with oil, gas or products thereof that are held or are to be held by us in activities that Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP has opined or will opine result in qualifying income.

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 our 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 an association taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes.

Table of Contents

If we were treated as an association taxable 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 remainder of the discussion below is based on Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP'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 Genesis will be treated as partners of Genesis for federal income tax purposes. Also:

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

(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 Genesis for federal income tax purposes. As there is no direct authority addressing assignees of common units who are entitled to execute and deliver transfer applications and become entitled to direct the exercise of attendant rights, but who fail to execute and deliver transfer applications, the opinion of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP does not extend to these persons. Furthermore, a purchaser or other transferee of common units who does not execute and deliver a transfer application may not receive some federal income tax information or reports furnished to record holders of common units unless the common units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application for those common units.

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 see "Tax 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 status as partners in Genesis.

The references to unitholders in the discussion that follows are to persons who are treated as partners in Genesis for federal income tax purposes.

Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership

Flow-Through of Taxable Income. Except for taxes paid by our corporate subsidiaries, 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 corresponding cash

Table of Contents

distributions are received by 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 our 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 by us 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 see *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. This deemed distribution may constitute a non-pro rata distribution. 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 Section 751 of 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 then 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 (generally zero) 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 of cash he pays for our common units and his adjusted basis in any assets he exchanges for 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 see *Disposition of Common Units Recognition of Gain or Loss*.

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, estate, trust, or 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 subject to these limitations 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 as a deduction to the extent that his at-risk amount is subsequently increased, provided such losses do not exceed such common unitholders' tax basis in his common units. 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.

Table of Contents

Any loss previously suspended by the at-risk limitation in excess of that gain would no longer be 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.

In addition to the basis and at-risk limitations on the deductibility of losses, 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 or qualified dividend income. 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.

Entity-Level Payments. 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

Table of Contents

distribution of cash to the partner 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 partner in which event the partner 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 our unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us. At any time that 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, that loss will be allocated first to the general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us to the extent of their positive capital accounts and, second, to the general partner.

Specified items of our income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated to account for (i) any difference between the tax basis and fair market value of our assets at the time of an offering and (ii) any difference between the tax basis and fair market value of any property contributed to us that exists at the time of such contribution, together, referred to in this discussion as the *Contributed Property*. The effect of these allocations, referred to as *Section 704(c) Allocations*, to a unitholder purchasing common units from us in an offering will be essentially the same as if the tax bases of our assets were equal to their fair market value at the time of such offering. In the event we issue additional common units or engage in certain other transactions in the future, we will make *reverse Section 704(c) Allocations*, similar to the *Section 704(c) Allocations* described above, to all holders of partnership interests immediately prior to such issuance or other transactions 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 such issuance or future transaction. In addition, items of recapture income will be allocated to the extent possible to the partner 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 as is needed 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.

Table of Contents

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP 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.

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.

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP has not rendered an opinion regarding the tax treatment of a unitholder whose common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units because there is no direct or indirect authority on the issue related to partnership interests and without such authority a legal opinion cannot be issued; 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 borrowing and 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. 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. Under current law, the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income of individuals is 35% and the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to long-term capital gains (generally, capital gains on certain assets held for more than 12 months) of individuals is 15%. However, absent new legislation extending the current rates, beginning January 1, 2011, the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income and long-term capital gains of individuals will increase to 39.6% and 20%, respectively. Moreover, these rates are subject to change by new legislation at any time.

The recently enacted Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will impose a 3.8% Medicare tax on certain investment income earned by individuals for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012. For these purposes, investment income generally includes a unitholder's allocable share of our income and gain realized by a unitholder from a sale of units. The tax will be imposed on the lesser of (i) the unitholder's net income from all investments, and (ii) the amount by which the unitholder's adjusted gross income exceeds \$250,000 (if the unitholder is married and filing jointly) or \$200,000 (if the unitholder is unmarried).

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

Table of Contents

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 generally adopted as to all of our 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 whose book basis is in excess of its tax basis to be depreciated over the remaining cost recovery period for the Section 704(c) built in gain. 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, the 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. Please see Uniformity of Units.

Although Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP 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 property's unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, or treat that portion as non-amortizable to the extent attributable to property 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. 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. Please see Uniformity of Units. A unitholder's tax basis for his common units is reduced by his share of our 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 see 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 deductions and his share of any gain 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

Table of Contents

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 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 see [Disposition of Common Units](#) [Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees](#).

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 an offering will be borne by our unitholders holding interests in us prior to any such offering. Please see [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 subject to these allowances are placed in service. We may not be entitled to amortization deductions with respect to certain goodwill conveyed to us in future transactions or held at the time of any future offering. 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 see [Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership](#) [Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction](#) and [Disposition of Common Units](#) [Recognition of Gain or Loss](#).

Table of Contents

The costs we incur 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 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 will generally be taxable as capital gain or loss. Capital gain recognized by an individual on the sale of units held for more than twelve months will generally be taxed at a maximum U.S. federal income tax rate of 15% through December 31, 2010 and 20% thereafter (absent new legislation extending or adjusting the current rate). However, a portion, which will likely be substantial, 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

Table of Contents

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 discussed above, 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 Treasury Regulations, he 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 Treasury 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 our 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 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 business will be allocated among our 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.

Although simplifying conventions are contemplated by the Internal Revenue Code and most publicly traded partnerships use similar simplifying conventions, the use of this method may not be permitted under existing Treasury Regulations. Accordingly, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP 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.

Table of Contents

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. 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 been terminated for tax purposes if there are sales or exchanges which, in the aggregate, constitute 50% or more of the total interests in our capital and profits within a twelve-month period. For purposes of measuring whether the 50% threshold is reached, multiple sales of the same interest are counted only once. A constructive termination results in the closing of our taxable year for all unitholders. 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. A constructive termination occurring on a date other than December 31 may result in us filing two tax returns (and common unitholders may receive two Schedules K-1) for one fiscal year and the cost of the preparation of these returns will be borne by all common unitholders. We would be required to make new tax elections after a termination, including a new election under Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code, and a termination would result in a deferral of our deductions for depreciation. A termination could also result in penalties if we were unable to determine that the termination had occurred. Moreover, 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). Any non-uniformity could have a negative impact on the value of the units. Please see [Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership](#) [Section 754 Election](#).

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 property's unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, or treat that portion as nonamortizable, to the extent attributable to property the common basis of which is not amortizable, consistent with the Treasury 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. Please see [Tax 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 methods and lives 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

Table of Contents

depreciation and amortization deductions will have a material adverse effect on our 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 our 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 see [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 raise issues unique to those investors and, as described below, may have substantially adverse tax consequences to them. If you are a tax-exempt entity or a foreign person, you should consult your tax advisor before investing in our common units.

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 it.

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 are 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.

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 other 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.

Table of Contents

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 in all cases yield a result that conforms to the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, Treasury Regulations or administrative interpretations of the IRS. Neither we nor Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP 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 our general partner as our Tax Matters Partner.

The Tax Matters Partner has made and will make 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 our 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 the tax report we provide to him. 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,
 - (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;

Table of Contents

(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 (\$10,000 for most corporations). 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 or any of our investments, plans or arrangements.

A substantial valuation misstatement exists if the value of any property, or the adjusted basis of any property, claimed on a tax return is 150% 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 200% or more than the correct valuation, the penalty imposed increases to 40%. We do not anticipate making any valuation misstatements.

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 six successive 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 see Information Returns and Audit Procedures.

Table of Contents

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 Consequences

In addition to federal income taxes, you may 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. We own assets and do business in more than 25 states including Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Many of the states we currently do business in currently impose a personal income tax. We may also own property or do business in other states in the future. Although an analysis of those various taxes is not presented here, each prospective unitholder is urged to consider their potential impact on his investment in us. 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 might be required to file income tax returns and to pay income taxes in other jurisdictions in which we do business or own property, now or in the future, 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 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 see Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Entity-Level Payments.

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. Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP has not rendered an opinion on the state, local, or foreign tax consequences of an investment in us.

Table of Contents

INVESTMENT IN GENESIS BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

An investment in Genesis by an employee benefit plan is subject to certain additional considerations because persons with discretionary control of assets of such plans (a fiduciary) are subject to the fiduciary responsibility provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA), and transactions are subject to restrictions imposed by Section 4975 of the Code. As used in this prospectus, the term employee benefit plan includes, but is not limited to, qualified pension, profit-sharing and stock bonus plans, Keogh plans, Simplified Employee Pension Plans, and tax deferred annuities or Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) established or maintained by an employer or employee organization. Among other things, consideration should be given to (1) whether such investment is prudent under Section 404(a)(1)(B) of ERISA, (2) whether in making such investment such plan will satisfy the diversification requirement of Section 404(a)(1)(C) of ERISA, and (3) whether such investment will result in recognition of unrelated business taxable income by such plan. Please read Material Income Tax Consequences Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors. Fiduciaries should determine whether an investment in Genesis is authorized by the appropriate governing instrument and is an appropriate investment for such plan.

In addition, a fiduciary of an employee benefit plan should consider whether such plan will, by investing in Genesis, be deemed to own an undivided interest in the assets of Genesis, with the result that the general partner would also be a fiduciary of such plan and Genesis would be subject to the regulatory restrictions of ERISA, including its prohibited transaction rules, as well as the prohibited transaction rules of the Code.

Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code (which also applies to IRAs that are not considered part of an employee benefit plan; i.e., IRAs established or maintained by individuals rather than an employer or employee organization) prohibit an employee benefit plan from engaging in certain transactions involving plan assets with parties who are parties in interest under ERISA or disqualified persons under the Code with respect to the plan. Under Department of Labor regulations the assets of an entity in which employee benefit plans acquire equity interests would not be deemed plan assets if, among other things, (1) the equity interests acquired by employee benefit plans are publicly offered securities - i.e., the equity interests are widely held by 100 or more investors independent of the issuer and each other, freely transferable and registered pursuant to certain provisions of the federal securities law, (2) the entity is an operating company - i.e., it is primarily engaged in the production or sale of a product or service other than the investment of capital, or (3) there is no significant investment by benefit plan investors, which is defined to mean that less than 25% of the value of each class of equity interest is held by employee benefit plans subject to the fiduciary responsibility provisions of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code. Genesis assets are not expected to be considered plan assets under these regulations because it is expected that the investment will satisfy the requirements in (1) above, and may also satisfy the requirements in (2) and (3).

Each person investing in Genesis will be deemed to represent that its acquisition, holding and disposition of such investment will not constitute a non-exempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may offer and sell the securities described in this prospectus from time to time directly, through agents, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to any particular offering will contain the terms of the securities sold in that offering, including:

the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents (if any);

the offering price;

underwriting discounts;

sales agents' commissions;

other forms of underwriter or agent compensation;

discounts, concessions or commissions that underwriters may pass on to other dealers; and

any exchange on which the securities are listed.

We may change the offering price, underwriting discounts or concessions, or the price to dealers when necessary. Discounts or commissions received by underwriters or agents and any profits on the resale of securities by them may constitute underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act.

Unless we state otherwise in a prospectus supplement, underwriters will need to meet certain requirements before purchasing securities. Agents may act on a best efforts basis during their appointment. We will also state the net proceeds from the sale in a prospectus supplement.

Any brokers or dealers that participate in the distribution of the securities may be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act for such sales. Profits, commissions, discounts or concessions received by such broker or dealer may be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. Brokers or 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 or distributions.

Offers to purchase securities may be solicited directly by us and the sale thereof may be made by us directly to institutional investors or others, who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act with respect to any resale thereof. The terms of any such sales will be described in the prospectus supplement relating thereto. We may use electronic media, including the Internet, to sell offered securities directly.

When necessary, we may fix securities distribution using changeable, fixed prices, market prices at the time of sale, prices related to market prices, or negotiated prices.

We may, through agreements, indemnify underwriters, dealers or agents that participate in the distribution of the securities against certain liabilities including liabilities under the Securities Act. We may also provide funds for payments that the underwriters, dealers or agents may be required to make. Underwriters, dealers and agents, and their affiliates may transact with us and our affiliates in the ordinary course of their business.

Edgar Filing: GENESIS ENERGY LP - Form 424B3

We may offer our equity securities described in this prospectus into an existing trading market on the terms described in the prospectus supplement thereto. Underwriters and dealers who may participate in any at-the-market offerings will be described in the prospectus supplement relating thereto.

Table of Contents

The aggregate maximum compensation the underwriters will receive in connection with the sale of any securities under this prospectus and the registration statement of which it forms a part will not exceed 10% of the gross proceeds from the sale.

Because the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) views our common units as interests in a direct participation program, any offering of common units under the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part will be made in compliance with Rule 2310 of the FINRA Rules.

To the extent required, this prospectus may be amended or supplemented from time to time to describe a specific plan of distribution. The place and time of delivery for the equity securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered will be set forth in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

To facilitate an offering of a series of the securities, certain persons participating in the offering may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain, or otherwise affect the price of the securities. This may include over-allotments or short sales of the securities, which involves the sale by persons participating in the offering of more securities than we sold to them. In these circumstances, these persons would cover the over-allotments or short positions by making purchases in the open market or by exercising their over-allotment option. In addition, these persons may stabilize or maintain the price of the securities by bidding for or purchasing securities in the open market or by imposing penalty bids, whereby selling concessions allowed to dealers participating in the offering may be reclaimed if securities sold by them are repurchased in connection with stabilization transactions. The effect of these transactions may be to stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. These transactions may be discontinued at any time.

Any offering and sale under this prospectus may be made on one or more national securities exchanges or in the over-the-counter market, or otherwise at prices and on terms then prevailing or at prices related to the then-current market price, or in negotiated transactions.

Table of Contents

INFORMATION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The statements in this prospectus and the documents incorporated in this prospectus by reference that are not historical information may be forward looking statements within the meaning of the various provisions of the Securities Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. All statements, other than historical facts, included in this prospectus and the documents incorporated in this prospectus by reference that address activities, events or developments that we expect or anticipate will or may occur in the future, including things such as plans for growth of the business, future capital expenditures, competitive strengths, goals, references to future goals or intentions and other such references are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are identified as any statement that does not relate strictly to historical or current facts. They use words such as anticipate, believe, continue, estimate, expect, forecast, intend, may, plan, position, projection, or the negative of those terms or other variations of them or by comparable terminology. In particular, statements, expressed or implied, concerning future actions, conditions or events or future operating results or the ability to generate sales, income or cash flow are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of performance. Those forward-looking statements reflect our intentions, plans, expectations, assumptions and beliefs, and they involve risks, uncertainties and other contingencies, many of which are beyond our control. Future actions, conditions or events and future results of operations may differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements. Many of the factors that will determine these results are beyond our ability or the ability of our affiliates to control or predict. Specific factors that could cause actual results to differ from those in the forward-looking statements include:

demand for, the supply of, changes in forecast data for, and price trends related to crude oil, liquid petroleum, natural gas and natural gas liquids, or NGLs, sodium hydrosulfide and caustic soda in the United States, all of which may be affected by economic activity, capital expenditures by energy producers, weather, alternative energy sources, international events, conservation and technological advances;

throughput levels and rates;

changes in, or challenges to, our tariff rates;

our ability to successfully identify and consummate strategic acquisitions, make cost saving changes in operations and integrate acquired assets or businesses into our existing operations;

service interruptions in our liquids transportation systems, natural gas transportation systems or natural gas gathering and processing operations;

shut-downs or cutbacks at refineries, petrochemical plants, utilities or other businesses for which we transport crude oil, natural gas or other products or to whom we sell such products;

changes in laws or regulations to which we are subject;

our inability to borrow or otherwise access funds needed for operations, expansions or capital expenditures as a result of existing debt agreements that contain restrictive financial covenants;

loss of key personnel;

the effects of competition, in particular, by other pipeline systems;

hazards and operating risks that may not be covered fully by insurance;

the condition of the capital markets in the United States;

the loss or bankruptcy of key customers;

the political and economic stability of the oil producing nations of the world; and

Table of Contents

general economic conditions, including rates of inflation and interest rates.

You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. When considering forward-looking statements, please review the risk factors described under **Risk Factors** beginning on page 2 of this prospectus. Except as required by applicable securities laws, we do not intend to update these forward-looking statements and information.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, as our counsel, will issue an opinion for us about the legality of the securities and the material federal income tax considerations regarding the common units. Any underwriter will be advised about other issues relating to any offering by its own legal counsel.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and the related financial statement schedule incorporated in this prospectus by reference from Genesis Energy, L.P.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 and the effectiveness of Genesis Energy, L.P.'s internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The balance sheet of Genesis Energy, LLC as of December 31, 2009, incorporated in this prospectus by reference from Genesis Energy, L.P.'s Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 26, 2010 has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent auditors, as stated in their report, which is incorporated in this prospectus by reference. Such balance sheet has 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

We file annual, quarterly and other reports and other information with the Commission. You may read and copy documents we file at the Commission's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the Commission at 1-800-SEC-0330 for information on the public reference room. You can also find our filings at the Commission's website at <http://www.sec.gov> and on our website at <http://www.genesisenergy.com>. We make our website content available for information purposes only. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus and does not constitute a part of this prospectus.

The Commission allows us to incorporate by reference the information we have filed with the Commission, which means that we can disclose important information to you without actually including the specific information in this prospectus by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus and later information that we file with the Commission will automatically update and supersede this information. Therefore, before you decide to invest in a particular offering under this shelf registration, you should always check for reports we may have filed with the Commission after the date of this prospectus. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the Commission under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (excluding information deemed to be furnished and not filed with the Commission) until we sell all of the securities offered by this prospectus:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009;

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2010;

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on February 11, 2010, February 26, 2010, March 5, 2010, March 22, 2010, July 2, 2010, and August 3, 2010; and

the description of our common units in our registration statement on Form 8-A (File No. 001-12295) filed on January 30, 2001.

Table of Contents

We will provide without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom this prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request, a copy of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus, other than exhibits to any such document not specifically described above. Requests for such documents should be directed to:

Investor Relations

Genesis Energy, L.P.

919 Milam, Suite 2100

Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 860-2500 or (800) 284-3365

We intend to furnish or make available to our unitholders within 75 days (or such shorter period as the Commission may prescribe) following the close of our fiscal year end annual reports containing audited financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and furnish or make available within 40 days (or such shorter period as the Commission may prescribe) following the close of each fiscal quarter quarterly reports containing unaudited interim financial information, including the information required by Form 10-Q for the first three fiscal quarters of each of our fiscal years. Our annual report will include a description of any transactions with our general partner or its affiliates, and of fees, commissions, compensation and other benefits paid, or accrued to our general partner or its affiliates for the fiscal year completed, including the amount paid or accrued to each recipient and the services performed.

Table of Contents

4,500,000 Common Units
Representing Limited Partner Interests

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

November , 2010

Joint Book-Running Managers

Wells Fargo Securities

BofA Merrill Lynch

RBC Capital Markets

UBS Investment Bank

Deutsche Bank Securities

Co-Manager

Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc.