

Stereotaxis, Inc.  
Form 10-K  
March 15, 2012  
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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-K**

(MARK ONE)

**ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

OR

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM            TO**

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER 000-50884

**STEREOTAXIS, INC.**

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

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**DELAWARE**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of

**94-3120386**  
(I.R.S. Employer

Incorporation or Organization)

Identification Number)

**4320 Forest Park Avenue, Suite 100**

**St. Louis, MO 63108**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices including Zip Code)

**(314) 678-6100**

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: Common Stock, \$.001 Par Value**

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None**

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes  No

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K, or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company   
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant on the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter (based on the closing sales prices on the NASDAQ Global Market on June 30, 2011) was approximately \$161 million.

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The number of outstanding shares of the registrant's common stock on February 29, 2012 was 56,289,853.

### **DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the Registrant's 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

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**PART I**

**ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

In this report, Stereotaxis, the Company, Registrant, we, us, and our refer to Stereotaxis, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, *Spiralis*, *Niobe Odyssey*, *Odyssey Cinema*, *Cardiodrive*, *Cronus*®, *Assert*®, *PowerAssert*, *Titani*, *Pegasus*, *Navigant*, *Vdrive*, *V-CAS*, *V-loop*, *Vdrive Duo*, *QuikCAS* are trademarks of Stereotaxis, Inc. All other trademarks that may appear in this report are the property of their respective owners.

**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This annual report on Form 10-K, including the sections entitled *Business* and *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations*, contains forward-looking statements. These statements relate to, among other things:

- our business strategy;
- our value proposition;
- our ability to fund operations;
- our ability to convert backlog to revenue;
- the timing and prospects for regulatory approval of our additional disposable interventional devices;
- the success of our business partnerships and strategic alliances;
- our estimates regarding our capital requirements;
- the ability of physicians to perform certain medical procedures with our products safely, effectively and efficiently;
- the adoption of our products by hospitals and physicians;
- the market opportunity for our products, including expected demand for our products;
- our plans for hiring additional personnel; and

any of our other plans, objectives, expectations and intentions contained in this annual report that are not historical facts. These statements relate to future events or future financial performance, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of

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activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as may, will, should, could, expects, plans, intends, anticipates, believes, e potential, or continue, or the negative of such terms or other comparable terminology. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements. These statements are only predictions.

Factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from our forward-looking statements include, among others, changes in general economic and business conditions and the risks and other factors set forth in Item 1A Risk Factors and elsewhere in this annual report on Form 10-K.

Our actual results may be materially different from what we expect. We undertake no duty to update these forward-looking statements after the date of this annual report, even though our situation may change in the future. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.

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**OVERVIEW**

We design, manufacture and market the *Epoch* Solution, which is an advanced remote robotic navigation system for use in a hospital's interventional surgical suite, or interventional lab, that we believe revolutionizes the treatment of arrhythmias and coronary artery disease by enabling enhanced safety, efficiency and efficacy for catheter-based, or interventional, procedures. The *Epoch* Solution is comprised of the *Niobe* ES Robotic Magnetic Navigation System ( *Niobe* ES system ), *Odyssey* Information Management Solution ( *Odyssey* Solution ), and the *Vdrive* Robotic Navigation System. We believe that our technology represents an important advance in the ongoing trend toward fully digitized, integrated and automated interventional labs and provides substantial, clinically important improvements and cost efficiencies over manual interventional methods, which often result in long and unpredictable procedure times with suboptimal therapeutic outcomes. We believe that our technology represents an important advance supporting efficient and effective information management and physician collaboration. The core elements of our technology, especially the *Niobe* ES system, are protected by an extensive patent portfolio, as well as substantial know-how and trade secrets.

Our *Niobe* ES system is the latest generation of the *Niobe* Robotic Magnetic Navigation System ( *Niobe* system ), which allows physicians to more effectively navigate proprietary catheters, guidewires and other delivery devices, both our own and those we are co-developing through strategic alliances, through the blood vessels and chambers of the heart to treatment sites in order to effect treatment. This is achieved using computer-controlled, externally applied magnetic fields that precisely and directly govern the motion of the internal, or working, tip of the catheter, guidewire or other interventional devices. We believe that our *Niobe* ES system represents a revolutionary technology in the interventional lab, bringing precise remote digital instrument control and programmability to the interventional lab, and has the potential to become the standard of care for a broad range of complex cardiology procedures. *Niobe* system revenue represented 19%, 40%, and 54% of revenue for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively.

The *Niobe* system is designed primarily for use by interventional electrophysiologists in the treatment of abnormal heart rhythms known as arrhythmias and approximately 3% of usage is by interventional cardiologists in the treatment of coronary artery disease. To date the significant majority of the Stereotaxis installations worldwide are intended for use in electrophysiology. The *Niobe* system is designed to be installed in both new and replacement interventional labs worldwide. Current and potential purchasers of our *Niobe* system include leading research and academic hospitals as well as community and regional medical centers around the world.

Stereotaxis has also developed the *Odyssey* Solution which provides an innovative enterprise solution for integrating, recording and networking interventional lab information within hospitals and around the world. The *Odyssey* Solution consists of several lab solutions including *Odyssey* Vision to consolidate all of the lab information from multiple sources, freeing doctors from managing complex interfaces during patient therapy for optimal procedural and clinical efficiency. In addition, we offer two lower cost alternatives which consolidate the lab information without providing a large display and an interface for connecting partner large display systems known as *Odyssey* Link and *Odyssey* Interface, respectively. The *Odyssey* Solution also includes a remote procedure viewing and recording capability in a basic *Odyssey Cinema* LT or premium *Odyssey Cinema* Studio offering ( *Odyssey Cinema* system ). The *Odyssey Cinema* system is an innovative solution delivering synchronized content targeted to improve care, enhance performance, increase referrals and market services. This tool includes an archiving capability that allows clinicians to store and replay entire procedures or segments of procedures. This information can be accessed from locations throughout the hospital local area network and over the Internet from anywhere with sufficient bandwidth. The *Odyssey Cinema* Studio offering includes a production console, Studio, to facilitate Internet broadcasting, collaboration and presentation editing. The Studio console leverages a global *Odyssey* Network enabling hospitals to broadcast to anyone or collaborate between hospitals that use the *Odyssey* system. The *Odyssey* Solution may be acquired either as part of the *Epoch* Solution or on a stand-alone basis for installation in interventional labs and other locations where clinicians desire improved clinical workflows and related efficiencies. *Odyssey* system revenue represented 18%, 18%, and 10% of revenue for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively.

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Our *Vdrive* Robotic Navigation System provides navigation and stability for diagnostic and therapeutic devices designed to improve interventional procedures. The *Vdrive* Robotic Navigation System complements the *Niobe* ES system control of therapeutic catheters for fully remote procedures and enables single-operator workflow and is sold as two options, the *Vdrive* System and the *Vdrive Duo* System. In addition to the *Vdrive* System and the *Vdrive Duo* System, we also manufacture and market various disposable components which can be manipulated by these systems.

We promote the full *Epoch* Solution in a typical hospital implementation, subject to regulatory approvals or clearances. The full *Epoch* Solution implementation requires a hospital to agree to an upfront capital payment and recurring payments. The upfront capital payment typically includes equipment and installation charges. The recurring payments typically include disposable costs for each procedure, equipment service costs beyond warranty period, and software licenses and *Odyssey* Network fees. In hospitals where the full *Epoch* Solution has not been implemented, equipment upgrade or expansion can be implemented upon purchasing of the necessary upgrade or expansion.

Not all products have and/or require regulatory clearance in all of the markets we serve. Please refer to **Regulatory Approval** in Item 1 for a description of our regulatory clearance, licensing, and/or approvals we currently have or are pursuing.

As of December 31, 2011, we had approximately \$20 million of backlog, consisting of outstanding purchase orders and other commitments for these systems. We had backlog of approximately \$43 million and \$37 million as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, using the same active backlog criteria. Of the December 31, 2011 backlog, we expect approximately 82% to be recognized as revenue over the course of 2012. There can be no assurance that we will recognize such revenue in any particular period or at all because some of our purchase orders and other commitments are subject to contingencies that are outside our control. These orders and commitments may be revised, modified or canceled, either by their express terms, as a result of negotiations or by project changes or delays. In addition, the sales cycle for the *Niobe* system is lengthy and generally involves construction or renovation activities at customer sites. Consequently, revenues and/or orders resulting from sales of our *Niobe* system can vary significantly from one reporting period to the next.

We have alliances with Siemens AG Medical Solutions, Philips Medical Systems and Biosense Webster, a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson. Through these alliances, we integrate our *Niobe* system with Siemens' and Philips' market-leading digital imaging and Biosense Webster's 3D catheter location sensing technology. The Biosense alliance also provides development of disposable interventional devices, coordination of marketing and sales efforts in order to continue to introduce new enhancements around the *Niobe* system, and non-exclusive commercialization of the *Odyssey* Solution to Biosense customers in the electrophysiology field. The Siemens and Philips alliances provide for coordination of our sales and marketing efforts with those of our alliance partners to facilitate co-placement of integrated systems. In addition, Siemens provides worldwide service for certain of our integrated systems. Sales to Siemens accounted for 5% of total net revenue for the year ended December 31, 2011.

**BACKGROUND**

We have focused our clinical and commercial efforts on applications of the *Epoch* Solution in electrophysiology procedures for the treatment of arrhythmias and in complex interventional cardiology procedures for the treatment of coronary artery disease.

The rhythmic beating of the heart results from the generation and transmission of electrical impulses. When these electrical impulses are mistimed or uncoordinated, the heart fails to function properly, resulting in complications that can range from fatigue to stroke or death. Over 4.3 million people in the U.S. currently suffer from the resulting abnormal heart rhythms, which are known as arrhythmias. Electrophysiology is a fast-growing clinical specialty focused on the treatment of cardiac arrhythmias which can occur in any chamber of the heart.

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Electrophysiologists typically treat patients suffering from cardiac arrhythmias with a combination of drug therapy and/or interventional catheter ablation of cardiac tissue to interrupt aberrant electrical signals. Reimbursement for interventional catheter ablation has been stable in most markets with increasing governmental awareness of the impact of the disease state upon national healthcare programs.

Interventional cardiology and electrophysiology procedures have proven to be very effective at treating arrhythmias and coronary artery disease at sites accessible through the vasculature without the patient trauma, complications, recovery times and cost generally associated with open-heart surgery. With the advent of advanced imaging techniques and sophisticated catheter and wire-based devices and techniques, the number of potential patients who can benefit from non-surgical interventional procedures has grown. However, we believe major challenges associated with manual approaches to interventional cardiology and electrophysiology persist. In interventional cardiology, these challenges include difficulty in navigating the disposable interventional device through tortuous vasculature and crossing certain types of complex lesions to deliver balloons or stents to effect treatment. As a result, numerous patients who could be candidates for an interventional approach continue to be referred to bypass surgery. In electrophysiology, challenges include precisely navigating the tip of the mapping and ablation catheter to the treatment site on the heart wall and maintaining tissue contact throughout the cardiac cycle to effect treatment, and, for atrial fibrillation, performing complex ablations within the left atrium of the heart. A major limitation is the manual dexterity required to perform complex ablations. As a result, large numbers of patients are referred to palliative drug therapy that can have harmful side effects.

We believe the *Epoch* Solution represents a revolutionary step compared to manual techniques in the trend toward highly effective, but less invasive, cardiac procedures. As the first technology to permit direct, computerized control of the working tip of a disposable interventional device, the *Niobe* system enables physicians to perform cardiac procedures interventionally that historically would have been very difficult or impossible to perform in this way and has the potential to significantly improve both the efficiency and efficacy of these treatments. We believe the *Vdrive* Robotic Navigation System will provide physicians with the ability to navigate and control diagnostic catheters and sheaths from the procedure room, which will facilitate the performance of procedures remotely while further improving efficiency and efficacy of the procedure. We believe that the *Odyssey* Solution will provide physicians the ability to enhance procedure workflow, more effectively manage their interventional procedures, collaborate with other physicians, broadcast their clinical expertise and provide the capability to record and review segments or entire procedures to facilitate quality improvement.

## **CURRENT CHALLENGES IN INTERVENTIONAL MEDICINE**

Although great strides have been made in manual device technology and in related manual interventional techniques, significant challenges remain that reduce interventional productivity and limit both the number of complex procedures and the types of diseases that can be treated manually. These challenges primarily involve the inherent mechanical limitations of manual instrument control and the lack of integration of the information systems used by physicians in the interventional lab as well as a significant amount of training and experience required to ensure proficiency. As a result, many complex cases in electrophysiology are treated with palliative drug therapy, and many complex procedures in interventional cardiology are still referred to highly invasive bypass surgery.

### **Limitations of Instrument Control**

Manually controlled catheters, guidewires and other delivery devices, even in the hands of the most skilled specialist, have inherent instrument control limitations. In traditional interventional procedures, the device is manually manipulated by the physician who twists and pushes the external end of the instrument in an iterative process to thread the instrument through often tortuous blood vessels or into the chambers of the heart to the treatment site.

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### **Lack of Integration of Information Systems**

While sophisticated imaging, mapping and location-sensing systems have provided visualization for interventional procedures and allowed interventional physicians to treat more complex conditions, the substantial lack of integration of these information systems requires the physician to mentally integrate and process large quantities of information from different sources in real time during an interventional procedure. For example, a physician ablating heart tissue to eliminate an arrhythmia will often be required to mentally integrate information from a number of sources, including:

real-time x-ray fluoroscopy and/or ultrasound images;

a real-time location-sensing system providing the 3D location of the catheter tip;

a pre-operative map of the electrical activity or anatomy of the patient's heart;

real-time recording of electrical activity of the heart; and

temperature feedback from an ablation catheter.

Each of these systems displays data differently, requiring physicians to continuously reorient themselves to the different formats and displays as they shift their focus from one data source to the next while at the same time manually controlling the interventional instrument. Also, each of these information systems can require a separate user interface, which further reduces the efficiency of the procedure.

### **THE STEREOTAXIS VALUE PROPOSITION**

The *Epoch* Solution addresses the current challenges in the interventional lab by providing precise computerized control of the working tip of the interventional instrument and by integrating this control with the visualization technology and information systems used during interventional cardiology and electrophysiology procedures, on a cost-justified basis.

We believe that our systems will:

*Expand the market by enhancing the treatment of more complex cases and potentially enabling new treatments for major diseases.* Treatment of a number of major diseases, including atrial fibrillation, ventricular tachycardia, cardiac chronic total occlusions, and critical limb ischemia due to chronic total occlusions of peripheral arteries, is highly problematic using conventional wire and/or catheter-based techniques. Additionally, many patients with multi-vessel disease and certain complex arrhythmias, such as atrial fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia, are often referred to other more invasive or less curative therapies because of the difficulty in precisely and safely controlling the working tip of disposable interventional devices used to treat these complex cases interventionally. Because our robotic technology provides precise, computerized control of the working tip of disposable interventional devices, we believe that it will potentially enable difficult total occlusions, atrial fibrillation, and ventricular tachycardia to be treated interventionally on a much broader scale than today.

*Improve outcomes by optimizing therapy.* Difficulty in controlling the working tip of disposable interventional devices can lead to sub-optimal results in many procedures. Additionally, the precise control of multiple complex diagnostic and therapeutic devices by a single physician can lead to better outcomes for the patient. Precise instrument control is necessary for treating a number of cardiac conditions. To treat arrhythmias, precise placement of an ablation catheter against a beating inner heart wall is necessary. For coronary artery disease, precise and correct navigation and placement of expensive stents also have a significant impact on procedure costs and outcomes. We believe our robotic technology can enhance procedure results by improving navigation of disposable

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interventional devices to treatment sites, and by effecting more precise, safe, treatments once these sites are reached.

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*Improve clinical workflow and information management.* The *Odyssey* Solution will improve clinical workflow and information management efficiency by integrating and synchronizing the multiple sources of diagnostic and imaging information found in the interventional labs into a large-screen user interface with single mouse control via the *Odyssey* Vision system. *Odyssey Cinema* Studio is an information management solution which enables hospitals to view live and recorded procedures throughout hospital networks and while traveling abroad. This product also includes a Studio console to facilitate collaboration, broadcasting and presentation editing. An *Odyssey* Broadcast and *Odyssey* Connect network service is available to enable collaboration between hospitals using the *Odyssey* system and Internet broadcasting around the world.

*Enhance hospital efficiency by reducing and standardizing procedure times, disposables utilization and staffing needs.* Interventional procedure times currently range from several minutes to many hours as physicians often engage in repetitive, trial and error maneuvers due to difficulties with manually controlling the working tip of disposable interventional devices. By reducing both navigation time and the time needed to carry out therapy at the target site, we believe that our robotic technology can reduce complex procedure times compared to manual procedures. We believe the *Niobe* system can also reduce the variability in procedure times compared to manual methods. Greater standardization of procedure times allows for more efficient scheduling of interventional cases including staff requirements. We also believe that additional cost savings from robotics result from decreased use of multiple catheters, guidewires and contrast media in procedures compared with manual methods further enhancing the rate of return to hospitals.

*Enhance physician skill levels in order to improve the efficacy of complex cardiology procedures.* Training required for physicians to safely and effectively carry out manual interventional procedures typically takes years, over and above the training required to become a specialist in cardiology. This has led to a shortage of physicians who are skilled in performing more complex procedures. We believe that our robotic technology can allow procedures that previously required the highest levels of manual dexterity and skill to be performed effectively by a broader range of interventional physicians, with more standardized outcomes. In addition, interventional physicians can learn to use robotic systems in a relatively short period of time. The *Niobe* system can also be programmed to carry out sequences of complex navigation automatically further enhancing ease of use. We believe the *Odyssey* Solution can allow advanced training online thereby accelerating learning.

*Improve patient and physician safety.* The *Niobe* system has been used in more than 45,000 procedures and the incidence of all reported major adverse cardiac events associated with the use of the system for all procedures is approximately 0.1%. This represents what we believe to be a clinically significant improvement in major complication rates over conventional procedures, which can range as high as 2-6% for complex ablations, and significantly higher for new physicians and fellows. Additionally, during conventional catheter-based procedures, each of the physicians who stand by the patient table to manually control the catheter, the nursing staff assisting with the procedure, and the patient are exposed to the potentially harmful x-ray radiation from the fluoroscopy field. This exposure can be minimized by reducing procedure times. Reducing procedure times is also beneficial to the patient because of the direct correlation between complication rates and procedure length. Our robotic technology can further improve physician safety and reduce physician fatigue by enabling them to conduct procedures remotely from an adjacent control room, which reduces their exposure to harmful radiation, and the orthopedic burden of wearing lead.

*Help hospitals recruit physicians and attract patients.* Due to the clinical benefits of the *Epoch* Solution, we believe hospitals will realize significant operational benefits when recruiting physicians to work in a more safe procedure environment, while attracting patients who desire to have safer procedures that lead to better long term outcomes.

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**OUR PRODUCTS**

***Niobe*<sup>®</sup> ES Robotic Magnetic Navigation System**

Our proprietary *Niobe* ES robotic system provides the physician with precise remote digital instrument control through user friendly point and click computer mouse control, in combination with sophisticated image integration and 3D reconstruction. It can be operated either from beside the patient table, as in traditional interventional procedures, or from a room adjacent to the patient and outside the x-ray fluoroscopy field. The *Niobe* ES robotic system allows the operator to navigate disposable interventional devices to the treatment site through complex paths in the blood vessels and chambers of the heart to deliver treatment by using computer controlled, externally applied magnetic fields to directly govern the motion of the working tip of these devices, each of which has a magnetically sensitive tip that predictably responds to magnetic fields generated by our system. Because the working tip of the disposable interventional device is directly controlled by these external magnetic fields, the physician has the same degree of control regardless of the number or type of turns, or the distance traveled by the working tip to arrive at its position in the blood vessels or chambers of the heart. This results in highly precise digital control of the working tip of the disposable interventional device while still giving the physician the option to manually advance the device.

Through our alliances with Siemens, Philips and Biosense Webster, this precise digital instrument control has been integrated with the visualization and information systems used during electrophysiology procedures in order to provide the physician with a fully-integrated and automated information and instrument control system. We have integrated our *Niobe* ES robotic system with Siemens and with Philips digital x-ray fluoroscopy systems. In addition, we have integrated the *Niobe* ES robotic system with Biosense Webster's 3D catheter location sensing technology to provide accurate real-time information as to the 3D location of the working tip of the instrument, and with Biosense Webster's ablation tip technology. The combination of these technologies was fully launched in 2005.

The components of the *Niobe* ES robotic system are identified and described below:

*Niobe*<sup>®</sup> *Robotic Magnetic Navigation System*. Our *Niobe* Robotic Magnetic Navigation System utilizes two permanent magnets mounted on articulating and pivoting arms that are enclosed within a stationary housing, with one magnet on either side of the patient table. These magnets generate magnetic navigation fields that are less than 10% of the strength of fields typically generated by MRI equipment and therefore require significantly less shielding, and cause significantly less interference, than MRI equipment. The *Niobe* ES robotic system is indicated for use in cardiac, peripheral and neurovascular applications.

*Cardiodrive*<sup>®</sup> *Automated Catheter Advancement System*. As the physician conducts the procedure from the adjacent control room, the *Cardiodrive* or *QuikCAS* automated catheter advancement systems are used to remotely advance and retract the electrophysiology catheter in the patient's heart while the *Niobe* magnets precisely steer the working tip of the device.

***Odyssey* Solution**

The *Odyssey* Solution offers a fully integrated, real-time information solution to manage, control, record and share procedures across networks or around the world. We believe that the *Odyssey* Solution enhances the physician workflow in interventional labs through a consolidated user interface of multiple systems on a single display to enable greater focus on the case and improve the efficiency of the lab. Through the use of a single mouse and keyboard, the *Odyssey* Solution allows the user to command multiple systems in the lab from a single point of control. In addition, the *Odyssey* Solution acquires a real-time, remote view of the lab capturing synchronized procedure data for review of important events during cases. The *Odyssey* Solution enables physicians to access recorded cases and create snapshots following procedures for enhanced clinical reporting, auditing and presentation. The *Odyssey* Solution enables physicians to establish a comprehensive master archive of procedures performed in the lab providing an excellent tool for training new staff on the standard practices.

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The *Odyssey* Solution further enables procedures to be observed remotely around the world with high speed Internet access over a hospital VPN even wirelessly using a standard laptop or Windows tablet computer. In addition, physicians are able to utilize the Studio console to deliver Internet broadcasts to drive referrals, collaborate with other *Odyssey* hospitals to share best practices and efficiently build presentations saving considerable time.

### ***Vdrive* Robotic Navigation System**

The *Vdrive* Robotic Navigation System reaches further into the evolution of robotic navigation technologies than any platform before it. More than a robotic catheter manipulator, the *Vdrive* Robotic Navigation System and *Niobe* ES robotic system provide independent remote manipulation of diagnostic catheters and magnetic ablation catheters in a single interface. The *Vdrive* Robotic Navigation System provides breakthrough navigation and stability for diagnostic and ablation devices designed with key features to assist in the delivery of better ablations. Important features include complementing the *Niobe* ES control of catheters for fully remote procedures; enabling fully remote, single operator workflow; and providing robotic control of diagnostic devices independent of magnetic navigation. The *Vdrive Duo* system is an optional expansion of the *Vdrive* hardware that allows control of the *V-loop* device and either *V-CAS* or *V-CAS Deflect* devices in the same procedure, with a single user interface.

### **Disposables and Other Accessories**

Our *Niobe* system is designed to use a toolkit of proprietary disposable interventional devices. The toolkit currently consists of:

our *Cardiodrive* or *QuikCAS* automated catheter advancement disposables designed to provide precise remote advancement of proprietary electrophysiology catheters;

our suite of *Cronus*, *Assert*, *Titan* and *Pegasus* coronary guidewires designed for use in interventional cardiology procedures for the introduction and placement of over-the-wire therapeutic devices, such as stents and angioplasty balloons; and

Biosense Webster's *CART*® RMT navigation and ablation system, *CELSIUS*® RMT, *NAVISTAR*® RMT, *NAVISTAR*® RMT DS, *NAVISTAR*® RMT THERMOCOOL® and *CELSIUS*® RMT THERMOCOOL® Irrigated Tip Diagnostic/Ablation Steerable Tip Catheters co-developed by Biosense Webster and Stereotaxis, as described below.

We believe that we can adapt many of the applicable disposable interventional devices for use with our system by using our proprietary technology to add an inexpensive micro-magnet at their working tip. This micro-magnet is activated by an external magnetic field, which allows interventional devices with tip dimensions as small as 14 thousandths (0.014) of an inch to be oriented and positioned in a predictable and controllable fashion. We believe this approach to bringing digital control to disposable interventional devices using embedded magnets can simplify the overall design of these devices because mechanical controls are no longer required.

In addition to the *Vdrive* and *Vdrive Duo* systems, we also manufacture and market various disposable components which can be manipulated by these systems. These include:

our *V-CAS* catheter advancement system that controls both the magnetic catheter body and a standard fixed-curve sheath;

our *V-loop* circular catheter manipulator, which allows the user to control certain circular mapping catheters, such as Biosense Webster's *LASS*®2515 or *LASSO*®2515 NAV Circular Mapping Catheter, and advance, retract, rotate, deflect and adjust loop radius—all without leaving the control room; and

our *V-CAS Deflect* fully integrated catheter advancement system with a robotic deflectable sheath for maximum integration and versatility, allowing users to advance and retract the magnetic catheter body at angles up to 270°.



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### **Regulatory Approval**

We began commercial shipments of our *Niobe* system in 2003, following U.S. and European regulatory clearance of its core components. We have received regulatory clearance, licensing and/or CE Mark approvals necessary for us to market the *Niobe* Robotic Magnetic Navigation System, the *Cardiodrive* automated catheter advancement system, and various disposable interventional devices in the U.S., Canada, Europe, China, and various other countries.

We have received regulatory clearance, licensing and/or CE Mark approvals necessary for us to market the *Odyssey* Solution in the U.S., Canada, European Union and some other countries and we are in the process of obtaining necessary approvals for extending our markets in other countries.

We have received the CE Mark that allows us to market the *Vdrive Duo*, *V-loop*, *V-CAS* and the *V-CAS* Deflect devices in Europe. In addition, we have received licensing to market the *V-loop* and *V-CAS* devices in Canada. We are in the process of obtaining the necessary clearance for the *V-loop* device in the United States.

We have received Food and Drug Administration ( FDA ) clearance and the CE Mark necessary for us to market our suite of *Cronus*, *Assert*, *Titan* and *Pegasus* coronary and RF *PowerAssert* Peripheral guidewires in the U.S. and Europe. We continue to seek approvals and clearances to market our products as appropriate.

Biosense Webster has received FDA approval, Chinese SFDA approval, and CE Mark for the CARTO<sup>®</sup> RMT navigation system for use with the *Niobe* system, the 4mm CELSIUS<sup>®</sup> RMT Diagnostic/Ablation Steerable Tip Catheter, the 4mm NAVISTAR<sup>®</sup> RMT Diagnostic/Ablation Steerable Tip Catheter, the 8mm Navistar RMT DS Diagnostic/Ablation Steerable Tip Catheter, and the 3.5mm NAVISTAR<sup>®</sup> RMT THERMOCOOL<sup>®</sup> Irrigated Tip Catheter. In addition, Biosense Webster has received FDA approval and CE Mark for the 3.5mm CELSIUS<sup>®</sup> RMT THERMOCOOL<sup>®</sup> Irrigated Tip Catheter. We will continue to co-develop catheters that can be navigated with our system, both with and without Biosense Webster's 3D catheter location sensing technology. In addition, we can utilize technology which allows our system to recognize specific disposable interventional devices in order to prevent unauthorized use of our system. See Strategic Alliances Disposable Devices Alliance below for a description of our arrangements with Biosense Webster.

### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION ABOUT GEOGRAPHIC AREAS**

Our total U.S. revenue was \$23.9 million, \$28.8 million, and \$22.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively. Our total international revenue was \$18.0 million, \$25.2 million and \$28.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively.

### **CLINICAL APPLICATIONS**

We have focused our clinical and commercial efforts on applications of the *Epoch* Solution primarily in electrophysiology procedures for the treatment of arrhythmias and secondarily in complex interventional cardiology procedures for the treatment of coronary artery disease. Our system potentially has broad applicability in other areas, such as structural heart repair, interventional neurosurgery, interventional neuroradiology, peripheral vascular, renal denervation, pulmonology, urology, gynecology and gastrointestinal medicine, and our patent portfolio has been structured to permit expansion into these areas.

#### **Electrophysiology**

The rhythmic beating of the heart results from the transmission of electrical impulses. When these electrical impulses are mistimed or uncoordinated, the heart fails to function properly, resulting in symptoms that can range from fatigue to stroke or death. Over 4.3 million people in the U.S. currently suffer from the resulting abnormal heart rhythms, which are known as arrhythmias. The most common arrhythmia in adults is atrial fibrillation. This chaotic electrical activity of the top chambers of the heart is estimated to be present in over two million people in

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the United States and over five million people worldwide. The incidence is expected to continue to rise as the population ages and life expectancy continues to increase. Atrial fibrillation is a major physical and economic burden. This arrhythmia is associated with stroke, heart failure, and adverse symptoms causing patients to be very motivated to seek treatment. The combination of symptoms, prevalence and co-morbidities make atrial fibrillation a major economic factor in healthcare. We believe payors are very interested in therapies that may reduce the financial impact of this disease.

Drug therapies for arrhythmias often fail to adequately control the arrhythmia and may have significant side effects. Consequently, physicians have increasingly sought more permanent, non-pharmacological, solutions for arrhythmias. The most common interventional treatment for arrhythmias, and in particular tachyarrhythmias, where the patient's heart rate is too high or irregular, is an ablation procedure in which the diseased tissue giving rise to the arrhythmia is isolated or destroyed. Prior to performing an electrophysiology ablation, a physician typically performs a diagnostic procedure in which the electrical signal patterns of the heart wall are mapped to identify the heart tissue generating the aberrant electrical signals. Following the mapping procedure, the physician may then use an ablation catheter to eliminate the aberrant signal or signal path, restoring the heart to its normal rhythm. In cases where an ablation is anticipated, physicians will choose an ablation catheter and perform both the mapping and ablation with the same catheter. In February 2009 the FDA approved the Biosense Webster NAVISTAR® THERMOCOOL® irrigated catheter to be labeled for the treatment of atrial fibrillation. This is the first device approved by the FDA to be labeled for the interventional treatment of this arrhythmia. We believe this important milestone will accelerate acceptance of ablations for the treatment of atrial fibrillation.

We believe more than 3,000 interventional labs around the world are currently capable of conducting electrophysiology procedures. Approximately 500,000 electrophysiology procedures are performed annually worldwide, and procedure growth rate is 9% annually.

We believe the *Epoch* Solution is particularly well-suited for those electrophysiology procedures which are time consuming or which can only be performed by highly experienced physicians. These procedures include:

General Mapping and Ablations. For the more routine mapping and ablation procedures, our system offers the unique benefit of precise catheter movement and consistent heart wall contact. Additionally, the system can control the procedure and direct catheter movement from the control room, saving the physician time and helping to avoid unnecessary exposure to high doses of radiation.

Atrial Fibrillation. The most commonly diagnosed abnormal heart rhythm, atrial fibrillation, is a particular type of arrhythmia characterized by rapid, disorganized contractions of the heart's upper chambers, the atria, which lead to ineffective heart pumping and blood flow and can be a major risk factor for stroke. The number of potential patients for manual catheter-based procedures for atrial fibrillation has been limited because the procedures are extremely complex and are performed by only the most highly skilled electrophysiologists. They also typically have much longer procedure times than general ablation cases and the success rates have been lower and more variable. We believe that our system can allow these procedures to be performed by a broader range of electrophysiologists and, by automating some of the more complex catheter maneuvers, can standardize and reduce procedure times and significantly improve outcomes.

Ventricular Tachycardia. Ventricular tachycardia is a malignant, potentially lethal arrhythmia that is extremely difficult and time consuming to treat by catheter ablation because of the mechanical force of a conventional catheter against the heart wall. The magnetic catheter has been characterized as the ideal tool for this application. These arrhythmias can often be modified or interrupted by the pressure of a conventional catheter making it very difficult to identify the appropriate location for the ablation, whereas magnetic catheters produce fewer extra beats and provide for easier and more efficient mapping of the diseased tissue. Successful ablation of ventricular tachycardia can extend the useful life of an implantable defibrillator, reduce shocks to the patient, reduce the need for antiarrhythmic drugs or, in some cases, obviate the need for an expensive implantable device and its associated follow-up.

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We believe that our system can address the current challenges in electrophysiology by permitting the physician to remotely navigate disposable interventional devices from a control room outside the x-ray field. Additionally, we believe that our system allows for more predictable and efficient navigation of these devices to the treatment site, including the left atrium for atrial fibrillation procedures, and enables appropriate contact force to be maintained to efficiently apply energy on the wall of the beating heart. We also believe that our system will significantly lower the skill barriers required for physicians to perform complex electrophysiology procedures and, additionally, improve interventional lab efficiency and reduce disposable interventional device utilization.

### **Interventional Cardiology**

More than half a million people die annually from coronary artery disease, a condition in which the formation of plaque in the coronary arteries obstructs the supply of blood to the heart, making this the leading cause of death in the U.S. Despite various attempts to reduce risk factors, each year over one million patients undergo interventional procedures in an attempt to open blocked vessels and another one half million patients undergo open heart surgery to bypass blocked coronary arteries.

Blockages within a coronary artery, often called lesions, are categorized by degree of obstruction as partial occlusions, non-chronic total occlusions and chronic total occlusions. Lesions are also categorized by the degree of difficulty with which they can be opened as simple or complex. Complex lesions, such as chronic total occlusions, longer lesions, and lesions located within smaller diameter vessels, are often very difficult or time consuming to open with manual interventional techniques.

We believe well over 10,000 interventional labs worldwide are currently capable of conducting interventional cardiology. Approximately 4 million interventional cardiology procedures are performed annually in the U.S. alone. We estimate that approximately 10-15% of these interventional cardiology procedures currently being performed are complex and therefore require longer procedure times and may have sub-optimal outcomes. We believe that our system can substantially benefit this subset of complex interventional cardiology procedures.

### **Interventional Neuroradiology, Neurosurgery and Other Interventional Applications**

Physicians used a predecessor to our *Niobe* system to conduct a number of procedures for the treatment of brain aneurysms, a condition in which a portion of a blood vessel wall balloons and which can result in debilitating or fatal bleeding and strokes. The *Niobe* system also has a range of potential applications in minimally invasive neurosurgery, including biopsies and the treatment of tumors, treatment of vascular malformations and fetal interventions.

## **STRATEGIC ALLIANCES**

We have entered into strategic alliances with technology leaders in the global interventional market, including Siemens, Philips, and Biosense Webster, that we believe aid us in commercializing our *Niobe* system. We believe our two imaging partners, Siemens and Philips, have a significant percentage of the installed base of imaging systems worldwide.

We believe that these strategic alliance arrangements are favorable to Stereotaxis because they:

provide for the integration of our system with market leading digital imaging and 3D catheter location sensing technology, as well as disposable interventional devices;

allow us to leverage the sales, distribution, service and maintenance expertise of our strategic alliances; and

enable operational flexibility by not requiring us to provide any the parties in our strategic alliances with a right of first refusal in the event that another party wants to acquire us or with board representation where a strategic alliance has made a debt or equity investment in us.

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### **Imaging Alliances**

*Siemens Alliance.* We have successfully integrated our *Niobe* system with Siemens' digital fluoroscopy system to provide advanced interventional lab visualization and instrument control through user-friendly computerized interfaces. We also coordinate our sales efforts with Siemens to co-place integrated systems at leading hospital sites in the U.S., Europe and in Asia. Under this alliance and under a separate services agreement, Siemens provides equipment maintenance and support services for our products directly to our customers. We have also entered into a separate development agreement for the Japanese market under which Siemens will coordinate regulatory approval and distribute, install and service our *Niobe* systems, whether integrated with the x-ray system of Siemens, or other third parties, in Japan. We have also entered into a software distribution agreement with Siemens under which we have the right to sublicense Siemens' 3D pre-operative image navigation software as part of our advanced user interface for the *Niobe* ES system.

In December 2010, Siemens Healthcare was named a non-exclusive, global reseller starting in the U.S., EU and Canada for Stereotaxis' *Odyssey* Interface with Cinema. Siemens can promote and sell *Odyssey* Interface with Cinema connected to Siemens large display labs, delivering a fully integrated, real-time information management solution. The combined offering enables consolidated information from Siemens large display labs to be remotely viewed live or played back after procedures from a comprehensive case archive enhancing staff training and patient care.

*Philips Alliance.* We have successfully integrated our *Niobe* system with Philips' digital x-ray fluoroscopy system. We also have an agreement under which we coordinate our sales and marketing efforts with Philips in order to co-place our integrated systems in addition to collaborating on the development of new solutions and sharing engineering and development costs.

### **Disposables Devices Alliance**

*Biosense Webster Alliance.* We entered into an alliance in May 2002 pursuant to which we agreed to integrate Biosense Webster's advanced 3D catheter location sensing technology, which we believe has the leading market position in this important field of visualization for electrophysiology procedures, with our instrument control system, and to jointly develop associated location sensing electrophysiology mapping and ablation catheters that are navigable with the *Niobe* system. We believe that these integrated products will provide physicians with the elements required for effective complex electrophysiology procedures: highly accurate information as to the exact location of the catheter in the body and highly precise control over the working tip of the catheter. We also agreed to coordinate our sales force efforts with Biosense Webster in order to place Biosense CARTO® RMT systems and our *Niobe* systems that, together with the co-developed catheters, comprise the full integration of our instrument control and 3D location sensing technologies in the interventional lab. We expanded this alliance in November 2003 to include the parallel integration of our instrument control technology with Biosense Webster's full line of non-location sensing mapping and ablation catheters that are relevant to our targeted applications in electrophysiology. Under an amendment to this agreement in 2008, Biosense Webster advanced us \$10 million and allowed us to defer up to \$8 million of payments due to Biosense Webster for research and development related to jointly developed products. These amounts plus interest accrued thereon had been repaid as of December 31, 2011.

The co-developed catheters are manufactured and distributed by Biosense Webster, and both of the parties agreed to contribute to the resources required for their development. We are entitled to royalty payments from Biosense Webster, payable quarterly based on a profit formula for sales of the co-developed catheters. These royalties are used to make payments under the debt agreement with Cowen Healthcare Royalty Partners II, L.P. as discussed in Item 7. Under the alliance with Biosense Webster, we agreed to certain restrictions on our ability to co-develop and distribute catheters competitive with those we are developing with Biosense Webster and we granted Biosense Webster certain notice and discussion rights for product development activities we undertake relating to localization and magnetically enabling interventional disposable devices in cardiology fields outside of electrophysiology and mapping.

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Either party may terminate this alliance in certain specified change of control situations, although the termination would not be effective until one year after the change of control and then would be subject to a wind-down period during which Biosense Webster would continue to supply co-developed catheters to us or to our customers for three years (or, for non-location sensing mapping and ablation catheters, until our first sale of a competitive product after a change of control, if earlier than three years). If we terminate the agreement under this provision, we must pay a termination fee to Biosense Webster equal to 5% of the total equity value of Stereotaxis in the change of control transaction, up to a maximum of \$10 million. If a change of control of the Company occurs after Biosense Webster has received approval from the U.S. FDA for atrial fibrillation indication for the NAVISTAR® RMT THERMOCOOL® catheter, the Company would be required to pay an additional \$10 million fee to Biosense Webster, and termination of the agreement by either party would not be effective until two years after the change of control. We also agreed to notify Biosense Webster if we reasonably believe that we are engaged in substantive discussions with respect to the sale of the Company or substantially all of our assets.

In January 2011, we executed an amendment, effective December 2010, to our agreement with Biosense Webster to extend the development and distribution alliance related to certain catheters that have been developed under previous collaboration activities between the Company and Biosense Webster on an exclusive basis until December 15, 2015 and thereafter on a nonexclusive basis until December 31, 2018. Biosense Webster's rights to distribute such products in Japan is extended on an exclusive basis to the later of December 31, 2017 or five years after the date of approval of the applicable product for sale in Japan and on a nonexclusive basis to the later of December 31, 2020 or eight years after the date of approval of the applicable product for sale in Japan. Additionally, both companies agreed to expand the product offering covered by the agreement to include a next generation irrigated magnetic catheter, which will integrate technological advancements from both companies.

In May 2011, the Company entered into a new agreement, under which the Company has granted Biosense Webster global, non-exclusive rights to resell Stereotaxis *Odyssey* products, including *Odyssey Vision* and *Odyssey Cinema* systems.

## **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

We have assembled an experienced group of engineers and physicists with recognized expertise in magnetics, software, control algorithms, systems integration and disposable interventional device modeling and design.

Our research and development efforts are focused in the following areas:

continuing to enhance our existing *Niobe*, *Odyssey*, and *Vdrive* systems through ongoing product and software development; and

### **Books and Reports**

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

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

We will furnish each record holder of a unit with information reasonably required for tax reporting purposes within 90 days after the close of each calendar year. This information is expected to be furnished in

summary form so that some complex calculations normally required of partners can be avoided. Our ability to furnish this summary information to unitholders will depend on the cooperation of unitholders in supplying us with specific information. Every unitholder will receive information to assist him in determining his

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federal and state tax liability and filing his federal and state income tax returns, regardless of whether he supplies us with information.

**Right to Inspect Our Books and Records**

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

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

a copy of our tax returns;

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

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

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

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

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

**Registration Rights**

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

**HOW WE MAKE CASH DISTRIBUTIONS**

**Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus**

***Overview***

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

***Characterization of Cash Distributions***

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

***Definition of Available Cash***

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

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

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

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

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

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

***Definition of Operating Surplus***

Operating surplus for any period generally means: our cash balance on the closing date of our initial public offering; plus

\$20.0 million (as described below); plus

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

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

operating expenses; less

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

As described above, operating surplus does not reflect actual cash on hand at closing that is available for distribution to our unitholders. For example, it includes a provision that will enable us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to \$20.0 million of cash we

receive in the future from non-operating sources, such as asset sales, issuances of securities and long-term borrowings, that would otherwise be distributed as capital surplus.

***Definition of Capital Surplus***

Capital surplus will generally be generated only by:  
borrowings other than working capital borrowings;

sales of debt and equity securities; and

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

**Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus**

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

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First, to the holders of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units to the extent of the distribution preference on the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units, as described below;

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

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

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

The Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units will receive distributions at a rate of \$0.445 per Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit, payable quarterly on the same date as the distribution payment date for the common units. The record date for the determination of holders entitled to receive distributions of the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units will be the same as the record date for determination of common unit holders entitled to receive quarterly distributions.

Distributions on the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units will be accrued for the first two quarters and will result in an increase in the number of common units issuable upon conversion of the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units. If on any distribution payment date occurring with respect to a quarter ending after December 31, 2009, we (x) fail to pay distributions on the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units, (y) reduce the distributions on the common units to zero (\$0.00) and (z) are prohibited by our material financing agreements from paying cash distributions, then until the distributions that were to be paid on the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units on such distribution date are paid in cash, such distributions shall automatically accrue and accumulate. If we have failed to pay cash distributions in full for two quarters (whether or not consecutive) from and including the quarter ending on March 31, 2010, then if we fail to pay cash distributions on the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units, all future distributions on the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units that are accrued rather than being paid in cash by us will consist of the following: (i) \$0.35375 per Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit per quarter, (ii) \$0.09125 per Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit per

quarter (the Common Unit Distribution Amount ), payable solely in common units, and (iii) \$0.09125 per Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit per quarter (the PIK Distribution Additional Amount ), payable solely in common units. The total number of common units payable in connection with the Common Unit Additional Amount or the PIK Distribution Additional Amount cannot exceed 1,600,000 in any period of twenty consecutive fiscal quarters.

Upon our breach of certain covenants, or a Covenant Default, contained in our Indenture, dated as of May 20, 2009, among us, Regency Energy Finance Corp., the Guarantors (as defined therein) and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, or the Indenture, for as long as the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units are outstanding (or until we receive an investment grade rating from either Moody's or S&P on our 9 3 / 8 % Senior Notes due 2016), the holders of the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units will be entitled to an increase of \$0.1825 per quarterly distribution, payable solely in common units, or the Covenant Default Additional Amount.

All accumulated and unpaid distributions will accrue interest (i) at a rate of 2.432% per quarter, or (ii) if we have failed to pay all PIK Distribution Additional Amounts or Covenant Default Additional Amounts or any Covenant Default has occurred and is continuing, at a rate of 3.429% per quarter while such failure to pay or such Covenant Default continues.

Additionally, the holders of the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units are entitled to a make-whole distribution and allocation equal to 60% of the tax cost of the rate differential between ordinary income and long term capital gains with respect to any gross income allocation resulting from a forced conversion of the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units, grossed up for the additional tax due with respect to such make-whole allocation.

#### **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

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been achieved. Our general partner currently holds the incentive distribution rights, but may transfer these rights separately from its general partner interest, subject to restrictions in the partnership agreement.

If for any quarter:

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

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

we have distributed available cash from operating surplus to the holders of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units to the extent of the distribution preference on the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units;

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Percentage Allocations of Available Cash from Operating Surplus**

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

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

**Distributions from Capital Surplus*****How Distributions from Capital Surplus Will Be Made***

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

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

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

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

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

***Effect of a Distribution from Capital Surplus***

The partnership agreement treats a distribution of capital surplus as the repayment of the initial unit price from the initial public offering, which is a return of capital. The initial public offering price less any distributions of capital surplus per unit is referred to as the unrecovered initial unit price. Each time a

distribution of capital surplus is made, the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels will be reduced in the same proportion as the corresponding reduction in the unrecovered initial unit price. Because distributions of capital surplus will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution, after any of these distributions are made, it may be easier for the general partner to receive incentive distributions. Any distribution of capital surplus before the unrecovered initial unit price is reduced to zero cannot be applied to the payment of the minimum quarterly distribution or any arrearages.

Once we distribute capital surplus on a unit 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 50% being paid to the holders of units, and 50% to the general partner.

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

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

the minimum quarterly distribution;

the target distribution levels; 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.

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

**Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation**

*Overview*

If we dissolve in accordance with the partnership agreement, we will sell or otherwise dispose of our assets in a process called liquidation. Upon dissolution, subject to Section 17-804 of the Delaware Act, the holders of the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units will be entitled to receive any accrued and unpaid distributions in respect of the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units, if any, and will have the status of, and will be entitled to all remedies available to, a creditor of the Partnership, and will have priority over any entitlement of any other unitholders with respect to any distributions by us. We will distribute any remaining proceeds to the unitholders and our general partner in accordance with their capital account balances, as adjusted to reflect any gain or loss upon the sale or other disposition of our assets in liquidation.

*Manner of Adjustments for Gain*

The manner of the adjustment for gain 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, to the holders of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units, pro rata, until the capital account for each Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit is equal to the sum of:

(1) the initial unit price for that Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit; and

- (2) all accrued but unpaid distributions on that Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit;
- third, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until the capital account for each common unit is equal to the sum of:
- (1) the unrecovered initial unit price for that common unit; and
- (2) the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs;
- fourth, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:
- (1) the sum of the excess of the first target distribution per unit over the minimum quarterly distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less
- (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the minimum quarterly distribution per unit that we distributed 98% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, for each quarter of our existence;

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

(1) the sum of the excess of the second target distribution per unit over the first target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less

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

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

(1) the sum of the excess of the third target distribution per unit over the second target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less

(2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the second target distribution per unit that we distributed 75% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner for each quarter of our existence; and thereafter, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to our general partner.

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

***Manner of Adjustments for Losses***

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

first, 98% to the holders of common units, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until the capital accounts of the common unitholders have been reduced to zero;

second, 100% to the holders of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units, pro rata, until the capital accounts of the holders of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units have been reduced to zero; and

thereafter, 100% to our general partner.

The percentage interests set forth above for our general partner assume that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest, that our general partner

has not transferred the incentive distribution rights and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

***Adjustments to Capital Accounts***

We will make adjustments to capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units (including as a result of the conversion of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units into common units). In doing so, we will allocate any unrealized and, for tax purposes, unrecognized gain or loss resulting from the adjustments to the unitholders and our general partner in the same manner as we allocate gain or loss upon liquidation; provided, that for purposes of determining the amount of such unrealized gain or loss, we will reduce the fair market value of our property (to the extent of any unrealized income or gain in our property that has not previously been reflected in the capital accounts) to reflect the incremental share of such fair market value that would be attributable to the holders of our outstanding Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units if all of such Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units were converted into common units as of such date. If we make positive adjustments to the capital accounts upon the

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issuance of additional units, we will allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional units or upon our liquidation in a manner which results, to the extent possible, in our general partner's capital account balance equaling the amount that it would have been if no earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts had been made.

Additionally, if in the year of liquidation, any holder's capital account in respect of any Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units is less than an aggregate amount equal to the sum of (i) \$18.30 per Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit, plus (ii) all accrued and accumulated but unpaid distributions on such Redeemable Preferred Units, or together the Preferred Liquidation Value, then prior to any other allocation for that year and prior to any distribution to the holders of the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit upon liquidation, items of gross income and gain will be allocated to all holders of the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit, pro rata, until the capital account in respect of each Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit then outstanding is equal to the Preferred Liquidation Value (and no other allocation will reverse the effect of this allocation).

If in the year of liquidation, any holder's capital account in respect of any Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units is less than the aggregate Preferred Liquidation Value of such Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units after the application of the allocation described in the paragraph immediately above, then to the extent permitted by law, items of gross income and gain for any preceding taxable period(s) with respect to which Schedule K-1s have not been filed by us will be reallocated to all holders of the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units, pro rata, until the capital account in respect of each Convertible Redeemable Preferred Unit then outstanding is equal to the Preferred Liquidation Value (and no other allocation will reverse the effect of this allocation).

**MATERIAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES**

This section is a discussion of the material 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, is the opinion of Mayer Brown 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 or we are references to Regency Energy Partners LP and our operating company.

The following discussion does not comment on all federal income tax matters affecting us or the 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 Mayer Brown LLP and are based on the accuracy of the representations made by us.

No ruling has been or will be requested from the IRS regarding any matter affecting us or prospective unitholders. Instead, we will rely on opinions of Mayer Brown 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 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.



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For the reasons described below, Mayer Brown LLP has not rendered an opinion with respect to the following specific federal income tax issues: (1) our method of allocating taxable income and losses to take into account the conversion feature of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units (please see Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction ); (2) 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 ); (3) 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 (4) whether our method for depreciating Section 743 adjustments is sustainable in certain cases (please see Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Section 754 Election ).

**Partnership Status**

A partnership is not a taxable entity and incurs no federal income tax liability. Instead, each partner of a partnership is required to take into account his share of items of income, gain, loss and deduction of the partnership in computing his federal income tax liability, regardless of whether cash distributions are made to him by the partnership. Distributions by a partnership to a partner are generally not taxable 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 natural gas and products thereof. Other types of qualifying income include interest (other than from a financial business), dividends, gains from the sale of real property and gains from the sale or other disposition of capital assets held for the production of income that otherwise constitutes qualifying income. We estimate that less than 3% of our current gross income is not qualifying income; however, this estimate could change from time to time. Based upon and subject to this estimate, the factual representations made by us and the

general partner and a review of the applicable legal authorities, Mayer Brown LLP is of the opinion that at least 90% of our current gross income constitutes qualifying income. The portion of our income that is qualifying income may change from time to time.

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

In rendering its opinion, Mayer Brown LLP has relied on factual representations made by us and our general partner. The representations made by us and our general partner upon which Mayer Brown LLP has relied include:

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

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

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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 the unitholders, and our net income would be taxed to us at corporate rates. In addition, any distribution made to a unitholder would be treated as either taxable dividend income, to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, or, in the absence of earnings and profits, a nontaxable return of capital, to the extent of the unitholder's tax basis in his common units, or taxable capital gain, after the unitholder's tax basis in his common units is reduced to zero. Accordingly, taxation as a corporation would result in a material reduction in a unitholder's cash flow and after-tax return and thus would likely result in a substantial reduction of the value of the units.

The discussion below is based on Mayer Brown 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 Regency Energy Partners LP will be treated as partners of Regency Energy Partners LP for federal income tax purposes. Also, unitholders whose common units are held in street name or by a nominee and who have the right to direct the nominee in the exercise of all substantive rights attendant to the ownership of their common units will be treated as partners of Regency Energy Partners LP for federal income tax purposes.

A beneficial owner of common units whose units have been transferred to a short seller to complete a short sale would appear to lose his status as a partner with respect to those units for federal income tax purposes. Please see Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Treatment of Short Sales. Income, gain, losses or deductions would not appear to be reportable by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes, and any cash distributions received by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes would therefore appear to be fully taxable as ordinary income. These holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors with respect to their tax consequences of holding common units in Regency Energy Partners LP. The references to unitholders in the discussion that follows are to persons who are treated as partners in Regency Energy Partners LP for federal income tax purposes.

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

***Flow-Through of Taxable Income.*** We will not pay any federal income tax. Instead, each unitholder will be required to report on his income tax return his share of our income, gains, losses and deductions without regard to whether corresponding cash 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. Any reduction in a unitholder's share of our liabilities for which no partner, including the general partner, bears the economic risk of loss, known as nonrecourse liabilities, will be treated as a distribution of cash to that unitholder. To the extent our distributions cause a unitholder's at risk amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year, he must recapture any losses deducted in previous years. Please 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 the Internal Revenue Code, and collectively, Section

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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 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 he paid for our 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 common 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 as suspended losses 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 unitholder's 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. 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:



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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 Collections.*** If we are required or elect under applicable law to pay any federal, state, local or foreign income tax on behalf of any unitholder or our general partner or any former unitholder, we are authorized to pay those taxes from our funds. That payment, if made, will be treated as a distribution of cash to the 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 the 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 general partner 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, second, to the holders of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units, pro rata, to the extent of their positive capital accounts, and, finally, to the general partner.

Specified items of our income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated to account for the difference between the tax basis and fair market value of our assets at the time of an offering, referred to in this discussion as

Contributed Property. The effect of these allocations, referred to as Section 704(c) Allocations, to a unitholder purchasing common units from us in an offering will be essentially the same as if the tax basis of our assets were equal to their fair market value at the time of such offering. In the event we issue additional common units (including as a result of the conversion of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units into common units) or engage in certain other transactions in the future, reverse Section 704(c) Allocations, similar to the Section 704(c) Allocations described above, will be made to all holders of partnership interests immediately prior to such 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 item 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.

In connection with the issuance of additional common units (including as a result of the conversion of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units into common units), we will adjust capital accounts to reflect the fair market value of our property. In doing so, we will allocate any unrealized and, for tax purposes, unrecognized gain or loss resulting from the adjustments to the unitholders and our general partner in the same

manner as we allocate

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gain or loss upon liquidation; provided, that for purposes of determining the amount of such unrealized gain or loss, we will reduce the fair market value of our property (to the extent of any unrealized income or gain in our property that has not previously been reflected in the capital accounts) to reflect the incremental share of such fair market value that would be attributable to the holders of our outstanding Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units if all of such Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units were converted into common units as of such date. Consequently, a holder of common units may be allocated less unrealized gain (or more unrealized loss) in connection with an adjustment of the capital accounts than such holder would have been allocated if there were no outstanding Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units. Following the conversion of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units into common units, items of gross income and gain (or gross loss and deduction) will be specially allocated to the holders of such common units to reflect differences between the capital accounts maintained with respect to such Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units and the capital accounts maintained with respect to common units. This method of maintaining capital accounts and allocating income, gain, loss and deduction with respect to the Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units is intended to comply with proposed Treasury Regulations under Section 704 of the Internal Revenue Code. However, the proposed Treasury Regulations are not legally binding until they are finalized. There can be no assurance that the proposed Treasury Regulations will ever be finalized, or that they will not be finalized in a substantially different form. Consequently, Mayer Brown LLP is unable to opine as to whether our method of allocating income and loss among our unitholders to take into account the conversion feature of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred will be given effect for federal income tax purposes. If our allocations are not respected, a unitholder could be allocated more taxable income (or less taxable loss).

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.

Mayer Brown LLP is of the opinion that, with the exception of the issues described above with respect to allocations to take into account the conversion feature of our Convertible Redeemable Preferred Units, in Section 754 Election and in 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.

Mayer Brown LLP has not rendered an opinion regarding the tax treatment of a unitholder whose common units

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are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units; therefore, unitholders desiring to assure their status as partners and avoid the risk of gain recognition from a loan to a short seller are urged to modify any applicable brokerage account agreements to prohibit their brokers from 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. The current minimum tax rate for noncorporate taxpayers is 26% on the first \$175,000 of alternative minimum taxable income in excess of the exemption amount and 28% on any additional alternative minimum taxable income. Prospective unitholders are urged to consult with their tax advisors as to the impact of an investment in units on their liability for the alternative minimum tax.

***Tax Rates.*** 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.

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

Where the remedial allocation method is adopted (which we have 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 subject to depreciation 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 property's unamortized Book-Tax Disparity. 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. If we elect a method other than the remedial method with respect to a goodwill property, the common basis of such property is not amortizable. Please see Uniformity of Units.

Although Mayer Brown 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

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

The calculations involved in the Section 754 election are complex and will be made on the basis of assumptions as to the value of our assets and other matters. For example, the allocation of the Section 743(b) adjustment among our assets must be made in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS could seek to reallocate some or all of any Section 743(b) adjustment allocated by us to our tangible assets to goodwill instead. Goodwill, as an intangible asset, is generally nonamortizable or amortizable over a longer period of time or under a less accelerated method than our tangible assets. We cannot assure you that the

determinations we make will not be successfully challenged by the IRS and that the deductions resulting from them will not be reduced or disallowed altogether. Should the IRS require a different basis adjustment to be made, and should, in our opinion, the expense of compliance exceed the benefit of the election, we may seek permission from the IRS to revoke our Section 754 election. If permission is granted, a subsequent purchaser of units may be allocated more income than he would have been allocated had the election not been revoked.

#### **Tax Treatment of Operations**

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

***Initial Tax Basis, Depreciation and Amortization.*** The tax basis of our assets will be used for purposes of computing depreciation and cost recovery deductions and, ultimately, gain or loss on the disposition of these assets. The federal income tax burden associated with the difference between the fair market value of our assets and their tax basis immediately prior to 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. Because our general partner may determine not to adopt the remedial method of allocation with respect to any difference between the tax basis and the fair market value of goodwill immediately prior to any future offering, we may not be entitled to any amortization deductions with respect to any goodwill conveyed to us on formation or held

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by us at the time of any future offering. Please see Uniformity of Units. Property we subsequently acquire or construct may be depreciated using accelerated methods permitted by the Internal Revenue Code.

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

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 of this gain or loss, which will likely be substantial, 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

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bears the same relation to the partner's tax basis in his entire interest in the partnership as the value of the interest sold bears to the value of the partner's entire interest in the partnership. Treasury Regulations under Section 1223 of the Internal Revenue Code allow a selling unitholder who can identify common units transferred with an ascertainable holding period to elect to use the actual holding period of the common units transferred. Thus, according to the ruling 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 the unitholders in proportion to the number of units owned by each of them as of the opening of the applicable exchange on the first business day of the month, which we refer to in this prospectus as the Allocation Date. However, gain or loss realized on a sale or other disposition of our assets other than in the ordinary course of business will be allocated among the unitholders on the Allocation Date in the month in which that gain or loss is recognized. As a result, a unitholder transferring units may be allocated income, gain, loss and deduction realized after the date of transfer.

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. Recently, however, the Department of the Treasury and the IRS issued proposed Treasury Regulations that provide a safe harbor pursuant to which a publicly traded partnership may use a similar monthly simplifying convention to allocate tax items among transferor and transferee unitholders, although such tax items must be prorated on a daily basis. Existing publicly traded partnerships are entitled to rely on these proposed Treasury Regulations; however, they are not binding on the IRS and are subject to change until final Treasury Regulations are issued. Accordingly, Mayer Brown 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.

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

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

***Constructive Termination.*** We will be considered to have 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 will result in us filing two tax returns (and common unitholders receiving 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. The IRS

has announced recently that it plans to issue guidance regarding the treatment of constructive terminations of publicly traded partnerships such as us. Any such guidance may change the application of the rules discussed above and may affect the tax treatment of a unitholder.

### **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 regulations under Section 743 of the Internal Revenue Code, even though that position may be inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), which is not expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets, and Treasury Regulation Section 1.197-2(g)(3). Please 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 depreciation and amortization deductions will have a

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material adverse effect on the unitholders. If we choose not to utilize this aggregate method, we may use any other reasonable depreciation and amortization method to preserve the uniformity of the intrinsic tax characteristics of any units that would not have a material adverse effect on the unitholders. The IRS may challenge any method of depreciating the Section 743(b) adjustment described in this paragraph. If this challenge were sustained, the uniformity of units might be affected, and the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions. Please 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 non-U.S. persons raises 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 non-U.S. 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 non-U.S. unitholders. Each non-U.S. 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.

A foreign unitholder who sells or otherwise disposes of a common unit will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on gain realized from the sale or disposition of that unit to the extent the gain is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the foreign unitholder. Under a ruling published by the IRS, interpreting the scope of effectively connected income, a foreign unitholder would be considered to be engaged in a trade or business in the U.S. by virtue of the U.S. activities of the partnership, and part or all of that unitholder's gain would be effectively connected with that unitholder's indirect U.S. trade or business. Moreover, under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act, a foreign common unitholder generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax upon the sale or disposition of a common unit if (i) he owned (directly or constructively applying certain attribution rules) more than 5% of our common units at any time during the five-year period ending on the date of such disposition and (ii) 50% or more of the fair market value of all of our assets consisted of U.S. real property interests at any time during the shorter of the period during which such unitholder held the common units or the 5-year period ending on the date of disposition. Currently, more than 50% of our assets consist of U.S. real property interests and we do not expect that to change in the foreseeable future. Therefore, foreign unitholders may be subject to federal income tax on gain from the sale or disposition of their units.

#### **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

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

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

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

the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the beneficial owner and the nominee;

whether the beneficial owner is:

a person that is not a United States person;

a foreign government, an international organization or any wholly owned agency or instrumentality of either of the foregoing; or

a tax-exempt entity;

the amount and description of units held, acquired or transferred for the beneficial owner; and

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

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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:

for which there is, or was, substantial authority ; or

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 (a) 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. (b) the price for any property or services (or for the use of property) claimed on any such return with respect to any transaction between persons described in Internal Revenue Code Section 482 is 200% or more (or 50% or less) of the amount determined under Section 482 to be the correct amount of such price, or (c) the net Internal Revenue Code

Section 482 transfer price adjustment for the taxable year exceeds the lesser of \$5 million or 10% of the taxpayer's gross receipts. 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 6 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.

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:

- 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.

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We do not expect to engage in any reportable transactions.

**State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Consequences**

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

**It is the responsibility of each unitholder to investigate the legal and tax consequences, under the laws of pertinent jurisdictions, of his investment in us. Accordingly, each prospective unitholder is urged to consult, and depend upon, his tax counsel or other advisor with regard to those matters. Further, it is the**

**responsibility of each unitholder to file all state, local and foreign, as well as United States federal tax returns, that may be required of him. Mayer Brown LLP has not rendered an opinion on the state, local or foreign tax consequences of an investment in us.**

**INVESTMENT IN REGENCY ENERGY PARTNERS LP BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS**

An investment in us by an employee benefit plan is subject to additional considerations because the investments of these plans are subject to the fiduciary responsibility provisions of ERISA and the prohibited transaction provisions of ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code. For these purposes the term employee benefit plan includes, but is not limited to, qualified pension, profit-sharing, and stock bonus plans, certain Keogh plans, certain simplified employee pension plans, and tax deferred annuities or IRAs established or maintained by an employer or employee organization. Among other things, consideration should be given to:

whether the investment is prudent under Section 404(a)(1)(B) of ERISA;

whether in making the investment, that plan will satisfy the diversification requirements of Section 404(a)(1)(C) of ERISA;

whether the investment is permitted under the terms of the applicable documents governing the plan;

whether the investment will constitute a prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code (see below);

whether in making the investment, that plan will be considered to hold as plan assets (1) only the investment in our partnership units or (2) an undivided interest in our underlying assets (see below); and

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whether the investment will result in recognition of unrelated business taxable income by the plan and, if so, the potential after-tax investment return. Please see Material Income Tax Consequences Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors.

The person with investment discretion with respect to the assets of an employee benefit plan, often called a fiduciary, should determine whether an investment in us is authorized by the appropriate governing instrument and is a proper investment for the plan.

Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code prohibit employee benefit plans, and also IRAs and certain other types of accounts that are not considered part of an ERISA employee benefit plan, from engaging in specified prohibited transactions involving plan assets with parties that are parties in interest under ERISA or disqualified persons under the Internal Revenue Code with respect to the plan.

In addition to considering whether the purchase of common units is a prohibited transaction, a fiduciary of an employee benefit plan should consider whether the plan will, by investing in us, be deemed to own an undivided interest in our assets, with the result that our general partner would become an ERISA fiduciary of the investing plan and that our operations would be subject to the regulatory restrictions of ERISA, including its prohibited transaction rules, as well as the prohibited transaction rules of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Department of Labor regulations provide guidance with respect to whether the assets of an entity in which employee benefit plans acquire equity interests would be deemed plan assets under some circumstances. Under these regulations, an entity's assets generally would not be considered to be plan assets if, among other things:

(a) the equity interests acquired by employee benefit plans are publicly offered securities i.e., the equity interests are part of a class of securities that is widely held by 100 or more investors independent of the issuer and each other, are freely transferable (as defined in the Department of Labor regulations), and are either registered under certain provisions of the federal securities laws or sold to the plan as part of a public offering under certain conditions;

(b) 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 either directly or through a majority-owned subsidiary or subsidiaries; or

(c) there is no significant investment by benefit plan investors, which is defined to mean that immediately after the most recent acquisition by a plan of any equity interest in the entity, less than 25% of the value of each class of equity interest (disregarding interests held by our general partner, its affiliates, and some other persons) is held by the employee benefit plans referred to above, IRAs and certain other plans and accounts not subject to ERISA (including governmental plans), and entities whose underlying assets include plan assets by reason of a plan's investment in the entity.

Our assets should not be considered plan assets under these regulations because it is expected that any investment in us by an employee benefit plan will satisfy the requirements in (a) above.

Plan fiduciaries contemplating a purchase of our common units should consult with their own counsel regarding the consequences under ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code in light of the serious penalties imposed on persons who engage in prohibited transactions or other ERISA violations.

#### **SELLING UNITHOLDER**

This prospectus covers the offering for resale of up to 2,401,247 common units by the selling unitholder. The selling unitholder acquired its common units in connection with our acquisition of CDM Resource Management, Ltd. in January 2008. The offer and sale of these common units was exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act under Section 4(2) of the Securities Act. We entered into a registration rights agreement with the selling unitholder in connection with the acquisition and private placement. We are registering the common units described below pursuant to this registration rights agreement.

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No offer or sale may occur unless the registration statement that includes this prospectus has been declared effective by the SEC, and remains effective at the time such selling unitholder offers or sells such common units. We are required (under certain circumstances) to update this prospectus to reflect material developments in our business, financial position and results of operations.

The following table sets forth information relating to the selling unitholder's beneficial ownership of our common units as of January 11, 2010 and is based on information provided by the selling unitholder:

<b>Selling Unitholder</b>	<b>Common Units Owned Prior to Offering</b>	<b>Common Units Being Offered</b>	<b>Common Units Owned After Offering</b>	<b>Number of Units Percent</b>
CDM Investments, Ltd. (1)	2,401,247	2,401,247	0	

(1) CDM Investments, Ltd. is the beneficial owner of the 2,401,247 units covered by this prospectus, which units may also be beneficially owned by the owners of CDM Investments, Ltd.

Any prospectus supplement reflecting a sale of common units hereunder will set forth, with respect to the selling unitholder:

the name of the selling unitholder;

the nature of the position, office or other material relationship which the selling unitholder will have had within the prior three years with us or any of our affiliates;

the number of common units owned by the selling unitholder prior to the offering;

the amount of common units to be offered for the selling unitholder's account; and

the amount and (if one percent or more) the percentage of common units to be owned by the selling unitholder after the completion of the offering.

All expenses incurred with the registration of the common units owned by the selling unitholder will be borne by us.

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**PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

We are registering the common units on behalf of the selling unitholder. As used in this prospectus, selling unitholder includes donees and pledgees selling common units received from the named selling unitholder after the date of this prospectus.

Under this prospectus, the selling unitholder intends to offer our securities to the public:

through one or more broker-dealers;

through underwriters; or

directly to investors.

The selling unitholder may price the common units offered from time to time:

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

prices related to market prices; or

negotiated prices.

We will pay the costs and expenses of the registration and offering of the common units offered hereby. We will not pay any underwriting fees, discounts and selling commissions allocable to the selling unitholder's sale of its common units, which will be paid by the selling unitholder. Broker-dealers may act as agent or may purchase securities as principal and thereafter resell the securities from time to time:

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

on the NASDAQ Global Select Market;

in the over-the-counter market; or

in private transactions.

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

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

In addition, the selling unitholder has advised us that it may sell common units in compliance with Rule 144, if available, or pursuant to other available exemptions from the registration requirements under the Securities Act, rather than pursuant to this prospectus.

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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 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 2810 of the NASD Conduct 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 securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered will be set forth in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

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

**LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the securities offered in this prospectus will be passed upon for us by Mayer Brown LLP, Houston, Texas. Mayer Brown LLP will also render an opinion on the material federal income tax consequences regarding the securities. The selling unitholder's counsel and the underwriters' own legal counsel will advise them about other issues relating to any offering in which they participate.

### **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of Regency Energy Partners LP as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and for each of the years then ended, management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, and the consolidated balance sheet of Regency GP LP and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2008 have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing. KPMG's reports covering the December 31, 2008 consolidated financial statements of Regency Energy Partners LP refer to the effects of the adjustments to retrospectively apply the changes in accounting discussed in Note 2 and to retrospectively restate the disclosures for a change in the composition of reportable segments discussed in Note 14 to the consolidated financial statements. KPMG also audited the adjustments to the 2006 consolidated financial statements to retrospectively apply the changes in accounting discussed in Note 2 and to retrospectively restate the disclosures for a change in the composition of reportable segments discussed in Note 14 to the consolidated financial statements. KPMG was not engaged to audit, review, or apply any procedures to the 2006 consolidated financial statements of Regency Energy Partners LP other than with respect to such adjustments.

The audit report on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, contains an explanatory paragraph that states Regency Energy Partners LP acquired CDM Resource Management, Ltd. (CDM) during 2008, and management excluded from its assessment of the effectiveness of Regency Energy Partners LP's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, CDM's internal control over financial reporting associated with total assets of \$881,552,000 and total revenues of \$132,549,000 included in the consolidated financial statements of Regency Energy Partners LP and subsidiaries as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008. KPMG's audit of internal control over financial reporting of Regency Energy Partners LP also excluded an evaluation of the internal control over financial reporting of CDM.

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The consolidated financial statements of operations, member interest and partners' capital, comprehensive income and cash flows of Regency Energy Partners LP for the year ended December 31, 2006 before (1) the effects of the adjustments to retrospectively apply the changes in accounting discussed in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements and (2) the effects of the retrospective adjustments to the disclosures for a change in the composition of reportable segments discussed in Note 14 to the consolidated financial statements are not included in Regency Energy Partners LP's Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 14, 2009, which is incorporated in this Prospectus by reference, have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report (which report expresses an unqualified opinion and includes explanatory paragraphs (a) regarding Regency Energy Partners LP's accounting for its acquisition of TexStar as an acquisition of entities under common control in a manner similar to a pooling of interests and (b) regarding that Deloitte & Touche LLP was not engaged to audit, review or apply any procedures to (1) the adjustments to retrospectively apply the changes in accounting discussed in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements or (2) the retrospective adjustments to the disclosures for a change in the composition of reportable segments discussed in Note 14 to the consolidated financial statements and, accordingly, Deloitte & Touche LLP does not express an opinion or any other form of assurance about whether such retrospective adjustments are appropriate and have been properly applied as those retrospective adjustments were audited by other auditors), which is incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

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PART II  
 INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE  
 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

**Item 14. *Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution***

Set forth below are the expenses (other than underwriting discounts and commissions) expected to be incurred in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities registered hereby. With the exception of the Securities and Exchange Commission registration fee, the amounts set forth below are estimates.

SEC registration fee	\$ 2,658.35
Legal fees and expenses	25,000.00
Accounting fees and expenses	20,000.00
Printing and engraving expenses	5,000.00
Miscellaneous	0.00

Total \$52,658.35

**Item 15. *Indemnification of Officers and Members of Our Board of Directors***

The section of the prospectus entitled "The Partnership Agreement - Indemnification" discloses that we will generally indemnify officers, directors and affiliates of the general partner to the fullest extent permitted by law from and against all losses, claims, damages or similar events and is incorporated herein by this reference. Subject to any terms, conditions or restrictions set forth in the partnership agreement, Section 17-108 of the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act empowers a Delaware limited partnership to indemnify and hold harmless any partner or other persons from and against all claims and demands whatsoever.

**Item 16. *Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules****(a) Exhibits*

- 2.1 Contribution Agreement by and among Regency Energy Partners LP, Regency Gas Services LP, as Buyer and HMTF Gas Partners II, L.P., as Seller dated July 12, 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed August 14, 2006).
- 2.2 Stock Purchase Agreement by and among Regency Energy Partners LP, Pueblo Holdings, Inc., as Buyer, Bear Cub Investments, LLC, the Members of Bear Cub Investments, LLC identified therein, as Sellers, and Robert J. Clark, as Sellers - Representative dated April 2, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our

current report on Form 8-K filed April 3, 2007).

- 2.3 Agreement and Plan of Merger among CDM Resource Management, Ltd., the Partners thereof, as listed on the signature pages thereof, Regency Energy Partners LP and ADJHR, LLC dated as of December 11, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed December 12, 2007).
- 2.4 Contribution Agreement by and among Regency Energy Partners LP, Regency Gas Services LP, as Buyer, and ASC Hugoton LLC and FrontStreet EnergyOne LLC as Sellers dated December 10, 2007 and joined in by Aircraft Services Corporation (solely for purposes of Section 2.3(g) thereof) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed December 13, 2007).
- 2.5 Agreement and Plan of Merger among Nexus Gas Partners, LLC, Nexus Gas Holdings, LLC, Regency Energy Partners LP and Regency NX, LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed March 26, 2008).

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- 3.1 Fourth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP dated as of February 15, 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed February 9, 2006).
- 3.2 Amendment No. 1 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed August 15, 2006).
- 3.3 Amendment No. 2 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed September 22, 2006).
- 3.4 Amendment No. 3 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed January 8, 2008).
- 3.5 Amendment No. 4 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed January 16, 2008).
- 3.6 Amendment No. 5 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed August 28, 2008).
- 3.7 Amendment No. 6 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed March 2, 2009).
- 3.8 Amendment No. 7 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed September 4, 2009).

- 4.1 Form of Specimen Certificate Evidencing Units Representing Limited Partnership Interests in Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to our registration statement on Form S-1/A filed January 24, 2006, File No. 333-129623).
- 4.2 Indenture for 8 3/8 percent Senior Notes due 2013, together with the global notes (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to our annual report on Form 10-K filed March 30, 2007).
- 4.3 Indenture for 9 3/8 percent Senior Notes due 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to our quarterly report on Form 10-Q filed August 10, 2009).
- 5.1\*\* Opinion of Mayer Brown LLP as to the legality of the securities being registered.
- 8.1\*\* Opinion of Mayer Brown LLP relating to tax matters.
- 23.1\* Consent of KPMG LLP.
- 23.2\* Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.
- 23.3\*\* Consent of Mayer Brown LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).
- 23.4\*\* Consent of Mayer Brown LLP (included in Exhibit 8.1).
- 24.1\*\* Powers of Attorney (included on the signature page).

\* Filed herewith.

\*\* Previously  
Filed.

**Item 17. Undertakings**

Each of the undersigned registrants hereby undertakes:

A. The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

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(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

- (a) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;
- (b) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of this registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of the prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement;
- (c) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this registration statement or any material change to the information in this registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (1)(a), (1)(b) and (1)(c) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each of the post-effective amendments shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of the securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act to any purchaser:

(a) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(b) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities



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of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(a) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(b) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(c) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(d) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

B. The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of its annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of the securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

C. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers, and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the provisions described in Item 15 above, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC that indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against any liability (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer, or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by a director, officer, or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction

the question whether indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of the issue.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Dallas, State of Texas, on January 12, 2010.

**REGENCY ENERGY  
PARTNERS LP**

By: **Regency GP LP**,  
its General Partner

By: **Regency GP LLC**,  
its General Partner

By: \*

Name: Byron R. Kelley  
Title: Chairman,  
President and  
Chief Executive  
Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on the dates indicated:

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
*	Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)	January 12, 2010
Byron R. Kelley		
/s/ Stephen L. Arata	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	January 12, 2010
Stephen L. Arata		
*	Senior Vice President, Finance and Accounting (Principal Accounting)	January 12, 2010
Lawrence B. Connors		

Officer)

\*

Director

January  
12, 2010

Michael J. Bradley

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<b>Signature</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
*	Director	January 12, 2010
James F. Burgoyne		
*	Director	January 12, 2010
Daniel R. Castagnola		
*	Director	January 12, 2010
Rodney L. Gray		
*	Director	January 12, 2010
Paul J. Halas		
*	Director	January 12, 2010
Mark T. Mellana		
*	Director	January 12, 2010
John T. Mills		
*	Director	January 12, 2010
Brian P. Ward		
* By: /s/ Stephen L. Arata Stephen L. Arata Attorney-in-fact		

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**INDEX TO EXHIBITS**

- 2.1 Contribution Agreement by and among Regency Energy Partners LP, Regency Gas Services LP, as Buyer and HMTF Gas Partners II, L.P., as Seller dated July 12, 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed August 14, 2006).
- 2.2 Stock Purchase Agreement by and among Regency Energy Partners LP, Pueblo Holdings, Inc., as Buyer, Bear Cub Investments, LLC, the Members of Bear Cub Investments, LLC identified therein, as Sellers, and Robert J. Clark, as Sellers Representative dated April 2, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed April 3, 2007).
- 2.3 Agreement and Plan of Merger among CDM Resource Management, Ltd., the Partners thereof, as listed on the signature pages thereof, Regency Energy Partners LP and ADJHR, LLC dated as of December 11, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed December 12, 2007).
- 2.4 Contribution Agreement by and among Regency Energy Partners LP, Regency Gas Services LP, as Buyer, and ASC Hugoton LLC and FrontStreet EnergyOne LLC as Sellers dated December 10, 2007 and joined in by Aircraft Services Corporation (solely for purposes of Section 2.3(g) thereof) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed December 13, 2007).
- 2.5 Agreement and Plan of Merger among Nexus Gas Partners, LLC, Nexus Gas Holdings, LLC, Regency Energy Partners LP and Regency NX, LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed March 26, 2008).
- 3.1 Fourth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP dated as of February 15, 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed February 9, 2006).

- 3.2 Amendment No. 1 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed August 15, 2006).
  - 3.3 Amendment No. 2 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed September 22, 2006).
  - 3.4 Amendment No. 3 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed January 8, 2008).
  - 3.5 Amendment No. 4 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed January 16, 2008).
  - 3.6 Amendment No. 5 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed August 28, 2008).
  - 3.7 Amendment No. 6 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed March 2, 2009).
  - 3.8 Amendment No. 7 to Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our current report on Form 8-K filed September 4, 2009).
  - 4.1 Form of Specimen Certificate Evidencing Units Representing Limited Partnership Interests in Regency Energy Partners LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to our registration statement on Form S-1/A filed January 24, 2006, File No. 333-129623).
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- 4.2 Indenture for 8 3/8 percent Senior Notes due 2013, together with the global notes (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to our annual report on Form 10-K filed March 30, 2007).
- 4.3 Indenture for 9 3/8 percent Senior Notes due 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to our quarterly report on Form 10-Q filed August 10, 2009).
- 5.1\*\* Opinion of Mayer Brown LLP as to the legality of the securities being registered.
- 8.1\*\* Opinion of Mayer Brown LLP relating to tax matters.
- 23.1\* Consent of KPMG LLP.
- 23.2\* Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.
- 23.3\*\* Consent of Mayer Brown LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).
- 23.4\*\* Consent of Mayer Brown LLP (included in Exhibit 8.1).
- 24.1\*\* Powers of Attorney (included on the signature page).

\* Filed herewith.

\*\* Previously filed.