

SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P.

Form 424B3

February 09, 2010

Table of Contents

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(B)(3)
Registration Statement No. 333-155644
333-155644-01

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

Subject to Completion, dated February 9, 2010

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To prospectus dated February 1, 2009)

\$

Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P.

% Senior Notes due 2020

% Senior Notes due 2040

Guaranteed By

Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.

This is an offering by Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. of \$ of % Senior Notes due 2020 (the 2020 notes) and \$ of % Senior Notes due 2040 (the 2040 notes and together with the 2020 notes, the notes). Interest is payable on the notes on and of each year beginning , 2010. Interest on the notes will accrue from , 2010. The 2020 notes will mature on , 2020 and the 2040 notes will mature on , 2040.

We may redeem all or part of the notes at any time at a price of 100% of their principal amount plus a make-whole premium and accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date. The notes will not be entitled to the benefit of any sinking fund payment.

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

The notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank equally in right of payment with all of our existing and future senior debt and senior to any future subordinated debt that we may incur. The notes will be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by our parent, Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., on a senior unsecured basis so long as it guarantees any of our other long-term debt. The guarantee will rank equally in right of payment with all of the existing and future senior debt of the guarantor.

Investing in the notes involves risks. Please read Risk Factors beginning on page S-13 of this prospectus supplement and on page 4 of the accompanying prospectus.

	Per 2020 Note	Total	Per 2040 Note	Total
Public Offering Price(1)	%	\$	%	\$
Underwriting Discount	%	\$	%	\$
Proceeds to Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. (before expenses)	%	\$	%	\$

(1) Plus accrued interest from _____, 2010 if delivery occurs after that date.

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

The notes will not be listed on any national securities exchange. Currently, there is no public market for the notes.

It is expected that delivery of the notes will be made to investors in registered book-entry form only through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company on or about _____, 2010.

Joint Book-Running Managers

Barclays Capital
UBS Investment Bank

Citi
Wells Fargo Securities

Prospectus Supplement dated _____, 2010.

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

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

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus relating to this offering. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with additional or different information. If anyone provides you with additional, different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are offering to sell the notes, and seeking offers to buy the notes, only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. You should not assume that the information included in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any free writing prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the dates shown in these documents or that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since such dates.

TABLES OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

	Page
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	S-ii
<u>Summary</u>	S-1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	S-13
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-14
<u>Capitalization</u>	S-15
<u>Description of the Notes</u>	S-16
<u>Certain United States Federal Income and Estate Tax Considerations</u>	S-24
<u>Underwriting</u>	S-29
<u>Legal</u>	S-31
<u>Experts</u>	S-31
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	S-32
<u>Incorporation By Reference</u>	S-32

Prospectus dated February 1, 2010

<u>About This Prospectus</u>	1
<u>About Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. and Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P.</u>	1
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	2
<u>Incorporation by Reference</u>	2
<u>Risk Factors</u>	4
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	5
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	7
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	7
<u>Description of the Common Units</u>	7
<u>Cash Distributions</u>	10
<u>Description of the Debt Securities</u>	15
<u>Conflicts of Interest and Fiduciary Responsibilities</u>	27
<u>Material Tax Considerations</u>	32
<u>Selling Unitholders</u>	48
<u>Investment in Us by Employee Benefit Plans</u>	49
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	50
<u>Legal</u>	50
<u>Experts</u>	50

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

All of the statements, other than statements of historical fact, included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents we incorporate by reference contain forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements discuss our goals, intentions and expectations as to future trends, plans, events, results of operations or financial condition, or state other information relating to us, based on the current beliefs of our management as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, management. Words such as may, will, anticipate, believe, plan, schedule, expect, estimate, intend, project, and phrases or expressions identify forward-looking statements. When considering forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the risk factors and other cautionary statements in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents we incorporate by reference.

Although we believe these forward-looking statements to be reasonable, they are based upon a number of assumptions, any or all of which ultimately may prove to be inaccurate. These statements are also subject to numerous uncertainties and risks that could cause actual results to differ materially from any results projected, forecasted, estimated or budgeted, including, but not limited to, the following:

our ability to successfully consummate announced acquisitions or expansions and integrate them into our existing business operations;

delays related to construction of, or work on, new or existing facilities and the issuance of applicable permits;

changes in demand for, or supply of, crude oil, refined petroleum products and natural gas liquids that impact demand for our pipeline, terminalling and storage services;

changes in the short-term and long-term demand for crude oil we both buy and sell;

the loss of Sunoco R&M as a customer or a significant reduction in its current level of throughput and storage with us;

an increase in the competition encountered by our petroleum products terminals, pipelines and crude oil acquisition and marketing operations;

changes in the financial condition or operating results of joint ventures or other holdings in which we have an equity ownership interest;

changes in the general economic conditions in the United States;

changes in laws and regulations to which we are subject, including federal, state, and local tax, safety, environmental and employment laws;

changes in regulations governing the composition of refined petroleum products that we transport, terminal and store;

improvements in energy efficiency and technology resulting in reduced demand for petroleum products;

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

the effect of changes in accounting principles and tax laws and interpretations of both;

global and domestic economic repercussions, including disruptions in the crude oil and petroleum products markets, from terrorist activities, international hostilities and similar events;

the occurrence of operational hazards or unforeseen interruptions for which we may not be adequately insured (including as a result of equipment malfunction, explosions, fires, spills and the effects of severe weather conditions);

changes in insurance markets resulting in increased costs and reductions in the level and types of coverage available;

S-ii

Table of Contents

the age of, and changes in the reliability and efficiency of, our operating facilities;

changes in the expected level of capital, operating, or remediation spending related to environmental matters;

risks related to labor relations and workplace safety;

non-performance by or disputes with major customers, suppliers or other business partners;

changes in our tariff rates implemented by federal and/or state government regulators;

the amount and terms of our debt, which could make us vulnerable to adverse general economic and industry conditions, limit our ability to borrow additional funds, place us at competitive disadvantages compared to competitors that have less debt, or have other adverse consequences;

changes in interest rates on our outstanding debt, which could increase the costs of borrowing;

changes in our or Sunoco's credit ratings, as assigned by ratings agencies;

the condition of the debt capital markets and equity capital markets in the United States, and our ability to raise capital in a cost-effective way;

performance of financial institutions impacting our liquidity, including those supporting our credit facilities; and

the costs and effects of legal and administrative claims and proceedings against us or any entity in which we have an ownership interest, and changes in the status of, or the initiation of new litigation, claims or proceedings, to which we, or any entity in which we have an ownership interest, is a party.

These factors are not necessarily all of the important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any of our forward-looking statements. Other unknown or unpredictable factors could also have material adverse effects on future results. We undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statement whether as a result of new information or future events.

NOTICE FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS

NEITHER THE FACT THAT A REGISTRATION STATEMENT OR AN APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE HAS BEEN FILED UNDER THIS CHAPTER WITH THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE NOR THE FACT THAT A SECURITY IS EFFECTIVELY REGISTERED OR A PERSON IS LICENSED IN THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE CONSTITUTES A FINDING BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE THAT ANY DOCUMENT FILED UNDER RSA 421-B IS TRUE, COMPLETE AND NOT MISLEADING. NEITHER ANY SUCH FACT NOR THE FACT THAT AN EXEMPTION OR EXCEPTION IS AVAILABLE FOR A SECURITY OR A TRANSACTION MEANS THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS PASSED IN ANY WAY UPON THE MERITS OR QUALIFICATIONS OF, OR RECOMMENDED OR GIVEN APPROVAL TO, ANY PERSON, SECURITY, OR TRANSACTION. IT IS UNLAWFUL TO MAKE, OR CAUSE TO BE MADE, TO ANY PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER, CUSTOMER, OR CLIENT ANY REPRESENTATION INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. It does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in the notes. You should read the entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference for a more complete understanding of this offering. Please read Risk Factors beginning on page S-13 of this prospectus supplement and page 4 of the accompanying prospectus for more information about important risks that you should consider before investing in the notes.

As used in this prospectus supplement, unless the context otherwise indicates, the terms we, us, our and similar terms mean Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P., together with our operating subsidiaries. References to the master partnership, our parent, or Sunoco Logistics Partners refer to Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. References to Sunoco mean Sunoco, Inc., the owner of the general partner of the master partnership. References to Sunoco R&M mean Sunoco, Inc. (R&M), a wholly owned subsidiary of Sunoco through which Sunoco conducts its refining and marketing operations. Except where the context otherwise requires, references to, and descriptions of, our assets, operations and financial results include the assets, operations and financial results of the master partnership and its subsidiaries and predecessors.

Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P.

We are a Delaware limited partnership formed by Sunoco Logistics Partners to own, operate and acquire a geographically diverse portfolio of complementary pipeline, terminalling, and crude oil acquisition and marketing assets. We are principally engaged in the transportation, terminalling and storage of refined products and crude oil and the purchase and sale of crude oil. Sunoco Logistics Partners conducts substantially all of its business through us. We are the borrower under the master partnership's revolving credit facilities, and we are the issuer of all of the master partnership's publicly traded notes, all of which are guaranteed by Sunoco Logistics Partners. Our financial results do not differ materially from those of Sunoco Logistics Partners. The number and dollar amount of reconciling items between our consolidated financial statements and those of Sunoco Logistics Partners are insignificant. All financial results presented in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are those of Sunoco Logistics Partners.

Our business is currently comprised of three segments, consisting of our Refined Products Pipeline System, our Terminal Facilities and our Crude Oil Pipeline System.

The *Refined Products Pipeline System* serves the United States operations of Sunoco and selected other third parties and consists of: approximately 2,200 miles of refined product pipelines, including a two-thirds undivided interest in the 80-mile refined product Harbor Pipeline, and 58 miles of interrefinery pipelines between two of Sunoco's refineries; a 9.4 percent interest in Explorer Pipeline Company, a joint venture that owns a 1,881-mile refined product pipeline; a 31.5 percent interest in Wolverine Pipe Line Company, a joint venture that owns a 721-mile refined product pipeline; a 12.3 percent interest in West Shore Pipe Line Company, a joint venture that owns a 652-mile refined product pipeline; and a 14.0 percent interest in Yellowstone Pipe Line Company, a joint venture that owns a 690-mile refined product pipeline.

The *Terminal Facilities* consist of 42 refined product terminals with an aggregate storage capacity of 7.2 million shell barrels, primarily serving our Refined Products Pipeline System; the Nederland Terminal, a 19.6 million barrel marine crude oil terminal on the Texas Gulf Coast; a 2.0 million barrel refined product terminal serving Sunoco's Marcus Hook refinery near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; one inland and two marine crude oil terminals with a combined capacity of 3.4 million barrels, and related pipelines, that serve Sunoco's Philadelphia refinery; and a 1.0 million barrel liquefied petroleum gas terminal near Detroit, Michigan.

Table of Contents

The *Crude Oil Pipeline System* gathers, purchases, sells, and transports crude oil principally in Oklahoma and Texas and consists of approximately 3,850 miles of crude oil trunk pipelines, including a 37.0 percent undivided interest in the 80-mile Mesa Pipe Line system, and approximately 500 miles of crude oil gathering lines that supply the trunk pipelines; approximately 110 crude oil transport trucks; approximately 120 crude oil truck unloading facilities; and a 55.3 percent equity interest (50 percent voting interest) in the Mid-Valley Pipeline Company, a joint venture that owns a 994-mile crude pipeline and a 43.8 percent interest in West Texas Gulf Pipe Line Company, a joint venture that owns a 579-mile crude oil pipeline.

We are principally engaged in the transport, terminalling and storage of refined products and crude oil in 13 states located in the northeastern, midwestern and southwestern United States. We generate revenues by charging tariffs for transporting refined products, crude oil and other hydrocarbons through our pipelines and by charging fees for storing refined products, crude oil and other hydrocarbons in, and for providing other services at, our terminals. We also generate revenues by purchasing and selling domestic crude oil. Generally, as we purchase crude oil, we simultaneously enter into corresponding sale transactions involving physical deliveries of crude oil, which enables us to secure a profit on the transaction at the time of purchase and establish a substantially balanced position, thereby minimizing our exposure to crude oil price volatility after the initial purchase. However, the margins we receive from these transactions may vary from period to period. We do not enter into futures contracts or other derivative instruments in connection with these purchases and sales unless they result in the physical delivery of crude oil.

Our Business Strategies

Our primary business strategies are to:

generate stable cash flows;

increase our pipeline and terminal throughput;

pursue strategic and accretive acquisitions that complement or supplement our existing asset base;

pursue economically accretive organic growth opportunities;

continue to improve our operating efficiency and to reduce our costs; and

increase our cash distributions to unitholders.

Our Competitive Strengths

We believe that we are well-positioned to execute our business strategies successfully because of the following competitive strengths:

We have a unique strategic relationship with Sunoco and its affiliates. Many of our refined product and crude oil pipelines and terminals are directly connected to Sunoco R&M's refineries and afford Sunoco R&M a cost-effective means to access crude oil and distribute refined products. In addition, we and Sunoco and its affiliates can jointly bid on potential acquisitions, and we are entitled to purchase from Sunoco and its affiliates any significant crude oil or refined product pipeline and terminalling assets, which we often refer to as logistics assets, associated with acquisitions made by Sunoco and its affiliates. Our acquisition of an undivided interest in the Mesa Pipe Line system in 2005 and our acquisition of a 55.3 percent equity interest (50 percent voting interest) in Mid-Valley Pipeline Company in 2006 are examples of our exercising our right to acquire logistics assets from Sunoco and its affiliates.

Our refined product pipelines and terminal facilities are strategically located in areas with high demand. We have a strong presence in the northeastern and midwestern United States, and our

Table of Contents

transportation and distribution assets in these regions operate at high utilization rates, providing us with a base of stable cash flows. Additionally, our 2008 acquisition of the MagTex products pipeline system expanded our presence in the growing refined product markets in the southwestern United States.

We have a complementary portfolio of assets that are both geographically and operationally diverse. Our assets include refined product pipelines and terminals in the northeastern, midwestern and southwestern United States, a crude oil terminal on the Texas Gulf Coast and crude oil pipelines in Oklahoma, Texas and Michigan. We also own equity interests in four refined product pipelines located in the central and western regions of the United States and in two crude oil pipelines. This geographic and asset diversity contributes to the stability of our cash flows.

Our pipelines and terminal facilities are efficient and well-maintained. In recent years, we have made significant investments to upgrade our asset base. All of our refined product pipelines and terminal facilities and many of our crude oil pipelines are automated to provide continuous, real-time, operational data. We continually undertake internal inspection programs and other procedures to monitor the integrity of our pipelines.

Our executive officers and directors have extensive energy industry experience. Our executive officers and directors have broad experience in the energy industry and our management team has operated our core assets for over ten years. As a result, we believe that we have the expertise to execute our business strategies and manage our assets and operations effectively. The master partnership's general partner has adopted incentive compensation plans to closely align the interests of its executive officers with the interests of its other stakeholders.

Our Relationship with Sunoco and its Affiliates

We have a strong and mutually beneficial relationship with Sunoco, one of the leading independent refining and marketing companies in the United States and the largest refiner in the northeastern United States. Sunoco operates its businesses through a number of operating subsidiaries, the primary one being Sunoco R&M, which operates Sunoco's refineries and markets gasoline and convenience items through approximately 4,700 retail sites. Sunoco R&M's three active refineries have an aggregate refining capacity of approximately 675,000 barrels per day. Substantially all of Sunoco's business activities with us are conducted through Sunoco R&M and the majority of our operations are strategically located within Sunoco R&M's refining and marketing supply chain. Sunoco R&M relies on us to provide transportation and terminalling services that support a significant portion of its refining and marketing operations.

The success of our operations depends substantially upon the continued use of our pipelines and terminal facilities by Sunoco R&M. For the nine months ended September 30, 2009, Sunoco R&M accounted for approximately 55 percent of the total revenues of our Refined Products Pipeline System, approximately 51 percent of the total revenues of our Terminal Facilities and approximately 11 percent of the total revenues of our Crude Oil Pipeline System. In 2002, we entered into a pipelines and terminals storage and throughput agreement with Sunoco R&M. That agreement was replaced, in part, on March 1, 2007 with: (i) a five year products terminal services agreement with Sunoco R&M under which Sunoco R&M may terminal and store refined products at our terminals, and (ii) a new tank farm agreement under which Sunoco R&M may terminal and store refined products at our Marcus Hook Tank Farm. These agreements contain no minimum throughput obligations for Sunoco R&M. Certain additional obligations under the 2002 agreement were replaced with new three year agreements with Sunoco R&M relating to the Inkster Terminal, effective April 1, 2009, and the Fort Mifflin Terminal Complex, effective March 1, 2009, that contain minimum annual obligations for each facility. The remainder of Sunoco's obligations under the 2002 agreement expired in March 2009.

Following the recent offering of the master partnership's common units by Sunoco Partners LLC, Sunoco, through its ownership of our parent's general partner, has an aggregate 31.2 percent limited partner interest and a

Table of Contents

2.0 percent general partner interest in Sunoco Logistics Partners. Because of its significant equity ownership in our parent and operational relationship with us, Sunoco will continue to have a substantial vested interest in the growth and success of our business. In addition, our parent general partner and its affiliates, which are indirectly owned by Sunoco, employ approximately 1,340 people who provide direct support to our operations. We do not have any employees.

Recent Developments

Registered Secondary Offering. On February 5, 2010, the general partner of the master partnership completed the sale of 2,200,000 common units representing limited partner interests in the master partnership in a registered secondary public offering. The master partnership did not receive any of the proceeds from this sale.

Fourth Quarter and Full Year Earnings. On January 26, 2010, we announced financial results for the quarter and year ended December 31, 2009. For the quarter ended December 31, 2009, net income decreased to \$54.4 million, or \$1.30 per limited partner unit on a diluted basis, compared to \$75.3 million, or \$2.23 per limited partner unit on a diluted basis, for the quarter ended December 31, 2008. Operating income for the quarter ended December 31, 2009 decreased by \$16.8 million, to \$66.4 million, from \$83.1 million for the quarter ended December 31, 2008.

For the year ended December 31, 2009, net income increased to \$250.4 million compared to \$214.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2009 increased by \$49.5 million to \$295.0 million from \$245.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2008.

Our independent registered public accounting firm has not completed its audit of our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2009. As a result, the financial results for the quarter and full year ended December 31, 2009 that we announced are subject to change.

Distribution Increase. On January 26, 2010, the board of directors of our general partner declared a cash distribution for the fourth quarter of 2009 of \$1.09 per common unit (\$4.36 annualized), which is payable on February 12, 2010 to unitholders of record as of February 8, 2010. This represents the twenty-sixth distribution increase in the last twenty-seven quarters. This distribution rate is 10.1 percent higher than the fourth quarter of 2008 distribution of \$0.99 per common unit and represents a 2.3 percent increase over the distribution for the third quarter of 2009 of \$1.065 per common unit.

IDR Exchange. On January 26, 2010, Sunoco Logistics Partners repurchased, and its general partner transferred and assigned to the master partnership for cancellation, the incentive distribution rights held by its general partner under Sunoco Logistics Partners' Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership, as amended, in consideration for (i) the master partnership's issuance to its general partner of new incentive distribution rights issued under Sunoco Logistics Partners' Third Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership and (ii) the issuance to its general partner of a promissory note in the principal amount of \$201.2 million. The promissory note matures on December 31, 2010.

Eagle Point Refinery. On October 6, 2009, Sunoco announced its decision to indefinitely idle its Eagle Point refinery and to consolidate production at its Marcus Hook and Philadelphia refineries. On February 1, 2010 Sunoco subsequently announced its permanent shutdown of the Eagle Point refinery. Sunoco expects to continue to distribute refined products through our Eagle Point terminal. Our assets, including docks, terminals and pipelines, which provide logistics support to the Eagle Point refinery had a net book value of \$62.0 million as of September 30, 2009 and generated revenues of \$12.9 million for the first nine months of 2009. We do not expect the shutdown of the Eagle Point refinery to have a material impact on us or our results of operations and continue to work with Sunoco to evaluate the impact, if any, that the shutdown of the Eagle Point refinery will have on our operating results and the net book value of our assets.

Table of Contents

Our Ownership, Structure and Management

We are the operating subsidiary of the master partnership. We and our subsidiaries conduct the master partnership's operations and own its operating assets. Our general partner has sole responsibility for conducting our business and for managing our operations. The officers of our general partner are the same as the officers of Sunoco Partners LLC, the general partner of the master partnership. The sole director of our general partner is also a director of Sunoco Partners LLC. Sunoco, the owner of our master partnership's general partner, receives an annual administrative fee for the provision of various general and administrative services for our benefit. The fee does not include salaries of pipeline and terminal personnel or other employees of our master partnership's general partner, including senior executives, or the cost of their employee benefits. We will also reimburse Sunoco and its affiliates for direct expenses they incur on our behalf.

S-5

Table of Contents

The following chart depicts the organization and ownership of us, our subsidiaries and the master partnership as of February 8, 2010.

	Percentage Interest
Ownership of Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P.	
Sunoco Logistics Partners GP LLC General Partner Interest	0.01%
Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. Limited Partner Interest	99.99%
Total	100.0%
Ownership of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.	
Public Common Units	66.8%
Sunoco Partners LLC Common Units	31.2%
Sunoco Partners LLC General Partner Interest	2.0%
Total	100.0%

Our principal executive offices are located at 1818 Market Street, Suite 1500, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, and our phone number is (866) 248-4344.

Table of Contents

The Offering

Issuer	Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P.
Securities	<p>\$ of % Senior Notes due 2020.</p> <p>\$ of % Senior Notes due 2040.</p>
Maturity Date	<p>, 2020 for the 2020 notes.</p> <p>, 2040 for the 2040 notes.</p>
Interest Payment Dates	We will pay interest on the notes in arrears each and , beginning , 2010.
Mandatory Redemption	We will not be required to make mandatory redemption or sinking fund payments on the notes or to repurchase the notes at the option of the holders.
Optional Redemption	We may redeem the notes, in whole or in part, at any time at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption, plus a make-whole premium as described under Description of the Notes Optional Redemption.
Guarantees	The notes will be guaranteed by our parent, Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., on a senior unsecured basis so long as it guarantees any of our other long-term debt. Any of our subsidiaries that in the future become guarantors or co-issuers of our long-term debt must guarantee the notes on the same basis. If we cannot make payments on the notes when they are due, the guarantors must make them instead.
Ranking	The notes will be our general unsecured obligations. The notes will rank equally in right of payment with all our existing and future senior debt, including debt under our revolving credit facilities, our outstanding 7.25% Senior Notes due 2012, 8.75% Senior Notes due 2014 and 6.125% Senior Notes due 2016, and senior in right of payment to any subordinated debt that we may incur. The parent guarantee of the notes will rank equally in right of payment with the guarantor s existing and future senior debt, including Sunoco Logistics Partners guarantees of debt under our revolving credit facilities, our outstanding 7.25% Senior Notes due 2012, 8.75% Senior Notes due 2014 and 6.125% Senior Notes due 2016, and senior in right of payment to any subordinated debt the guarantor may incur. Neither we nor the guarantor currently has any secured debt outstanding.
Certain Covenants	<p>The indenture governing the notes limits our ability and the ability of our subsidiaries, among other things, to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">create liens without equally and ratably securing the notes; and</p>

engage in certain sale and leaseback transactions.

The indenture also limits our ability to engage in mergers, consolidations and certain sales of assets.

S-7

Table of Contents

These covenants are subject to important exceptions and qualifications, as described under [Description of the Notes](#) [Important Covenants](#).

Use of Proceeds We will use the net proceeds of this notes offering to repay in full (i) the \$201.2 million promissory note, set to mature on December 31, 2010, issued to Sunoco Partners LLC, the general partner of our parent, Sunoco Logistics Partners, and (ii) the \$145.0 million balance outstanding under our \$400 million revolving credit facility. We will use any remainder for general partnership purposes. Affiliates of certain of the underwriters participating in this offering are lenders under our \$400 million revolving credit facility and are expected to receive greater than 5% of the net proceeds of this offering through our payments on this facility. Please read [Use of Proceeds](#), [Capitalization](#) and [Underwriting](#).

Ratings We have obtained the following ratings on the notes: BBB by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services and Baa2 by Moody's Investors Service, Inc.
A rating reflects only the view of a rating agency and is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold the notes. Any rating can be revised upward or downward or withdrawn at any time by a rating agency if the rating agency decides that the circumstances warrant a revision.

Trustee U.S. Bank National Association

Governing Law The notes and the indenture will be governed by New York law.

Risk Factors Please read [Risk Factors](#) beginning on page S-13 and on page 4 of the accompanying prospectus for a discussion of factors you should carefully consider before investing in the notes.

Table of Contents**Summary Financial and Operating Data**

The following tables set forth summary condensed consolidated financial and operating data of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008 and for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2009. The summary financial and operating data presented below is derived from (i) the audited financial statements of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., which are included in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, except as it pertains to the retrospective adjustment of earnings per unit and segment data, which is derived from its selected financial data and audited financial statements included in Exhibit 99.4 to its Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 27, 2010 and (ii) the unaudited financial statements included in its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2009, June 30, 2009 and September 30, 2009, and its Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 27, 2010 (other than items 2.02 and 7.01 and exhibits 99.1, 99.2 and 99.3) are incorporated by reference herein.

The summary financial and operating data should be read together with, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, the historical financial statements of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. and the accompanying notes and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, which are set forth in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2009, June 30, 2009 and September 30, 2009 and its Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 27, 2010 (other than items 2.02 and 7.01 and exhibits 99.1, 99.2 and 99.3).

	Year Ended December 31,			Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2006(1)	2007(2)	2008(3)	2008(4)	2009(5)
(\$ in thousands, except per unit amounts)					
Income Statement Data:					
Revenues:					
Sales and other operating revenue:					
Affiliates	\$ 1,842,634	\$ 1,682,042	\$ 2,571,947	\$ 2,153,655	\$ 531,309
Unaffiliated customers	3,994,601	5,695,413	7,540,373	6,385,662	3,209,485
Other income ⁽⁶⁾	17,315	28,381	24,298	19,854	21,298
Total revenues	5,854,550	7,405,836	10,136,618	8,559,171	3,762,092
Costs and expenses:					
Cost of products sold and operating expenses	5,644,021	7,156,142	9,786,014	8,316,720	3,450,490
Depreciation and amortization	36,649	37,341	40,054	29,499	35,328
Impairment charge			5,674	5,674	
Selling, general and administrative expenses	55,686	56,198	59,284	44,827	47,616
Total costs and expenses	5,736,356	7,249,681	9,891,026	8,396,720	3,533,434
Operating income	118,194	156,155	245,592	162,451	228,658
Net interest cost and debt expense	27,853	35,280	31,112	23,291	32,649
Net income	\$ 90,341	\$ 120,875	\$ 214,480	\$ 139,160	\$ 196,009
Net income per limited partner unit:					
Basic	\$ 2.68	\$ 3.39	\$ 6.19	\$ 3.94	\$ 5.22
Diluted	\$ 2.67	\$ 3.37	\$ 6.15	\$ 3.92	\$ 5.19
Cash distributions per unit to limited partners ⁽⁷⁾ :					
Paid	\$ 3.03	\$ 3.33	\$ 3.67	\$ 2.70	\$ 3.05
Declared	\$ 3.13	\$ 3.38	\$ 3.79	\$ 2.80	\$ 3.12

Table of Contents

	2006(1)	Year Ended December 31, 2007(2)	2008(3)	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008(4)	2009(5) (unaudited)
(\$ in thousands)					
Balance Sheet Data (at period end):					
Net properties, plants and equipment	\$ 1,006,668	\$ 1,089,262	\$ 1,375,429	\$ 1,143,615	\$ 1,498,886
Total assets	2,082,077	2,504,642	2,308,249	2,774,358	2,995,480
Total debt.	491,910	515,104	747,631	525,249	889,374
Total partners' capital	582,911	591,045	669,900	631,979	852,993
Other Financial Data:					
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 141,480	\$ 207,499	\$ 228,587	\$ 196,942	\$ 37,637
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(241,220)	(119,351)	(331,244)	(99,509)	(158,803)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	87,507	(95,560)	102,657	(97,433)	121,166
Capital expenditures:					
Maintenance.	\$ 29,872	\$ 24,946	\$ 25,652	\$ 15,655	\$ 15,326
Expansion	209,135 ⁽¹⁾	94,666 ⁽²⁾	305,592 ⁽³⁾	73,389 ⁽⁴⁾	143,477 ⁽⁵⁾
Total capital expenditures	\$ 239,007 ⁽¹⁾	\$ 119,612 ⁽²⁾	\$ 331,244 ⁽³⁾	\$ 89,044 ⁽⁴⁾	\$ 158,803 ⁽⁵⁾
EBITDA (unaudited) ⁽⁸⁾	\$ 154,843	\$ 193,496	\$ 291,320	\$ 197,624	\$ 263,986
Distributable cash flow (unaudited) ⁽⁸⁾	\$ 102,844	\$ 134,467	\$ 236,982	\$ 160,529	\$ 216,011
Operating Data (unaudited)⁽⁹⁾:					
Refined Products Pipeline System total shipments (in thousands of barrel miles per day) ⁽¹⁰⁾⁽¹¹⁾	46,573	49,147	46,868	44,129	58,146
Terminal Facilities					
Terminal throughput (bpd)					
Refined products terminals	391,718	433,797	436,213	428,146	462,969
Nederland Terminal	461,943	507,312	525,954	541,517	619,297
Refinery terminals	687,809	695,868	653,326	647,891	597,191
Crude Oil Pipeline System					
Crude oil pipeline throughput (bpd) ⁽¹⁰⁾	650,527	673,724	682,616	672,877	648,183
Crude oil purchases at wellhead (bpd)	191,644	177,981	177,662	175,209	183,047

(1) Expansion capital expenditures in 2006 include approximately \$40.9 million related to the March 1, 2006 acquisition of the Millennium and Kilgore crude oil pipeline system, approximately \$68.0 million related to the March 1, 2006 acquisition of the Amdel and White Oil crude oil pipeline system and approximately \$12.5 million related to the August 18, 2006 acquisition of a 55.3 percent equity interest in Mid-Valley Pipeline Company. The total purchase price of Mid-Valley was approximately \$65.0 million, however since a portion of the interest was acquired from a related party, we recorded it at Sunoco's historical cost, and the \$52.5 million difference between the purchase price and the cost basis of the assets was recorded as a capital distribution.

(2) Expansion capital expenditures in 2007 include approximately \$13.4 million related to the June 1, 2007 acquisition of the Syracuse Terminal and the construction in progress in connection with our agreement to connect our Nederland Terminal to a Port Arthur, Texas refinery. Expansion capital also includes further construction of crude oil storage tanks at the Nederland Terminal.

(3) Expansion capital expenditures in 2008 include approximately \$185.4 million related to the acquisition of the MagTex refined products pipeline system, construction of tankage and pipeline assets in connection

Table of Contents

with our agreement to connect the Nederland Terminal to a Port Arthur, Texas refinery and construction of additional crude oil storage tanks at the Nederland Terminal.

- (4) Expansion capital expenditures for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 were \$73.4 million, which includes construction in progress in connection with our agreement to connect our Nederland Terminal to a Port Arthur, Texas refinery, and the construction of additional crude oil storage tanks at Nederland.
- (5) Expansion capital expenditures for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 were \$143.5 million, which includes the acquisitions of a refined products terminal in Romulus, Michigan and Excel Pipeline LLC, the owner of a crude oil pipeline which services Gary Williams Wynnewood, Oklahoma refinery, and the construction pursuant to our agreement to connect our Nederland Terminal to a Port Arthur, Texas refinery. Expansion capital also includes refined products terminal optimization and construction of additional crude oil storage tanks at Nederland.
- (6) Includes equity income from investments in the following joint ventures: Explorer Pipeline Company, Wolverine Pipe Line Company, West Shore Pipe Line Company, Yellowstone Pipe Line Company, West Texas Gulf Pipe Line Company and Mid-Valley Pipeline Company. Equity income from these investments has been included based on our respective ownership percentages of each, and from the dates of acquisition forward.
- (7) Cash distributions paid per unit to limited partners include payments made per unit during the period stated. Cash distributions declared per unit to limited partners include distributions declared per unit related to the quarters within the period stated. Declared distributions are paid within 45 days following the close of each quarter.
- (8) EBITDA and distributable cash flow provide additional information for evaluating our ability to make distributions to our unitholders and our general partner. The following table reconciles the difference between net income, as determined under United States generally accepted accounting principles, and EBITDA and distributable cash flow (in thousands) as well as net cash provided by operating activities and EBITDA (in thousands):

	Year Ended			Nine Months Ended	
	2006	December 31, 2007	2008	2008	September 30, 2009
Net Income	\$ 90,341	\$ 120,875	\$ 214,480	\$ 139,160	\$ 196,009
Interest, net	27,853	35,280	31,112	23,291	32,649
Depreciation and amortization	36,649	37,341	40,054	29,499	35,328
Impairment charge			5,674	5,674	
EBITDA	154,843	193,496	291,320	197,624	263,986
Interest, net	(27,853)	(35,280)	(31,112)	(23,291)	(32,649)
Maintenance capital expenditures	(29,872)	(24,946)	(25,652)	(15,655)	(15,326)
Sunoco reimbursements	5,726	1,197	2,426	1,851	
Distributable cash flow	\$ 102,844	\$ 134,467	\$ 236,982	\$ 160,529	\$ 216,011
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 141,480	\$ 207,499	\$ 228,587	\$ 196,942	\$ 37,637
Interest, net	27,853	35,280	31,112	23,291	32,649
Amortization fees and bond discount	(508)	(666)	(633)	(457)	(1,123)
Restricted unit incentive plan expense	(3,686)	(5,310)	(4,277)	(2,566)	(4,904)
Net change in working capital pertaining to operating activities	(11,456)	(40,221)	38,381	(23,773)	186,828

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

Proceeds from insurance recovery		(4,389)			
Other	1,160	1,303	(1,850)	4,187	12,899
EBITDA	\$ 154,843	\$ 193,496	\$ 291,320	\$ 197,624	\$ 263,986

S-11

Table of Contents

Our management believes EBITDA and distributable cash flow information enhances an investor's understanding of a business's ability to generate cash for payment of distributions and other purposes. EBITDA and distributable cash flow do not represent and should not be considered alternatives to net income or net cash provided by operating activities as determined under United States generally accepted accounting principles and may not be comparable to other similarly titled measures of other businesses.

- (9) On January 1, 2009, we re-aligned our reporting segments. Prior to this date, the reporting segments were designated by geographic region. We determined it more meaningful to functionally align our reporting segments. As such, the updated reporting segments as of January 1, 2009 are Refined Products Pipeline System, Terminal Facilities and Crude Oil Pipeline System. The primary difference in the new segment reporting is the consolidation of approximately 120 miles of a crude oil pipeline formerly in the eastern pipeline system with the former western pipeline system. For comparative purposes, all prior year amounts have been recast to reflect the new segment reporting and do not impact consolidated net income.
- (10) Excludes amounts attributable to our equity ownership interests in corporate joint ventures.
- (11) Total shipments represent the total average daily pipeline throughput multiplied by the number of miles of pipeline through which each barrel has been shipped. We believe that total shipments is a better performance indicator for the Refined Products Pipeline System than throughput, as certain refined product pipelines, including inter-refinery and transfer pipelines, transport large volumes over short distances and generate minimal revenues.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

*An investment in our senior notes involves risks. You should carefully consider all of the information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference as provided under **Where You Can Find More Information**, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 and its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2009, June 30, 2009 and September 30, 2009 and the risk factors described under **Risk Factors** in such reports. This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference also contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Please read **Forward-Looking Statements**. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including the risks described below, elsewhere in this prospectus supplement, in the accompanying prospectus and in the documents incorporated by reference. If any of these risks occur, our business, financial condition or results of operation could be adversely affected.*

Risks Related to the Notes

The notes and the guarantee will be effectively subordinated to any secured debt of ours or the guarantor as well as to any debt of our non-guarantor subsidiaries, and, in the event of our bankruptcy or liquidation, holders of the notes will be paid from any assets remaining after payments to any holders of our secured debt.

The notes and the guarantee will be general unsecured senior obligations of us and the guarantor, respectively, and effectively subordinated to any secured debt that we or the guarantor may have to the extent of the value of the assets securing that debt. The indenture will permit the guarantor and us to incur secured debt provided certain conditions are met. The notes will be effectively subordinated to the liabilities of any of our subsidiaries unless the subsidiary guarantees the notes in the future.

If we are declared bankrupt or insolvent, or are liquidated, the holders of our secured debt will be entitled to be paid from our assets securing their debt before any payment may be made with respect to the notes. If any of the preceding events occur, we may not have sufficient assets to pay amounts due on our secured debt and the notes.

The notes have no established trading market or history and liquidity of trading markets for the notes may be limited.

The notes of each series will constitute a new issue of securities with no established trading market. Although the underwriters have indicated that they intend to make a market in the notes of each series, they are not obligated to do so and any of their market-making activities may be terminated or limited at any time. In addition, we do not intend to apply for a listing of the notes on any securities exchange or interdealer quotation system. As a result, there can be no assurance as to the liquidity of markets that may develop for the notes, the ability of noteholders to sell their notes or the prices at which notes could be sold. The notes may trade at prices that are lower than their respective public offering price depending on many factors, including prevailing interest rates and the markets for similar securities. The liquidity of trading markets for the notes may also be adversely affected by general declines or disruptions in the markets for debt securities. Those market declines or disruptions could adversely affect the liquidity of and market for the notes independent of our financial performance or prospects.

We are a holding company. We conduct our operations through our subsidiaries and depend on cash flow from our subsidiaries to service our debt obligations.

We are a holding company. We conduct our operations through our subsidiaries. As a result, our cash flow and ability to service our debt is dependent upon the earnings of our subsidiaries. In addition, we are dependent on the distribution of earnings, loans or other payments from our subsidiaries to us. Any payment of dividends, distributions, loans or other payments from our subsidiaries to us could be subject to statutory or contractual restrictions. Payments to us by our subsidiaries also will be contingent upon the profitability of our subsidiaries. If we are unable to obtain funds from our subsidiaries we may not be able to pay interest or principal on our debt securities when due or to obtain the necessary funds from other sources.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We expect to receive net proceeds of approximately \$ million from the sale of \$ million in aggregate principal amount of notes we are offering, after deducting the underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses.

We will use the net proceeds from this offering to repay in full (i) the \$201.2 million promissory note, set to mature on December 31, 2010, issued to Sunoco Partners LLC, the general partner of Sunoco Logistics Partners, and (ii) the \$145.0 million balance outstanding under our \$400 million revolving credit facility. We will use any remainder for general partnership purposes.

Affiliates of certain of the underwriters participating in this offering are lenders under our \$400 million revolving credit facility and are expected to receive greater than 5% of the net proceeds of this offering through our payment on this facility. Please read [Underwriting](#).

As of February 8, 2010, interest on borrowings under our \$400 million revolving credit facility had a weighted average interest rate of 0.54%. Our \$400 million revolving credit facility matures in November 2012.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth the total capitalization of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. as of September 30, 2009:

on an actual basis; and

as adjusted to give effect to our offering of \$ million in aggregate principal amount of the 2020 notes and \$ million in aggregate principal amount of the 2040 notes and the application of the net proceeds therefrom in the manner described under Use of Proceeds.

This table should be read together with our historical financial statements and the accompanying notes incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

	As of September 30, 2009 ^(a)	
	Actual	As Adjusted for this Offering
	(\$ in thousands)	
\$400 million revolving credit facility ^(b)	\$ 258,723	\$
\$62.5 million revolving credit facility ^(c)	31,250	31,250
7.25% Senior Notes due 2012	250,000	250,000
6.125% Senior Notes due 2016	175,000	175,000
8.75% Senior Notes due 2014	175,000	175,000
% Senior Notes due 2020		
% Senior Notes due 2040		
Less unamortized bond discount	(599)	
Total debt	\$ 889,374	\$
Partners' capital		
Limited partners	\$ 829,387	\$ 829,387
General partner	26,500	26,500
Less accumulated other comprehensive loss	(2,894)	(2,894)
Total partners' capital	\$ 852,993	\$ 852,993
Total capitalization	\$ 1,742,367	

(a) The promissory note issued to the general partner of the master partnership in the principal amount of \$201.2 million associated with the IDR buyback is not included in this table because it was issued after September 30, 2009 and will be repaid with the net proceeds from this offering.

(b) A total of approximately \$145.0 million was outstanding under our \$400 million revolving credit facility as of February 8, 2010.

(c) A total of approximately \$31.25 million was outstanding under our \$62.5 million revolving credit facility as of February 8, 2010.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES

We will issue the notes under an indenture governing our senior debt securities referred to in the accompanying prospectus, as supplemented by separate indenture supplements creating the notes of each series. The notes will be issued in the form of one or more global notes registered in the name of the nominee of the depository for the notes, The Depository Trust Company, as described in the accompanying prospectus under Description of the Debt Securities Book-Entry, Delivery and Form . The following description and the description in the accompanying prospectus under Description of the Debt Securities summarize the material provisions of the notes, the indenture and the indenture supplements. These descriptions do not restate the indenture and the indenture supplements in their entirety. We urge you to read the indenture and the indenture supplements because they, and not this description, define your rights as a holder of the notes. We have filed copies of the indenture and the indenture supplements as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are a part.

The notes are senior debt securities as that term is used in the accompanying prospectus. The description of the notes in this prospectus supplement replaces the description of the general provisions of the senior debt securities in the accompanying prospectus to the extent that the following description is inconsistent with those provisions.

In this Description of the Notes, the expressions we, our, us or the like refer to Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P., excluding its subsidiaries, and references to the indenture mean the indenture as supplemented by the indenture supplements creating the notes.

Principal and Maturity

The 2020 notes will mature on , 2020, unless sooner redeemed, and the 2040 notes will mature on , 2040, unless sooner redeemed. The notes will not be entitled to the benefits of a sinking fund or mandatory redemption or repurchase requirements. We will issue the 2020 notes in an initial aggregate principal amount of \$ million and the 2040 notes in an initial aggregate principal amount of \$ million. Thereafter we may from time to time, without the consent of the existing holders, create and issue further notes of either series having the same terms and conditions as the notes of that series being offered hereby in all respects, except for issue date, issue price and, if applicable, the first payment of interest thereon. Additional notes issued in this manner will be consolidated with, and will form a single series with, the previously outstanding notes of the same series.

The notes will be issued only in registered form without coupons, in denominations of \$2,000 or integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

Interest

The notes will bear interest from , 2010 at the annual rate set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, payable semi-annually in arrears on and of each year (each an interest payment date) to noteholders in whose name the notes are registered at the close of business on or (whether or not a business day) preceding the applicable interest payment date. If an interest payment date or a redemption date occurs on a date that is not a business day, payment will be made on the next business day and no additional interest will accrue. Interest payments will commence on , 2010. Under the indenture, a business day is any day, other than Saturday or Sunday, that is not a day on which banking institutions in The City of New York are authorized by law, regulation or executive order to remain closed.

Interest on the notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year comprised of twelve 30-day months.

Ranking

The notes of each series will be unsecured obligations of Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. The notes will rank equally in right of payment with all of our other existing and future senior debt from time to time

Table of Contents

outstanding, including debt under our revolving credit facilities and our outstanding 7.25% Senior Notes due 2012, 8.75% Senior Notes due 2014 and 6.125% Senior Notes due 2016, and senior in right of payment to any future subordinated debt that we may incur. The indenture does not limit our ability to incur additional debt.

Parent Guarantee of Notes

We are a subsidiary of the master partnership, Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. Like the master partnership, we are also a holding company that conducts all of our operations through our subsidiaries. Initially the master partnership will fully and unconditionally guarantee the due and punctual payment of the principal, any premium and interest on the notes when and as they become due and payable, whether at stated maturity or otherwise. The master partnership has guaranteed our obligations under our revolving credit facilities and our outstanding 7.25% Senior Notes due 2012, 8.75% Senior Notes due 2014 and 6.125% Senior Notes due 2016. The master partnership's guarantee of the notes will rank equally in right of payment with its other existing and future senior debt from time to time outstanding, including the master partnership's guarantees under our revolving credit facilities, our outstanding 7.25% Senior Notes due 2012, 8.75% Senior Notes due 2014 and 6.125% Senior Notes due 2016, and senior in right of payment to any future subordinated debt that the guarantor may incur.

The parent guarantee provides that upon a default in payment of principal or any premium or interest on a note, the holder of the note may institute legal proceedings directly against the guarantor to enforce the guarantee without first proceeding against us. The guarantor is obligated under its guarantee only up to an amount that would not constitute a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under federal or state law.

Addition and Releases of Guarantors

The indenture also requires our subsidiaries that in the future become guarantors or co-obligors of our Funded Debt, as defined below, to fully and unconditionally guarantee, as guarantors, our payment obligations on the notes.

In the indenture, the term subsidiary means, with respect to any person:

any corporation, association or other business entity of which more than 50% of the total voting power of the equity interests entitled, without regard to the occurrence of any contingency, to vote in the election of directors, managers, trustees or equivalent persons thereof is at the time of determination owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by that person or one or more of the other subsidiaries of that person or a combination thereof; or

any partnership of which more than 50% of the partner's equity interests, considering all partners' equity interests as a single class, is at the time of determination owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by that person or one or more of the other subsidiaries of that person or a combination thereof.

Funded Debt means all debt:

maturing one year or more from the date of its creation;

directly or indirectly renewable or extendable, at the option of the debtor, by its terms or by the terms of any instrument or agreement relating to the debt, to a date one year or more from the date of its creation; or

under a revolving credit or similar agreement obligating the lender or lenders to extend credit over a period of one year or more. The term debt means, with respect to any specified person, any obligation created or assumed by such person for the repayment of borrowed money and any guarantee thereof.

Table of Contents

The guarantee of the master partnership or any future subsidiary guarantor may be released under certain circumstances. If we exercise our legal or covenant defeasance option with respect to the notes as described in the accompanying prospectus under Description of the Debt Securities Defeasance, then any subsidiary guarantor will be released with respect to the notes. Further, if no default has occurred and is continuing under the indenture with respect to the notes, the master partnership or any future subsidiary guarantor will be unconditionally released and discharged from its guarantee:

in the case of any future subsidiary guarantor, automatically upon any sale, exchange or transfer, whether by way of merger or otherwise, to any person that is not our affiliate, of all of our direct or indirect limited partnership or other equity interests in the subsidiary guarantor;

in the case of any future subsidiary guarantor, automatically upon the merger of the subsidiary guarantor into us, the master partnership or any other subsidiary guarantor or the liquidation and dissolution of the subsidiary guarantor;

in the case of the master partnership, automatically upon the merger of the master partnership into us or any subsidiary guarantor, or the liquidation or dissolution of the master partnership; or

in the case of the master partnership or any future subsidiary guarantor, following delivery of a written notice by us to the trustee, upon the release of all guarantees by the master partnership or such future subsidiary guarantor of any Funded Debt of ours other than any senior debt securities issued under the indenture, except a release as a result of payment under such guarantees.

Optional Redemption

Each series of notes will be redeemable, in whole or in part, at our option at any time (a Redemption Date) at a redemption price equal to the greater of:

100% of the principal amount of the notes; and

an amount equal to the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments for principal and interest on the notes, not including any portion of the payments of interest accrued as of such Redemption Date, discounted to such Redemption Date on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate, as defined below, plus basis points in the case of the 2020 notes and basis points in the case of the 2040 notes; plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest on the notes to such Redemption Date.

The Independent Investment Banker will calculate the actual redemption price.

In the indenture, the following terms have the meanings set forth below:

Treasury Rate means the rate per year equal to the semi-annual equivalent yield to maturity of the Comparable Treasury Issue, calculated using a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for such Redemption Date. The Treasury Rate shall be calculated on the third business day preceding the Redemption Date.

Comparable Treasury Issue means the United States Treasury security selected by the Independent Investment Banker as having a maturity comparable to the remaining term of the notes to be redeemed that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the remaining term of the notes.

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

Comparable Treasury Price means with respect to any Redemption Date (1) the average of the Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such Redemption Date, after excluding the highest and lowest such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (2) if the Independent Investment Banker obtains fewer than five such Reference Treasury dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations.

S-18

Table of Contents

Independent Investment Banker means any of Barclays Capital Inc., Citigroup Global Markets Inc., UBS Securities LLC or Wells Fargo Securities, LLC as specified by us, and any successor firm or, if such firm is unwilling or unable to select the Comparable Treasury Issue, an independent investment banking institution of national standing appointed by us.

Reference Treasury Dealer means each of Barclays Capital Inc., Citigroup Global Markets Inc., UBS Securities LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC and one other primary U.S. government securities dealer (each a **Primary Treasury Dealer**), as specified by us; provided, that (1) if any of the foregoing shall cease to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, we will substitute therefor another Primary Treasury Dealer and (2) if we fail to select a substitute within a reasonable period of time, then the substitute will be a Primary Treasury Dealer selected by the Independent Investment Banker.

Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations means, with respect to the Reference Treasury Dealer and any Redemption Date, the average, as determined by the Independent Investment Banker, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed, in each case, as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Independent Investment Banker by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such Redemption Date.

If less than all of the notes are to be redeemed, the trustee shall select the notes or portions of the notes to be redeemed on a pro rata basis, by lot or by such other method as the trustee shall deem appropriate and fair. The trustee may select for redemptions only notes and portions of notes in minimum principal amounts of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

Notice of any redemption will be mailed at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before the Redemption Date to each holder of the notes to be redeemed. Unless we default in payment of the redemption price, on or after the Redemption Date, interest will cease to accrue on the notes called for redemption.

Important Covenants

We are subject to certain covenants under the indenture with respect to the notes. In addition to the covenants described in the accompanying prospectus under **Description of the Debt Securities Specific Covenants Reports and Consolidation, Merger or Sale**, we are subject to the following two additional important covenants:

Limitations on Liens

We will not, nor will we permit any subsidiary to, create, assume, incur or suffer to exist any lien upon any Principal Property, as defined below, or upon any shares of capital stock of any subsidiary owning or leasing any Principal Property, whether owned or leased on the date of the indenture or thereafter acquired, to secure any of our debt or debt of any other person, other than the notes and any other senior debt securities issued under the indenture, without making effective provision for all of the notes outstanding under the indenture to be secured equally and ratably with, or prior to, that debt so long as that debt is so secured.

Principal Property means, whether owned or leased on the date of the indenture or thereafter acquired, any pipeline, terminal or other logistics property or asset of ours or any subsidiary, including any related property or asset employed in the transportation, distribution, storage, terminalling, processing or marketing of crude oil, refined products (including gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, heating oil, distillates, liquefied petroleum gas, natural gas liquids, blend stocks, ethanol, xylene, toluene and petrochemical feedstocks) or fuel additives, that is located in the United States of America or any territory or political subdivision thereof, except:

- (1) any of those properties or assets consisting of inventories, furniture, office fixtures and equipment, including data processing equipment, vehicles and equipment used on, or with, vehicles; and
- (2) any of those properties or assets which, in the opinion of the board of directors of Sunoco Logistics Partners GP LLC, our general partner, is not material in relation to our activities or our subsidiaries, taken as a whole.

Table of Contents

There is excluded from this restriction:

(1) Permitted Liens, as defined below;

(2) any lien upon any property or asset created at the time of acquisition of that property or asset by us or any subsidiary or within one year after that time to secure all or a portion of the purchase price for that property or asset or debt incurred to finance the purchase price, whether that debt was incurred prior to, at the time of or within one year after the date of the acquisition;

(3) any lien upon any property or asset to secure all or part of the cost of construction, development, repair or improvements thereon or to secure debt incurred prior to, at the time of, or within one year after completion of the construction, development, repair or improvements or the commencement of full operations thereof, whichever is later, to provide funds for that purpose;

(4) any lien upon any property or asset existing thereon at the time of the acquisition thereof by us or any subsidiary, whether or not the obligations secured thereby are assumed by us or any subsidiary; provided, however, that the lien only encumbers the property or asset so acquired;

(5) any lien upon any property or asset of an entity existing thereon at the time that entity becomes a subsidiary by acquisition, merger or otherwise; provided, however, that the lien only encumbers the property or asset of that entity at the time it becomes a subsidiary;

(6) any lien upon any property or asset of ours or any subsidiary in existence on the date the notes are first issued or provided for pursuant to agreements existing on that date, including, without limitation, pursuant to our revolving credit facility;

(7) liens imposed by law or order as a result of any proceeding before any court or regulatory body that is being contested in good faith, and liens which secure a judgment or other court-ordered award or settlement as to which we or the applicable subsidiary has not exhausted our or its appellate rights;

(8) any extension, renewal, refinancing, refunding or replacement, or successive extensions, renewals, refinancings, refundings or replacements, of liens, in whole or in part, referred to in clauses (1) through (7) above; provided, however, that any extension, renewal, refinancing, refunding or replacement lien shall be limited to the property or asset covered by the lien extended, renewed, refinanced, refunded or replaced and that the obligations secured by any extension, renewal, refinancing, refunding or replacement lien shall be in an amount not greater than the amount of the obligations secured by the lien extended, renewed, refinanced, refunded or replaced and any expenses of ours and our subsidiaries, including any premium, incurred in connection with any extension, renewal, refinancing, refunding or replacement; or

(9) any lien resulting from the deposit of moneys or evidence of indebtedness in trust for the purpose of defeasing debt of ours or any subsidiary.

Notwithstanding the preceding, under the indenture, we may, and may permit any subsidiary to, create, assume, incur, or suffer to exist any lien upon any Principal Property or upon any shares of capital stock of any subsidiary owning or leasing any Principal Property to secure debt of ours or any other person, other than the notes and any other debt securities issued under the indenture, that is not excepted by clauses (1) through (9) above, without securing the notes; provided that the aggregate principal amount of all debt then outstanding secured by that lien and all similar liens, together with all Attributable Indebtedness, as defined below, from Sale-Leaseback Transactions (excluding Sale-Leaseback Transactions permitted by clauses (1) through (4), inclusive, of the first paragraph of the restriction on sale-leasebacks covenant described below) does not exceed 10% of Consolidated Net Tangible Assets, as defined below.

Permitted Liens means:

(1) liens upon rights of way for pipeline purposes;

(2) any statutory or governmental lien or lien arising by operation of law, or any mechanic's, repairman's, materialman's, supplier's, carrier's, landlord's, warehouseman's or similar lien incurred in the

Table of Contents

ordinary course of business which is not yet due or which is being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings and any undetermined lien which is incidental to construction, development, improvement or repair;

(3) the right reserved to, or vested in, any municipality or public authority by the terms of any right, power, franchise, grant, license, permit or by any provision of law, to purchase or recapture or to designate a purchaser of, any property;

(4) liens of taxes and assessments which are (A) for the then current year, (B) not at the time delinquent, or (C) delinquent but the validity of which is being contested at the time by us or any subsidiary in good faith;

(5) liens of, or to secure performance of, leases, other than capital leases;

(6) any lien upon, or deposits of, any assets in favor of any surety company or clerk of court for the purpose of obtaining indemnity or stay of judicial proceedings;

(7) any lien upon property or assets acquired or sold by us or any subsidiary resulting from the exercise of any rights arising out of defaults on receivables;

(8) any lien incurred in the ordinary course of business in connection with worker's compensation, unemployment insurance, temporary disability, social security, retiree health or similar laws or regulations or to secure obligations imposed by statute or governmental regulations;

(9) any lien in favor of us or any subsidiary;

(10) any lien in favor of the United States of America or any state of the United States, or any department, agency or instrumentality or political subdivision of the United States of America or any state of the United States, to secure partial, progress, advance or other payments pursuant to any contract or statute, or any debt incurred by us or any subsidiary for the purpose of financing all or any part of the purchase price of, or the cost of constructing, developing, repairing or improving, the property or assets subject to the lien;

(11) any lien securing industrial development, pollution control or similar revenue bonds;

(12) any lien securing debt of ours or any subsidiary, all or a portion of the net proceeds of which are used, substantially concurrent with the funding thereof (and for purposes of determining substantial concurrence, taking into consideration, among other things, required notices to be given to holders of outstanding notes under the indenture in connection with the refunding, refinancing or repurchase, and the required corresponding durations thereof), to refinance, refund or repurchase all outstanding notes under the indenture, including the amount of all accrued interest thereon and reasonable fees and expenses and premium, if any, incurred by us or any subsidiary in connection therewith;

(13) liens in favor of any person to secure obligations under the provisions of any letters of credit, bank guarantees, bonds or surety obligations required or requested by any governmental authority in connection with any contract or statute; or

(14) any lien upon or deposits of any assets to secure performance of bids, trade contracts, leases or statutory obligations.

Consolidated Net Tangible Assets means, at any date of determination, the total amount of assets after deducting:

all current liabilities, excluding:

any current liabilities that by their terms are extendable or renewable at the option of the obligor to a time more than one year after the time as of which the amount is being computed; and

current maturities of long-term debt; and

the value, net of any applicable reserves, of all goodwill, trade names, trademarks, patents and other like intangible assets,

S-21

Table of Contents

all as set forth, or as on a pro forma basis would set forth, on our consolidated balance sheet for our most recently completed fiscal quarter, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Restriction on Sale-Leasebacks

We will not, and will not permit any of our subsidiaries to, engage in the sale or transfer by us or any subsidiary of any Principal Property to a person, other than us or a subsidiary, and the taking back by us or any subsidiary, as the case may be, of a lease of the Principal Property, which we call a Sale-Leaseback Transaction, unless:

- (1) the Sale-Leaseback Transaction occurs within one year from the date of completion of the acquisition of the Principal Property subject thereto or the date of the completion of construction, development or substantial repair or improvement, or commencement of full operations on the Principal Property, whichever is later;
- (2) the Sale-Leaseback Transaction involves a lease for a period, including renewals, of not more than three years;
- (3) we or a subsidiary would be entitled to incur debt secured by a lien on the Principal Property subject thereto in a principal amount equal to or exceeding the Attributable Indebtedness from the Sale-Leaseback Transaction without equally and ratably securing the notes; or
- (4) we or a subsidiary, within a one-year period after the Sale-Leaseback Transaction, applies or causes to be applied an amount not less than the Attributable Indebtedness from the Sale-Leaseback Transaction to:

the prepayment, repayment, redemption, reduction or retirement of any of our debt or debt of any subsidiary that is not subordinated to the notes; or

the expenditure or expenditures for Principal Property used or to be used in the ordinary course of our business or the business of our subsidiaries.

Attributable Indebtedness, when used with respect to any Sale-Leaseback Transaction, means, as at the time of determination, the present value, discounted at the rate set forth or implicit in the terms of the lease included in the transaction, of the total obligations of the lessee for rental payments, other than amounts required to be paid on account of property taxes, maintenance, repairs, insurance, assessments, utilities, operating and labor costs and other items that constitute payments for property rights, during the remaining term of the lease included in the Sale-Leaseback Transaction, including any period for which the lease has been extended. In the case of any lease that is terminable by the lessee upon the payment of a penalty or other termination payment, the amount shall be the lesser of the amount determined assuming termination upon the first date the lease may be terminated, in which case the amount shall also include the amount of the penalty or termination payment, but no rent shall be considered as required to be paid under the lease subsequent to the first date upon which it may be so terminated, or the amount determined assuming no termination.

Notwithstanding the preceding, the indenture provides that we may, and may permit any subsidiary to, effect any Sale-Leaseback Transaction that is not excepted by clauses (1) through (4), inclusive, of the first paragraph above, provided that the Attributable Indebtedness from the Sale-Leaseback Transaction and any other Sale-Leaseback Transaction that is not so excepted, together with the aggregate principal amount of outstanding debt, other than the notes and any other senior debt securities issued under the indenture, secured by liens upon Principal Properties, or upon any shares of capital stock of any subsidiary owning or leasing any Principal Property, and in any case not excepted by clauses (1) through (9), inclusive, of the first paragraph of the limitation on liens covenant described above, does not exceed 10% of the Consolidated Net Tangible Assets.

Table of Contents

Events of Default

In addition to the Events of Default described in the accompanying prospectus under Description of the Debt Securities Events of Default, Remedies and Default Events of Default, the following constitutes an Event of Default under the indenture in respect of the notes of each series:

the acceleration of the maturity of any other debt of ours or any of our subsidiaries or a default in the payment of any principal or interest in respect of any other debt of us or any of our subsidiaries having an outstanding principal amount of \$25 million or more individually or in the aggregate and such default shall be continuing for a period of 30 days.

Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance

The notes of each series will be subject to both legal defeasance and covenant defeasance as described in the accompanying prospectus under Description of the Debt Securities Defeasance.

Satisfaction and Discharge

The indenture will be discharged and will cease to be of further effect with respect to the notes of either series (except as to surviving rights of registration of transfer or exchange of the notes provided for in the indenture) when

either (1) all the notes of that series previously authenticated and delivered (except lost, stolen or destroyed notes that have been replaced or paid and notes for whose payment we have deposited with the trustee money that has been repaid to us thereafter) have been delivered to the trustee for cancellation or (2) all such notes not theretofore delivered to the trustee for cancellation have become due and payable or will become due and payable at their stated maturity within one year, or are to be called for redemption within one year under arrangements satisfactory to the trustee for the giving of notice of redemption;

we have deposited with the trustee as trust funds cash sufficient to pay in full at stated maturity or upon redemption all such notes not delivered to the trustee for cancellation; and

we have paid all other sums payable under the indenture by us with respect to such notes.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME AND ESTATE TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion summarizes certain U.S. federal income tax considerations and, in the case of a non-U.S. holder (as defined below), U.S. federal estate tax considerations, that may be relevant to the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the notes. Except as specifically described below (see [Recent Legislative Developments](#)), this discussion is based upon the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the [Code](#)), applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder, judicial authority and administrative interpretations, as of the date of this document, all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect, or are subject to different interpretations. We cannot assure you that the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, will not challenge one or more of the tax consequences described in this discussion, and we have not obtained, nor do we intend to obtain, a ruling from the IRS or an opinion of counsel with respect to the U.S. federal tax consequences of acquiring, holding or disposing of the notes.

This discussion is limited to holders who purchase the notes in this offering for a price equal to the issue price of the notes (i.e., the first price at which a substantial amount of the notes is sold other than to bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents or wholesalers) and who hold the notes as capital assets (generally, property held for investment). This discussion does not address the tax considerations arising under the laws of any foreign, state, local or other jurisdiction. In addition, this discussion does not address all tax considerations that may be important to a particular holder in light of the holder's circumstances, or to certain categories of investors that may be subject to special rules, such as:

dealers in securities or currencies;

traders in securities that have elected the mark-to-market method of accounting for their securities;

U.S. holders (as defined below) whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;

persons holding notes as part of a hedge, straddle, conversion or other synthetic security or integrated transaction;

certain U.S. expatriates;

financial institutions;

insurance companies;

regulated investment companies;

real estate investment trusts;

persons subject to the alternative minimum tax;

entities that are tax-exempt for U.S. federal income tax purposes; and

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

partnerships and other pass-through entities and holders of interests therein.

If a partnership (or an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds notes, the tax treatment of a partner of the partnership generally will depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner of a partnership acquiring the notes, you are urged to consult your own tax advisor about the U.S. federal income tax consequences of acquiring, holding and disposing of the notes.

INVESTORS CONSIDERING THE PURCHASE OF NOTES ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX LAWS TO THEIR PARTICULAR SITUATIONS AS WELL AS ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP OR DISPOSITION OF THE NOTES UNDER U.S. FEDERAL ESTATE OR GIFT TAX LAWS OR UNDER THE LAWS OF ANY STATE, LOCAL OR FOREIGN JURISDICTION OR UNDER ANY APPLICABLE TAX TREATY.

S-24

Table of Contents

In certain circumstances (see *Description of Notes* *Optional Redemption*), we may elect to or be obligated to pay amounts on the notes that are in excess of stated interest or principal on the notes. We do not intend to treat the possibility of paying such additional amounts as causing the notes to be treated as contingent payment debt instruments. However, additional income will be recognized if any such additional payment is made. It is possible that the IRS may take a different position, in which case a holder might be required to accrue interest income at a higher rate than the stated interest rate and to treat as ordinary interest income any gain realized on the taxable disposition of the note. The remainder of this discussion assumes that the notes will not be treated as contingent payment debt instruments. Investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the possible application of the contingent payment debt instrument rules to the notes.

Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders

You are a U.S. holder for purposes of this discussion if you are a beneficial owner of a note and you are for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

an individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien;

a corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, that was created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

an estate whose income is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or

a trust if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or that has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations to be treated as a United States person.

The following discussion assumes that you have not made the election to include all interest that accrues on a note in gross income on a constant yield basis.

Taxation of Interest

Stated interest on the notes generally will be taxable to you as ordinary income at the time it is received or accrued in accordance with your regular method of accounting for United States federal income tax purposes.

Disposition of the Notes

You will generally recognize capital gain or loss on the sale, redemption, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a note. This gain or loss will equal the difference between: the proceeds you receive (excluding any proceeds attributable to accrued but unpaid stated interest, which will be recognized as ordinary interest income to the extent you have not previously included such amounts in income) and your adjusted tax basis in the note. The proceeds you receive will include the amount of any cash and the fair market value of any other property received for the note. Your adjusted tax basis in the note will generally equal the amount you paid for the note. The gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if you held the note for more than one year at the time of the sale, redemption, exchange, retirement or other disposition. Long-term capital gains of individuals, estates and trusts generally are subject to a reduced rate of U.S. federal income tax. The deductibility of capital losses may be subject to limitation.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Information reporting generally will apply to payments of principal and interest on, and the proceeds of the sale or other disposition (including a retirement or redemption) of, notes held by you unless, in each case, you are

Table of Contents

an exempt recipient such as a corporation. Backup withholding may apply to such payments unless you provide the appropriate intermediary with a taxpayer identification number, certified under penalties of perjury, as well as certain other information.

The applicable backup withholding rate will be the fourth lowest income tax rate applicable to unmarried individuals for the relevant taxable year. Presently, the backup withholding rate is 28%. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amount withheld under the backup withholding rules is allowable as a credit against your U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, and a refund may be obtained if the amounts withheld exceed your actual U.S. federal income tax liability and you timely provide the required information or appropriate claim form to the IRS.

Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders

Except as otherwise modified for U.S. federal estate tax purposes, you are a non-U.S. holder for purposes of this discussion if you are a beneficial owner of notes and you are an individual, corporation, estate or trust and are not a U.S. holder (as defined above).

U.S. Federal Withholding Tax

Payments to you of interest on the notes generally will be exempt from U.S. federal withholding tax under the portfolio interest exemption if you properly certify as to your foreign status as described below, and:

you do not own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of our capital or profits interests (including by reason of your ownership of 10% or more of the capital or profits interests in Sunoco Logistics Partners);

you are not a controlled foreign corporation that is related to us (actually or constructively);

you are not a bank whose receipt of interest on the notes is in connection with an extension of credit made pursuant to a loan agreement entered into in the ordinary course of your trade or business; and

interest on the notes is not effectively connected with your conduct of a U.S. trade or business.

The portfolio interest exemption and several of the special rules for non-U.S. holders described below generally apply only if you appropriately certify as to your foreign status. You can generally meet this certification requirement by providing a properly executed IRS Form W-8BEN or appropriate substitute form to us, or our paying agent. If you hold the notes through a financial institution or other agent acting on your behalf, you may be required to provide appropriate certifications to the agent. Your agent will then generally be required to provide appropriate certifications to us or our paying agent, either directly or through other intermediaries. Special rules apply to foreign partnerships, estates and trusts, and in certain circumstances certifications as to foreign status of partners, trust owners or beneficiaries may have to be provided to us or our paying agent. In addition, special rules apply to qualified intermediaries that enter into withholding agreements with the IRS.

If you cannot satisfy the requirements described above, payments of interest made to you will be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a 30% rate, unless you provide us or our paying agent with a properly executed IRS Form W-8BEN (or successor form) claiming an exemption from (or a reduction of) withholding under the benefit of a tax treaty (in which case, you generally will be required to provide a U.S. taxpayer identification number), or the payments of interest are effectively connected with your conduct of a trade or business in the United States (and if required by an applicable income tax treaty, are treated as attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by you in the United States) and you meet the certification requirements described below. (See *Income or Gain Effectively Connected with a U.S. Trade or Business.*)

Table of Contents

Disposition of the Notes

You generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on any gain realized on the sale, redemption, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a note unless:

the gain is effectively connected with the conduct by you of a U.S. trade or business (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, is treated as attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by you in the United States); or

you are an individual who has been present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of disposition and certain other requirements are met.

If you are a non-U.S. holder described in the first bullet point above, you generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax in the manner described under *Income or Gain Effectively Connected with a U.S. Trade or Business*. If you are a non-U.S. holder described in the second bullet point above, you will be subject to a flat 30% U.S. federal income tax on the gain derived from the sale or other disposition, which may be offset by U.S. source capital losses.

Income or Gain Effectively Connected with a U.S. Trade or Business

If any interest on the notes or gain from the sale, redemption, exchange or other taxable disposition of the notes is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business conducted by you (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, is treated as attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by you in the United States), then the income or gain will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at regular graduated income tax rates in generally the same manner as if you were a U.S. holder. Effectively connected interest income will not be subject to U.S. withholding tax if you satisfy certain certification requirements by providing to us or our paying agent a properly executed IRS Form W-8ECI (or successor form). If you are a corporation, that portion of your earnings and profits that is effectively connected with your U.S. trade or business may also be subject to a branch profits tax at a 30% rate, although an applicable income tax treaty may provide for a lower rate.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Payments to you of interest on a note, and amounts withheld from such payments, if any, generally will be required to be reported to the IRS and to you.

United States backup withholding generally will not apply to payments to you of interest on a note if the certification requirements described in *Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders* *U.S. Federal Withholding Tax* are met or you otherwise establish an exemption, provided that we do not have actual knowledge or reason to know that you are a United States person.

Payment of the proceeds of a disposition (including a retirement or redemption) of a note effected by the U.S. office of a U.S. or foreign broker will be subject to information reporting requirements and backup withholding unless you properly certify under penalties of perjury as to your foreign status and certain other conditions are met or you otherwise establish an exemption. Information reporting requirements and backup withholding generally will not apply to any payment of the proceeds of the disposition of a note effected outside the United States by a foreign office of a broker. However, unless such a broker has documentary evidence in its records that you are a non-U.S. holder and certain other conditions are met, or you otherwise establish an exemption, information reporting will apply to a payment of the proceeds of the disposition of a note effected outside the United States by such a broker if it:

is a United States person;

is a foreign person that derives 50% or more of its gross income for certain periods from the conduct of a trade or business in the United States;

Table of Contents

is a controlled foreign corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes; or

is a foreign partnership that, at any time during its taxable year, has more than 50% of its income or capital interests owned by United States persons or is engaged in the conduct of a U.S. trade or business.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amount withheld under the backup withholding rules is allowable as a credit against your U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, and a refund may be obtained if the amounts withheld exceed your actual U.S. federal income tax liability and you timely provide the required information or appropriate claim form to the IRS.

U.S. Federal Estate Tax

If you are an individual and are not a resident of the United States (as specially defined for U.S. federal estate tax purposes) at the time of your death, the notes will not be included in your estate for U.S. federal estate tax purposes provided, at the time of your death, interest on the notes qualifies for the portfolio interest exemption under the rules described above without regard to the certification requirement.

Recent Legislative Developments

Recently proposed legislation (which was passed by the House of Representatives) would generally impose, effective for payments made after December 31, 2012, a withholding tax of 30% on interest income from, and the gross proceeds of a disposition of, notes paid to certain foreign entities unless various information reporting requirements are satisfied. Although as currently drafted such proposed legislation would not apply to the notes, there can be no assurance as to whether or not this proposed legislation will be enacted, and, if it is enacted, what form it will take or when it will be effective. Non-U.S. Holders and U.S. Holders holding the notes through foreign intermediaries are encouraged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the possible implications of this proposed legislation on their investment in the notes.

THE PRECEDING DISCUSSION OF CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME AND ESTATE TAX CONSIDERATIONS IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY AND IS NOT TAX ADVICE. WE URGE EACH PROSPECTIVE INVESTOR TO CONSULT ITS OWN TAX ADVISOR REGARDING THE PARTICULAR FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND FOREIGN TAX CONSEQUENCES OF PURCHASING, HOLDING AND DISPOSING OF OUR NOTES, INCLUDING THE CONSEQUENCES OF ANY PROPOSED CHANGE IN APPLICABLE LAWS.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

Barclays Capital Inc., Citigroup Global Markets Inc., UBS Securities LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC are acting as representatives of the underwriters named below. We, the master partnership and the general partner of the master partnership have entered into an underwriting agreement, dated February 1, 2010, with the underwriters pursuant to which, on the terms and subject to the conditions of the underwriting agreement, we have agreed to sell to the underwriters, and the underwriters severally and not jointly have agreed to purchase from us, the principal amount of notes listed opposite their names below:

Underwriters	Principal Amount of 2020 Notes	Principal Amount of 2040 Notes
Barclays Capital Inc.	\$	\$
Citigroup Global Markets Inc.		
UBS Securities LLC		
Wells Fargo Securities, LLC		
Total	\$	\$

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligation of the underwriters to purchase the notes included in this offering is subject to customary conditions. The underwriters have agreed to purchase all of the notes if any of these notes are purchased. If an underwriter defaults, the underwriting agreement provides that the purchase commitments of the nondefaulting underwriters may be increased or the underwriting agreement may be terminated.

The underwriters initially propose to offer the notes to the public at the public offering prices set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and may offer the notes to certain dealers at a price that represents a concession not in excess of 5% of the principal amount per 2020 note or 5% of the principal amount per 2040 note. The underwriters may allow, and those dealers may reallow, a concession to certain other broker/dealers not in excess of 5% of the principal amount per 2020 note or 5% of the principal amount per 2040 note. After the initial offering of the notes of each series to the public, the offering price and other selling terms may from time to time be varied by the underwriters.

The following table shows the underwriting discount (expressed as a percentage of the principal amount of the notes of each series) to be paid by us to the underwriters in connection with this offering.

	Paid by Us
Per 2020 note	%
Per 2040 note	%

In connection with the offering, the representatives, on behalf of the underwriters, may purchase and sell notes in the open market. These transactions may include over-allotment, syndicate covering transactions and stabilizing transactions. Over-allotment involves syndicate sales of notes in excess of the principal amount of notes to be purchased by the underwriters in the offering, which creates a syndicate short position. Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the notes in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. Stabilizing transactions consist of certain bids or purchases of notes made for the purpose of preventing or retarding a decline in the market prices of the notes while the offering is in progress.

The underwriters also may impose a penalty bid. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the representatives, in covering syndicate short positions or making stabilizing purchases, repurchases notes originally sold by that syndicate member.

Table of Contents

Any of these activities may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market prices of the notes. They may also cause the prices of the notes to be higher than the price that otherwise would exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. The underwriters may conduct these transactions in the over-the-counter market or otherwise. If the underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time.

The notes of each series are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We have been advised by the underwriters that they intend to make a market in the notes of each series, but they are not obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. Accordingly, we cannot assure you as to the liquidity of the trading markets for the notes. The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or included in any automated quotation system.

We have agreed that we will not offer to sell any of our debt securities (other than the notes and bank borrowings) for a period of 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement without the prior written consent of the representatives.

We, the master partnership and the general partner of the master partnership have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain civil liabilities relating to the offering, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and liabilities arising from breaches of representations and warranties contained in the underwriting agreement, or to contribute to payments that may be required to be made in respect of any of these liabilities.

We estimate that our total expenses for this offering, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions, will be \$0.3 million.

Relationships With Underwriters

Barclays Capital Inc., Citigroup Global Markets Inc., UBS Securities LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC and their affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in commercial banking, investment banking or financial advisory transactions with us, the master partnership, our affiliates and Sunoco, in the ordinary course of their business. Such underwriters and their affiliates have received customary compensation and expenses for these commercial banking, investment banking or financial advisory transactions. For instance, affiliates of Barclays Capital Inc., Citigroup Global Markets Inc., UBS Securities LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC are lenders under our \$400 million revolving credit facility that matures in November 2012. In addition, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is the counterparty to a futures account agreement with our indirect subsidiary, Sunoco Partners Marketing & Terminals L.P. Certain of the underwriters or their affiliates or associated persons are expected to receive more than 5% of the net proceeds of this offering through our payments under our \$400 million revolving credit facility. There is no conflict of interest between us and the underwriters under NASD Conduct Rule 2720.

The notes are offered for sale only in those jurisdictions where it is legal to offer them.

Table of Contents

LEGAL

The validity of the notes will be passed upon for us by our counsel, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., Houston, Texas. Certain legal matters relating to the offering of the notes will be passed upon for the underwriters by Andrews Kurth LLP, Washington D.C. Andrews Kurth LLP has in the past represented Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. in an unrelated matter.

EXPERTS

The financial statements of Sunoco Logistics Partners L. P., appearing in our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 27, 2010, and the parent-company-only balance sheet of Sunoco Partners LLC and the effectiveness of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008 appearing in Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports thereon included therein and incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements of Sunoco Logistics Partners L. P. and parent-company-only balance sheet of Sunoco Partners LLC are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

S-31

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We and the master partnership have filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, under the Securities Act that registers the securities offered by this prospectus supplement. The registration statement, including the attached exhibits, contains additional relevant information about us and the master partnership. We are not a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. However, the master partnership, Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., files annual, quarterly and other reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document the master partnership files at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information on their public reference room. The master partnership's SEC filings are also available at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You can also obtain information about us and the master partnership at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information the master partnership has filed with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you without actually including the specific information in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Information that the master partnership files later with the SEC and that is deemed to be filed with the SEC will automatically update and may replace information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and information previously filed with the SEC.

We incorporate the documents listed below and any future filings made by the master partnership with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (excluding any information furnished under Items 2.02 or 7.01 on any Current Report on Form 8-K) after the date of this prospectus supplement and until the termination of this offering. These reports contain important information about us, our financial condition and our results of operations.

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended September 30, 2009, June 30, 2009 and March 31, 2009; and

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed February 6, 2009, April 15, 2009, May 4, 2009, May 6, 2009, September 1, 2009, September 8, 2009, October 7, 2009 (including Item 7.01 thereof), January 27, 2010 (other than items 2.02 and 7.01 and exhibits 99.1, 99.2 and 99.3), January 28, 2010 and February 5, 2010.

The master partnership makes available free of charge on or through its Internet website, www.sunocologistics.com, its Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after it electronically files such material with, or furnishes it to, the SEC. Information contained on the master partnership's Internet website is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

You may request a copy of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus, at no cost, by writing or calling us at the following address:

Investor Relations Department

Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.

1818 Market Street, Suite 1500

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-3615

(866) 248-4344

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.

Common Units

Representing Limited Partner Interests

Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P.

Debt Securities

Fully and Unconditionally Guaranteed by

Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.

Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. or selling unitholders may, in one or more offerings, offer and sell common units representing limited partner interests in Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s common units are listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SXL.

Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. may, in one or more offerings, offer and sell its debt securities, which will be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., and may be so guaranteed by one or more of our subsidiaries. We will provide information in the related prospectus supplement for the trading market, if any, for any debt securities Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. may offer.

We or selling unitholders may offer the securities in amounts, at prices and on terms to be determined by market conditions and other factors at the time of our offerings. This prospectus describes only the general terms of these securities and the general manner in which we or selling unitholders will offer the securities. The specific terms of any securities that we or selling unitholders offer will be included in a supplement to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement will describe the specific manner in which we or selling unitholders will offer the securities, and also may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. We or selling unitholders will sell these securities through underwriters on a firm commitment basis. The names of any underwriters and the specific terms of a plan of distribution will be stated in a supplement to this

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

prospectus. Selling unitholders that are affiliates of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and, as a result, may be deemed to be offering securities, indirectly, on our behalf. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of common units by selling unitholders.

You should read this prospectus and the prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in any of our securities. This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of our securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

INVESTING IN OUR SECURITIES INVOLVES RISK. LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS ARE INHERENTLY DIFFERENT FROM CORPORATIONS. YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE RISK FACTORS ON PAGE 4 OF THIS PROSPECTUS BEFORE YOU MAKE ANY INVESTMENT IN OUR SECURITIES.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this prospectus is February 1, 2010

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>About This Prospectus</u>	1
<u>About Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. and Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P.</u>	1
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	2
<u>Incorporation By Reference</u>	2
<u>Risk Factors</u>	4
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	5
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	7
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	7
<u>Description of the Common Units</u>	7
<u>Number of Units</u>	7
<u>Issuance of Additional Securities</u>	7
<u>Voting</u>	8
<u>Limited Call Right</u>	9
<u>Listing</u>	9
<u>Transfer Agent and Registrar</u>	9
<u>Summary of Partnership Agreement</u>	9
<u>Cash Distributions</u>	10
<u>Distributions of Available Cash</u>	10
<u>Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus</u>	10
<u>Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus</u>	11
<u>Incentive Distribution Rights</u>	11
<u>Percentage Allocations of Available Cash from Operating Surplus</u>	12
<u>Distributions from Capital Surplus</u>	12
<u>Adjustment to the Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels</u>	13
<u>Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation</u>	13
<u>Description of the Debt Securities</u>	15
<u>General</u>	15
<u>Specific Terms of Each Series of Debt Securities to be Described in the Prospectus Supplement</u>	15
<u>The Parent Guarantee</u>	17
<u>The Subsidiary Guarantees</u>	17
<u>Limitations on Guarantees: Releases</u>	17
<u>Specific Covenants</u>	18
<u>Consolidation, Merger or Sale</u>	18
<u>Events of Default, Remedies and Default</u>	19
<u>Amendments and Waivers</u>	20
<u>Defeasance</u>	22
<u>No Personal Liability of General Partner</u>	23
<u>Subordination</u>	23
<u>Book Entry, Delivery and Form</u>	24
<u>The Trustee</u>	26
<u>Governing Law</u>	26
<u>Conflicts of Interest and Fiduciary Responsibilities</u>	27
<u>Conflicts of Interest</u>	27
<u>Fiduciary Responsibilities</u>	30
<u>Material Tax Considerations</u>	32
<u>Partnership Status</u>	32
<u>Limited Partner Status</u>	34
<u>Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership</u>	34
<u>Tax Treatment of Operations</u>	39
<u>Disposition of Common Units</u>	40

Table of Contents

<u>Uniformity of Units</u>	42
<u>Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors</u>	43
<u>Administrative Matters</u>	44
<u>State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Considerations</u>	46
<u>Tax Consequences of Ownership of Debt Securities</u>	47
<u>Selling Unitholders</u>	48
<u>Investment in Us by Employee Benefit Plans</u>	49
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	50
<u>Legal</u>	50
<u>Experts</u>	50

In making your investment decision, you should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone else to give you different information. We are not offering these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents. We will disclose any material changes in our affairs in an amendment to this prospectus, a prospectus supplement or a future filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we or selling unitholders may sell, in one or more offerings, common units of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. or we may sell, in one or more offerings, the debt securities of Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. described in this prospectus. This prospectus generally describes us, the common units of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., the debt securities of Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P., and the guarantees of the debt securities. Each time we sell common units or debt securities with this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering and the securities offered by us or selling unitholders in that offering. The prospectus supplement also may add to, update, or change information in this prospectus.

As used in this prospectus, we, us, and our and similar terms mean Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. and its subsidiaries, except that those terms, when used in this prospectus in connection with the common units described herein, shall mean Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., and when used in connection with the debt securities described herein, shall mean Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P., unless the context indicates otherwise. References to Sunoco R&M shall mean Sunoco, Inc. (R&M), a wholly owned subsidiary of Sunoco, Inc., through which Sunoco, Inc. conducts its refining and marketing operations.

The information in this prospectus is accurate as of its date. You should read carefully this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, and the additional information described below under the heading Where You Can Find More Information.

ABOUT SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. AND

SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS OPERATIONS L.P.

Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. is a publicly traded Delaware limited partnership that owns, operates and acquires a geographically diverse portfolio of complementary pipeline, terminalling, and crude oil acquisition and marketing assets located in the Northeast, Midwest and Southwest United States. Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. is a direct wholly owned subsidiary of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. that owns the operating subsidiaries of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.

Occasionally, in this prospectus, we refer to Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. as the Guarantor. The Guarantor will unconditionally guarantee our payment obligations under any series of debt securities offered by this prospectus.

We are principally engaged in the transport, terminalling, and storage of refined products and crude oil and in the purchase and sale of crude oil in 13 states. We generate revenues by charging tariffs for transporting refined products, crude oil and other hydrocarbons through our pipelines as well as by charging fees for storing refined products, crude oil and other hydrocarbons in, and for providing other services at, our terminals. We also generate revenues by purchasing and selling domestic crude oil. Generally, as we purchase crude oil we simultaneously enter into corresponding sale transactions involving physical deliveries of crude oil, which enables us to secure a profit on the transaction at the time of purchase and establish a substantially balanced position, thereby minimizing exposure to crude oil price volatility after the initial purchase. However, the margins we receive from these transactions may vary from period to period. We do not enter into futures contracts or other derivative instruments in connection with these purchases and sales unless they result in the physical delivery of crude oil.

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

Sunoco Partners LLC, the general partner of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Sunoco, Inc., and holds no assets other than its investment in Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. and notes receivable and other amounts receivable from Sunoco R&M.

Our principal executive offices are located at 1818 Market Street, Suite 1500, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, and our phone number is 866-248-4344.

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed a registration statement with the SEC under the Securities Act that registers the offer and sale of the securities covered by this prospectus. The registration statement, including the attached exhibits, contains additional relevant information about us. The rules and regulations of the SEC allow us to omit some information included in the registration statement from this prospectus.

In addition, Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. files annual, quarterly and other reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file with the SEC at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information on its public reference room. Our SEC filings also are available on the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You also can obtain information about us at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. has filed with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you without actually including the specific information in this prospectus by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus. Information that Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. later provides to the SEC, and which is deemed to be filed with the SEC, automatically will update information previously filed with the SEC, and may replace information in this prospectus.

We incorporate by reference in this prospectus the documents listed below and any future filings made by Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act) (excluding any information furnished and not filed pursuant to any Current Report on Form 8-K, unless otherwise noted below), until the termination of each offering under this prospectus:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended September 30, 2009, June 30, 2009 and March 31, 2009;

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed February 6, 2009, April 15, 2009, May 4, 2009, May 6, 2009, September 1, 2009, September 8, 2009, October 7, 2009 (including Item 7.01 thereof), January 27, 2010 (other than items 2.02 and 7.01 and exhibits 99.1, 99.2 and 99.3) and January 28, 2010; and

the description of our common units contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A, filed on January 28, 2002, as amended by Amendment No. 1 filed on May 13, 2005 and Amendment No. 2 filed on January 29, 2010, and any subsequent amendment thereto filed for the purpose of updating such description.

These reports contain important information about us, our financial condition and our results of operations.

We make available free of charge on or through our Internet website, www.sunocologistics.com, our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. Information contained on our Internet website is not part of this prospectus.

Table of Contents

You may obtain any of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus from the SEC through the SEC's website at the address provided above. You also may request a copy of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus (excluding any exhibits to those documents, unless the exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference in this document), at no cost, by visiting our internet website at www.sunocologistics.com, or by writing or calling us at the following address:

Investor Relations

Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.

1818 Market Street, Suite 1500

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Telephone: (866) 248-4344

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

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our securities involves risks. Before you invest in our securities, you should carefully consider the risk factors included in our most recent annual report on Form 10-K, subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and those that may be included in the applicable prospectus supplement, as well as risks described in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and cautionary notes regarding forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference herein, together with all of the other information included in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference.

If any of these risks were to materialize, our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition could be materially adversely affected. In that case, our ability to make distributions to our unitholders or pay interest on, or the principal of, any debt securities, may be reduced, the trading price of our securities could decline and you could lose all or part of your investment.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

All of the statements, other than statements of historical fact, included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference contain forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements discuss goals, intentions and expectations as to future trends, plans, events, results of operations or financial condition, or state other information relating to us, based on the current beliefs of our management as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, management. Words such as may, will, anticipate, believe, expect, estimate, intend, project, and other similar phrases or expressions are used in forward-looking statements. When considering forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the risk factors and other cautionary statements in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated by reference.

Although we believe these forward-looking statements to be reasonable, they are based upon a number of assumptions, any or all of which ultimately may prove to be inaccurate. These statements are also subject to numerous uncertainties and risks that could cause actual results to differ materially from any results projected, forecasted, estimated or budgeted, including, but not limited to, the following:

our ability to successfully consummate announced acquisitions or expansions and integrate them into our existing business operations;

delays related to construction of, or work on, new or existing facilities and the issuance of applicable permits;

changes in demand for, or supply of, crude oil, refined petroleum products and natural gas liquids that impact demand for our pipeline, terminalling and storage services;

changes in the short-term and long-term demand for crude oil we both buy and sell;

the loss of Sunoco R&M as a customer or a significant reduction in its current level of throughput and storage with us;

an increase in the competition encountered by our petroleum products terminals, pipelines and crude oil acquisition and marketing operations;

changes in the financial condition or operating results of joint ventures or other holdings in which we have an equity ownership interest;

changes in the general economic conditions in the United States;

changes in laws and regulations to which we are subject, including federal, state, and local tax, safety, environmental and employment laws;

changes in regulations governing the composition of refined petroleum products that we transport, terminal and store;

improvements in energy efficiency and technology resulting in reduced demand for petroleum products;

the effect of changes in accounting principles and tax laws and interpretations of both;

global and domestic economic repercussions, including disruptions in the crude oil and petroleum products markets, from terrorist activities, international hostilities and similar events;

the occurrence of operational hazards or unforeseen interruptions for which we may not be adequately insured (including as a result of equipment malfunction, explosions, fires, spills and the effects of severe weather conditions);

changes in insurance markets resulting in increased costs and reductions in the level and types of coverage available;

the age of, and changes in the reliability and efficiency of, our operating facilities;

Table of Contents

changes in the expected level of capital, operating, or remediation spending related to environmental matters;

risks related to labor relations and workplace safety;

non-performance by or disputes with major customers, suppliers or other business partners;

changes in our tariff rates implemented by federal and/or state government regulators;

the amount and terms of our debt, which could make us vulnerable to adverse general economic and industry conditions, limit our ability to borrow additional funds, place us at competitive disadvantages compared to competitors that have less debt, or have other adverse consequences;

changes in interest rates on our outstanding debt, which could increase the costs of borrowing;

changes in our or Sunoco, Inc.'s credit ratings, as assigned by ratings agencies;

the condition of the debt capital markets and equity capital markets in the United States, and our ability to raise capital in a cost-effective way;

performance of financial institutions impacting our liquidity, including those supporting our credit facilities; and

the costs and effects of legal and administrative claims and proceedings against us or any entity in which we have an ownership interest, and changes in the status of, or the initiation of new litigation, claims or proceedings, to which we, or any entity in which we have an ownership interest, is a party.

These factors are not necessarily all of the important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any of our forward-looking statements. Other factors also could have material adverse effects on future results. We undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statement whether as a result of new information or future events.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we specify otherwise in any prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds (after the payment of offering expenses and underwriting discounts and commissions) from our sale of securities for general partnership purposes, which may include, among other things:

paying or refinancing all or a portion of our indebtedness outstanding at the time; and

funding working capital, capital expenditures or acquisitions (which may consist of acquisitions of discrete assets or businesses).

The actual application of proceeds from the sale of any particular offering of securities using this prospectus will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to such offering. The precise amount and timing of the application of these proceeds will depend upon our funding requirements and the availability and cost of other funds.

We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of common units by selling unitholders.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The ratio of earnings to fixed charges for both Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. and Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. for each of the periods indicated is as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,					Nine Months Ended
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	September 30, 2009
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	3.55x	3.55x	3.56x	3.77x	6.69x	5.67x

For purposes of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges:

fixed charges represent interest expense (including amounts capitalized), amortization of debt costs and the portion of rental expense representing the interest factor; and

earnings represent the aggregate of income from continuing operations (before adjustment for minority interest, extraordinary loss and equity earnings), fixed charges and distributions from equity investments, less capitalized interest.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON UNITS

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

References in this Description of the Common Units to we, us and our mean Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.

Number of Units

As of January 26, 2010, we had 30,981,265 common units outstanding, of which 18,917,531 are held by the public and 12,063,734 are held by our general partner. The common units represent an aggregate 98% limited partner interest and the general partner interests represent an aggregate 2% general partner interest in Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.

Issuance of Additional Securities

Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of additional partnership securities and rights to buy partnership securities for the consideration and on the terms and conditions established by our general partner without the approval of our unitholders.

Table of Contents

It is possible that we will fund acquisitions through the issuance of additional common units or other equity securities. Holders of any additional common units we issue will be entitled to share equally with the then-existing holders of common units in our distributions of available cash. In addition, the issuance of additional partnership interests may dilute the value of the interests of the then-existing holders of common units in our net assets.

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

Upon issuance of additional partnership securities, the general partner will be required to make additional capital contributions to the extent necessary to maintain its 2% general partner interest in us; provided, however, that the capital contributions required of the general partner will be offset to the extent contributions received by the partnership in exchange for the issuance of additional partnership securities are used by the partnership concurrently with such contributions to redeem or repurchase from any person outstanding partnership securities of the same class as the partnership securities that were issued. Moreover, the general partner will have the right, which it may from time to time assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates, to purchase common units, subordinated units or other equity securities whenever, and on the same terms that, we issue those securities to persons other than the general partner and its affiliates, to the extent necessary to maintain its percentage interest, including its interest represented by common units and subordinated units, that existed immediately prior to each issuance. The holders of common units will not have preemptive rights to acquire additional common units or other partnership securities.

The issuance of additional common units or other equity securities of equal or senior rank will decrease the proportionate ownership interest of existing unitholders and may reduce the amount of cash available for distribution and the market price of our common units.

Voting

Our general partner manages and operates us. Unlike the holders of common stock in a corporation, the holders of our units have only limited voting rights on matters affecting our business. They have no right to elect our general partner, or the directors of our general partner, on an annual or other continuing basis. On those matters that are submitted to a vote of unitholders, each record holder of a unit has a vote according to his percentage interest in us, although additional limited partner interests having special voting rights could be issued. However, if at any time any person or group, other than the general partner and its affiliates, a direct or subsequently approved transferee of the general partner or its affiliates or any other person or group approved by the board of directors of the general partner, acquires, in the aggregate, beneficial ownership of 20% or more of any class of units then outstanding, that person or group will lose voting rights on all of its units and the units may not be voted on any matter and will not be considered to be outstanding when sending notices of a meeting of unitholders, calculating required votes, determining the presence of a quorum, or for other similar purposes.

Holders of common units have very limited voting rights and may vote on the following matters:

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

the election of a successor general partner in connection with the removal of the general partner;

dissolution or reconstitution of our partnership;

a merger of our partnership;

issuance of limited partner interests in some circumstances; and

some amendments to the partnership agreement, including any amendment that would cause us to be treated as an association taxable as a corporation.

Table of Contents

Removal of our general partner requires:

a 66²/₃ % vote of all outstanding units; and

the election of a successor general partner by the holders of a majority of the outstanding common units.

Under our partnership agreement, our general partner generally will be permitted to effect amendments to the partnership agreement that do not materially adversely affect unitholders without the approval of any unitholders.

Limited Call Right

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

- (1) the highest cash price paid by either of the general partner or any of its affiliates for any limited partner interests of the class purchased within the 90 days preceding the date on which the general partner first mails notice of its election to purchase those limited partner interests; and
- (2) the current market price as of the date three days before the date the notice is mailed. The current market price is defined as the average of the daily closing prices per limited partner interest of such class for the 20 consecutive trading days immediately prior to such date.

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

Listing

Our outstanding common units are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "SXL". We expect that any additional common units we issue will also be listed on the NYSE.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Our transfer agent and registrar for the common units is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company.

Summary of Partnership Agreement

A summary of the important provisions of our partnership agreement is included in our reports filed with the SEC.

Table of Contents

CASH DISTRIBUTIONS

Distributions of Available Cash

General. Our partnership agreement provides that we will distribute all of our available cash to unitholders of record on the applicable record date within 45 days after the end of each quarter.

Definition of Available Cash. Available cash generally means, for each fiscal quarter:

all cash on hand at the end of the quarter

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

provide for the proper conduct of our business;

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

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

plus all cash on hand on the date of determination of available cash for the quarter resulting from working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter.

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

Intent to Distribute the Minimum Quarterly Distribution. We intend to distribute to the holders of common units on a quarterly basis at least the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.45 per unit, or \$1.80 per year, to the extent we have sufficient cash from our operations after establishment of cash reserves and payment of fees and expenses, including payments to our general partner. On January 26, 2010, our general partner declared an increase in our quarterly distribution to \$1.09 per unit, or \$4.36 per year. However, there is no guarantee that we will pay the quarterly distribution in this amount, or the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units in any quarter, and we will be prohibited from making any distributions to unitholders if it would cause an event of default, or an event of default is existing, under our credit facilities or the senior notes.

Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

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

Definition of Operating Surplus. Operating surplus for any period generally means:

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

\$15.0 million (as described below); plus

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

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

all of our operating expenditures after the closing of our initial public offering, including the repayment of working capital borrowings, but not the repayment of other borrowings, and including maintenance capital expenditures; less

the amount of cash reserves established by the general partner in good faith to provide funds for future operating expenditures.

Table of Contents

Definition of Capital Surplus. Generally, capital surplus will 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 as part of normal retirements or replacements of assets.

Characterization of Cash Distributions. We will treat all available cash distributed as coming from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed since we began operations equals the operating surplus as of the most recent date of determination of available cash. We will treat any amount distributed in excess of operating surplus, regardless of its source, as capital surplus. As reflected above, operating surplus includes \$15.0 million in addition to our cash balance on the closing date of our initial public offering, cash receipts from our operations and cash from working capital borrowings. This amount does not reflect actual cash on hand that is available for distribution to our unitholders. Rather, it is a provision that will enable us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to \$15.0 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. We do not anticipate that we will make any distributions from capital surplus.

Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus

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

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

Thereafter, in the manner described in **Incentive Distribution Rights** below.

Incentive Distribution Rights

Incentive distribution rights represent the right to receive an increasing percentage of quarterly distributions of available cash from operating surplus after the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels have been achieved. Our general partner currently holds all of 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 unitholders in an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution, then, we will distribute any additional available cash from operating surplus for that quarter among the unitholders and the general partner in the following manner:

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

First, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.500 per unit for that quarter (the first target distribution);

Second, 85% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.575 per unit for that quarter (the second target distribution);

Third, 63% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 37% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$1.5825 per unit for that quarter (the third target distribution); and

Thereafter, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to the general partner.

Beginning with the quarterly distribution to be paid for the fourth quarter of 2009 and ending with the quarterly distribution to be paid for the third quarter of 2012, quarterly distributions to the general partner based on its incentive distribution rights will be reduced by \$458,333 per quarter.

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

The following table illustrates the percentage allocations of the additional available cash from operating surplus between the unitholders and our general partner up to the various target distribution levels.

The amounts set forth under **Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions** are the percentage interests of our general partner and the unitholders in any available cash from operating surplus we distribute up to and including the corresponding amount in the column **Total Quarterly Distribution Target Amount**, until available cash from operating surplus we distribute reaches the next target distribution level, if any.

The percentage interests shown for the unitholders and the general partner for the minimum quarterly distribution are also applicable to quarterly distribution amounts that are less than the minimum quarterly distribution.

	Total Quarterly Distribution Target Amount	Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions	
		Unitholders	General Partner
Minimum Quarterly Distribution	\$0.450	98%	2%
First Target Distribution	up to \$0.500	98%	2%
Second Target Distribution	up to \$0.575	85%	15%
Third Target Distribution	up to \$1.5825	63%	37%
Thereafter	above \$1.5825	50%	50%

Distributions from Capital Surplus

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

First, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until a hypothetical holder of a common unit acquired in our initial public offering has received with respect to such common unit, during the period since our initial public offering through such date, distributions of available cash that are deemed to be capital surplus in an aggregate amount equal to the initial public offering price; and

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

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. However, 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. We will then make all future distributions from operating surplus, with 50% being paid to the holders of units, 48% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to the general partner.

Table of Contents

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;

target distribution levels; and

unrecovered initial unit price.

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

In addition, if legislation is enacted or if existing law is modified or interpreted in a manner that causes us to become taxable as a corporation or otherwise subject to taxation as an entity for federal, state or local income tax purposes, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels by multiplying the same by one minus the sum of the highest marginal federal corporate income tax rate that could apply and any increase in the effective overall state and local income tax rates. For example, if we became subject to a maximum marginal federal, and effective state and local income tax rate of 38%, then the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels would each be reduced to 62% of their previous levels.

Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation

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

Manner of Adjustments for Gain. The manner of the adjustment for gain is set forth in the partnership agreement. After January 26, 2010 (the date of our Third Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership), we generally will allocate any gain to the partners in the following manner:

First, to the 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;

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

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

the unrecovered initial unit price; and

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

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

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

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

Table of Contents

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

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

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

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

12.5 cents per unit for each quarter of our existence ending on or before December 31, 2009; less

the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the second target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence ending on or before December 31, 2009, that we distributed 75% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to the general partner;

Sixth, 63% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 37% to the general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

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 ending after December 31, 2009; less

the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the second target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence ending after December 31, 2009, that we distributed 63% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 37% to the general partner; and

Thereafter, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to the general partner.

Manner of Adjustments for Losses. Upon our liquidation, after making allocations of loss to the general partner and the unitholders in a manner intended to offset in reverse order the allocations of gains that have previously been allocated we will generally allocate any loss to the general partner and the unitholders in the following manner:

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

Thereafter, 100% to the general partner.

Adjustments to Capital Accounts upon the Issuance of Partnership Interests. We will make adjustments to capital accounts upon the issuance of additional partnership interests. In doing so, we will allocate any unrealized and, for tax purposes, unrecognized gain or loss resulting from the

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

adjustments to the unitholders and the general partner in the same manner as we allocate gain or loss upon liquidation. In the event that we make positive adjustments to the capital accounts upon the issuance of additional partnership interests, we will allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional partnership interests or upon our liquidation in a manner that results, to the extent possible, in the general partner's capital account balances equaling the amount that they would have been if no earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts had been made.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE DEBT SECURITIES

References in this Description of the Debt Securities to we, us and our mean Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P., and references to the Subsidiary Guarantors are to any of our subsidiaries that guarantee any of the debt securities. References in this prospectus to an Indenture refer to the particular Indenture under which we issue a series of debt securities.

The following description sets forth the general terms and provisions that apply to the debt securities. Each prospectus supplement will state the particular terms that will apply to the debt securities included in the supplement.

We will issue our senior debt securities under an Indenture, among us, as issuer, Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., as Guarantor, our subsidiaries party thereto, and U.S. Bank National Association, as successor trustee. The term Trustee as used in this prospectus refers to the trustee under a particular Indenture. The debt securities will be governed by the provisions of the Indenture and those made part of the Indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. We, the Trustee, the Guarantor, and any Subsidiary Guarantors may enter into supplements to the Indenture from time to time. The debt securities will be either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities of Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. If we decide to issue subordinated debt securities, we will issue them under a separate Indenture containing subordination provisions.

Neither Indenture contains provisions that would afford holders of debt securities protection in the event of a sudden and significant decline in our credit quality or a takeover, recapitalization or highly leveraged or similar transaction. Accordingly, we could in the future enter into transactions that could increase the amount of indebtedness outstanding at that time or otherwise adversely affect our capital structure or credit rating.

This description is a summary of the material provisions of the debt securities and the Indentures. We urge you to read the senior Indenture and form of subordinated Indenture filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part because those Indentures, and not this description, govern your rights as a holder of debt securities.

General

Any series of debt securities that we issue:

will be our general obligations;

will be guaranteed by Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. and may be guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors, and when so guaranteed, will be each guarantor's general obligations; and

may be subordinated to our Senior Indebtedness, and any guarantees of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. and the Subsidiary Guarantors will be subordinated to their Senior Indebtedness.

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

Specific Terms of Each Series of Debt Securities to be Described in the Prospectus Supplement

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

the form and title of the debt securities;

the total principal amount of the debt securities;

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

Table of Contents

whether the debt securities are senior or subordinated debt securities;

the currency or currencies in which principal and interest will be paid, if not in U.S. dollars;

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

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

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

any conversion or exchange provisions;

any optional redemption provisions;

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

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

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

any changes to or additional events of default or covenants;

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

any other terms of the debt securities.

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

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

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

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

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

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

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

At our option, we may make interest payments by check mailed to the registered holders of debt securities or, if so stated in the applicable prospectus supplement, at the option of a holder by wire transfer to an account designated by the holder.

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

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

Table of Contents

The Parent Guarantee

Our payment obligations under any series of debt securities will be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., which will execute a notation of guarantee as further evidence of its guarantee. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any guarantee by Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.

Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s guarantee of any series of the senior debt securities will be Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s unsecured and unsubordinated general obligation, and will rank on a parity with all of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. With respect to a series of subordinated debt securities, its guarantee will be subordinated to the senior debt of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. to substantially the same extent as the series of subordinated debt securities is subordinated to our senior debt. See Subordination.

The Subsidiary Guarantees

Our payment obligations under any series of debt securities may be jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors. If a series of debt securities are so guaranteed, the Subsidiary Guarantors will execute a notation of guarantee as further evidence of their guarantee. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any guarantee by the Subsidiary Guarantors. If a series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors and is designated as subordinate to our Senior Indebtedness, then the guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantors will be subordinated to the Senior Indebtedness of the Subsidiary Guarantors to substantially the same extent as the series is subordinated to our Senior Indebtedness. See Subordination.

Limitations on Guarantees; Releases

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

all other contingent and fixed liabilities of the guarantor; and

any collections from or payments made by or on behalf of any other guarantors in respect of its obligations under its guarantee.

The guarantee of the Guarantor or any Subsidiary Guarantors may be released under certain circumstances. If we exercise our legal or covenant defeasance option with respect to debt securities of a particular series as described below in Defeasance, then any Subsidiary Guarantor will be released with respect to that series. Further, if no default has occurred and is continuing under the Indenture, and to the extent not otherwise prohibited by the Indenture, the Guarantor or a Subsidiary Guarantor will be unconditionally released and discharged from its guarantee:

in the case of a Subsidiary Guarantor, automatically upon any sale, exchange or transfer, whether by way of merger or otherwise, to any person that is not our affiliate, of all of our direct or indirect limited partnership or other equity interests in the Subsidiary

Guarantor;

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

in the case of the Guarantor, automatically upon the merger of the Guarantor into us or any Subsidiary Guarantor, or the liquidation or dissolution of the Guarantor; or

in the case of the Guarantor or a Subsidiary Guarantor, following delivery of a written notice by us to the Trustee, upon the release of all guarantees by the Guarantor or the Subsidiary Guarantor of any debt of ours for borrowed money or for a guarantee thereof, except for any series of debt securities.

Table of Contents

Specific Covenants

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

Reports

So long as any debt securities are outstanding, Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. will:

for as long as it is required to file information with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act, file with the Trustee, within 15 days after it is required to file with the SEC, copies of the annual report and of the information, documents and other reports which it is required to file with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act;

if it is not required to file information with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act, file with the Trustee, within 15 days after it would have been required to file with the SEC, financial statements and a Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, both comparable to what it would have been required to file with the SEC had it been subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, unless the SEC will not accept such a filing; and

if it is required to furnish annual or quarterly reports to its unitholders pursuant to the Exchange Act, file with the Trustee any annual report or other reports sent to unitholders generally.

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

We will not merge, amalgamate or consolidate with or into any other Person or sell, convey, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets to any Person, whether in a single transaction or series of related transactions, except in accordance with the provisions of our partnership agreement, and unless:

we are the surviving Person in the case of a merger, or the surviving Person:

is a partnership, limited liability company or corporation organized under the laws of the United States, a state thereof or the District of Columbia; and

expressly assumes, by supplemental indenture in form satisfactory to the Trustee, all the obligations under the Indenture and the debt securities to be performed or observed by us;

immediately after giving effect to the transaction or series of transactions, no Default or Event of Default would occur or be continuing;

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

if we are not the surviving Person, then each of the Guarantor and any Subsidiary Guarantor, unless it is the Person with which we have consummated a transaction under this provision, shall have confirmed that its guarantee of the notes shall continue to apply to the obligations under the debt securities and the Indenture; and

we have delivered to the Trustee an officers' certificate and opinion of counsel, each stating that the merger, amalgamation, consolidation, sale, conveyance, transfer, lease or other disposition, and if a supplemental indenture is required, the supplemental indenture, comply with the Indenture.

Thereafter, the surviving Person will be substituted for us under the Indenture. If we sell or otherwise dispose of (except by lease) all or substantially all of our assets and the above stated requirements are satisfied, we will be released from all our liabilities and obligations under the Indenture and the debt securities.

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

Table of Contents

Events of Default, Remedies and Default

Events of Default

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

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

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

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

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

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

the guarantee of the Guarantor or, if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by any Subsidiary Guarantor, any of the guarantees:

ceases to be in full force and effect, except as otherwise provided in the Indenture; or

is declared null and void in a judicial proceeding; or

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

Exercise of Remedies

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

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

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

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

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

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

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

Table of Contents

The Trustee will be under no obligation, except as otherwise provided in the Indenture, to exercise any of the rights or powers under the Indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders unless such holders have offered to the Trustee reasonable indemnity or security against any costs, liability or expense. No holder may pursue any remedy with respect to the Indenture or the debt securities of any series, except to enforce the right to receive payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest when due on its debt securities, unless:

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

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

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

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

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

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

conflicts with law;

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

would involve the Trustee in personal liability.

Notice of an Event of Default

Within 30 days after the occurrence of any Default (meaning an event that is, or after the notice or passage of time would be, an Event of Default,) or Event of Default, we are required to give an officers' certificate to the Trustee specifying the Default or Event of Default and what action we are taking or propose to take to cure it. In addition, we are required to deliver to the Trustee, within 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, an officers' certificate indicating that we have complied with all covenants contained in the Indenture or whether any Default or Event of Default has occurred during the previous year.

If a Default occurs and is continuing and is known to the Trustee, the Trustee must mail to each holder a notice of the Default by the later of 90 days after the Default occurs or 30 days after the Trustee knows of the Default. Except in the case of a Default in the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to any debt securities, the Trustee may withhold such notice, but only if and so long as the board of

directors, the executive committee or a committee of directors or responsible officers of the Trustee in good faith determines that withholding such notice is in the interests of the holders.

Amendments and Waivers

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

cure any ambiguity, omission, defect or inconsistency;

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

add any Subsidiary Guarantor with respect to the debt securities;

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

Table of Contents

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

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

add or appoint a successor or separate Trustee;

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

establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series to be issued under the Indenture.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

make any change in the waiver provisions; or

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

except as provided in the Indenture, release the Guarantor, or any Subsidiary Guarantor, or modify the guarantee of the Guarantor or any Subsidiary Guarantor in any manner adverse to the holders.

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

The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each affected series, on behalf of all such holders, and subject to certain rights of the Trustee, may waive:

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

any past Default or Event of Default under the Indenture

except that such majority of holders may not waive a default:

in the payment of principal, premium or interest; or

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

Table of Contents

Defeasance

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

relating to the defeasance trust;

to register the transfer or exchange of the debt securities;

to replace mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen debt securities; or

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

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

At any time we may also effect a covenant defeasance, which means we have elected to terminate our obligations under:

covenants applicable to a series of debt securities, including any covenant that is added specifically for such series and is described in a prospectus supplement;

the bankruptcy provisions with respect to the Guarantor and any Subsidiary Guarantor; and

the guarantee provision described under Events of Default, Remedies and Notices Events of Default above with respect to a series of debt securities, if applicable, and any Event of Default that is added specifically for such series and described in a prospectus supplement.

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

In order to exercise either defeasance option, we must:

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

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

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

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

In addition, we may discharge all our obligations under the Indenture with respect to the debt securities of a particular series, other than our obligation to register the transfer of and exchange debt securities of that series, provided that we either:

deliver all outstanding debt securities of that series to the Trustee for cancellation; or

all debt securities of that series not so delivered for cancellation have either become due and payable or will become due and payable at their stated maturity within one year or are to be called for redemption

Table of Contents

within one year, and in the case of this bullet point we have irrevocably deposited with the Trustee in trust an amount of cash sufficient to pay the entire indebtedness of the debt securities of that series, including interest and premium, if any, to the stated maturity or applicable redemption date.

No Personal Liability of General Partner

Sunoco Logistics Partners GP LLC, our general partner, and its directors, officers, employees, incorporators and stockholders, as such, will not be liable for:

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

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

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

Subordination

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

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

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

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

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

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

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

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

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

Table of Contents

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

unless, in either case:

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

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

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

Generally, Designated Senior Indebtedness will include:

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

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

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

The Payment Blockage Period may be terminated before its expiration:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Book Entry, Delivery and Form

We may issue debt securities of a series in the form of one or more global certificates deposited with a depository. We expect that The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or DTC, will act as depository. If we issue debt securities of a series in book-entry form, we will issue one or more global certificates

Table of Contents

that will be deposited with or on behalf of DTC and will not issue physical certificates to each holder. A global security may not be transferred unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for a certificated security, except that DTC, its nominees and their successors may transfer a global security as a whole to one another.

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

DTC advises us that it is:

- a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law;
- a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law;
- a member of the United States Federal Reserve System;
- a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code; and
- a clearing agency registered under the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act.

DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (DTCC). DTCC, in turn, is owned by a number of its participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., NYSE Alternext US LLC and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. The rules that apply to DTC and its participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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

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

It is DTC's current practice, upon receipt of any payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest, to credit participants' accounts on the payment date according to their respective holdings of beneficial interests in the global securities as shown on DTC's records. In addition, it is DTC's current practice to assign any consenting or voting rights to participants, whose accounts are credited with debt securities on a record date, by using an omnibus proxy.

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

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

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

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

we determine not to require all of the debt securities of a series to be represented by a global security and notify the Trustee of our decision.

Table of Contents

The Trustee

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

Governing Law

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

Table of Contents

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITIES

Conflicts of Interest

Conflicts of interest exist and may arise in the future as a result of the relationships between our general partner and its affiliates, including Sunoco, Inc., on the one hand, and our partnership and our limited partners, on the other hand. The directors and officers of our general partner have fiduciary duties to manage our general partner in a manner beneficial to its owners. At the same time, our general partner has a fiduciary duty to manage our partnership in a manner beneficial to us and our unitholders.

Whenever a conflict arises between our general partner or its affiliates, on the one hand, and us or any other partner, on the other hand, our general partner will resolve that conflict. Our partnership agreement contains provisions that modify and limit our general partner's fiduciary duties to the unitholders. Our partnership agreement also restricts the remedies available to unitholders for actions taken that, without those limitations, might constitute breaches of fiduciary duty.

Our general partner will not be in breach of its obligations under the partnership agreement or its duties to us or our unitholders if the resolution of the conflict is:

approved by the conflicts committee of the board of directors of our general partner, although our general partner is not obligated to seek such approval;

approved by the vote of a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding any common units owned by our general partner or any of its affiliates;

on terms no less favorable to us than those generally being provided to or available from unrelated third parties; or

fair and reasonable to us, taking into account the totality of the relationships among the parties involved, including other transactions that may be particularly favorable or advantageous to us.

As indicated above, our general partner may, but is not required to, seek the approval of such resolution from the conflicts committee of its board of directors. If our general partner does not seek approval from the conflicts committee and its board of directors determines that the resolution or course of action taken with respect to the conflict of interest satisfies either of the standards set forth in the third or fourth bullet points above, then it will be presumed that, in making its decision, the board of directors acted in good faith, and in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of any limited partner or the partnership, the person bringing or prosecuting such proceeding will have the burden of overcoming such presumption. Unless the resolution of a conflict is specifically provided for in our partnership agreement, our general partner or the conflicts committee may consider any factors it determines in good faith to consider when resolving a conflict. When our partnership agreement requires someone to act in good faith, it requires that person to reasonably believe that he is acting in the best interests of the partnership, unless the context otherwise requires.

Conflicts of interest could arise in the situations described below, among others.

Actions taken by our general partner may affect the amount of cash available for distribution to unitholders.

The amount of cash that is available for distribution to unitholders is affected by decisions of our general partner regarding such matters as:

amount and timing of asset purchases and sales;

cash expenditures;

borrowings;

the issuance of additional units; and

the creation, reduction or increase of reserves in any quarter.

Table of Contents

In addition, borrowings by us and our affiliates do not constitute a breach of any duty owed by our general partner to our unitholders, including borrowings that have the purpose or effect of enabling our general partner to receive distributions on the incentive distribution rights.

For example, in the event we have not generated sufficient cash from our operations to pay the minimum quarterly distribution on our common units, our partnership agreement permits us to borrow funds, which may enable us to make this distribution on all outstanding units. Please read **Cash Distributions** in this prospectus.

Our partnership agreement provides that we and our subsidiaries may borrow funds from our general partner and its affiliates. Our general partner and its affiliates may not borrow funds from us, the operating partnership or its operating subsidiaries, other than as provided in the treasury services agreement between us and Sunoco, Inc.

We do not have any officers or employees and rely solely on officers and employees of our general partner and its affiliates.

Affiliates of our general partner conduct businesses and activities of their own in which we have no economic interest. If these separate activities are significantly greater than our activities, there could be material competition for the time and effort of certain of the officers and employees who provide services to our general partner. Generally, the officers of our general partner spend substantially all of their time managing our business and affairs. However, our general partner's treasurer currently is required to devote time to the affairs of Sunoco, Inc. or its affiliates and is compensated by them for the services rendered to them.

We will reimburse our general partner and its affiliates for expenses.

We will reimburse our general partner and its affiliates for costs incurred in managing and operating us, including costs incurred in rendering staff and support services to us. The partnership agreement provides that our general partner will determine the expenses that are allocable to us in good faith.

Our general partner intends to limit its liability regarding our obligations.

Our general partner may limit its liability under contractual arrangements so that the other party has recourse only to our assets, and not against our general partner or its assets. The partnership agreement provides that any action taken by our general partner to limit its liability or our liability is not a breach of our general partner's fiduciary duties, even if we could have obtained more favorable terms without the limitation on liability.

Common unitholders will have no right to enforce obligations of our general partner and its affiliates under agreements with us.

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

Any agreements between us on the one hand, and our general partner and its affiliates, on the other, will not grant to the unitholders, separate and apart from us, the right to enforce the obligations of our general partner and its affiliates in our favor.

Contracts between us, on the one hand, and our general partner and its affiliates, on the other, will not be the result of arm's-length negotiations.

Our partnership agreement allows our general partner to determine, in good faith, any amounts to pay itself or its affiliates for any services rendered to us. Our general partner may also enter into additional contractual arrangements with any of its affiliates on our behalf. Neither our partnership agreement nor any of the other agreements, contracts and arrangements between us, on the one hand, and our general partner and its affiliates, on the other, are or will be the result of arm's-length negotiations. Our general partner will determine, in good faith, the terms of any of these transactions.

Table of Contents

Our general partner and its affiliates will have no obligation to permit us to use any facilities or assets of our general partner and its affiliates, except as may be provided in contracts entered into specifically dealing with that use. There will not be any obligation of our general partner and its affiliates to enter into any contracts of this kind.

Common units are subject to our general partner's limited call right.

If, at any time, our general partner and its affiliates own more than 80% of the common units then outstanding, our general partner has the right, but not the obligation, which it may assign to any of its affiliates or to us, to acquire all, but not less than all, of the remaining common units at a price not less than the then-current market price of the common units. Our general partner may exercise this right at its option, free of any fiduciary duty or obligation to us or our unitholders. As a result, a unitholder may have his common units purchased from him at an undesirable time or price. For a description of this right, please read [Description of the Common Units Limited Call Right](#) above.

We may choose not to retain separate counsel for ourselves or for the holders of common units.

Attorneys, independent registered public accountants and others who will perform services for us in the future will be selected by our general partner or the conflicts committee and may also perform services for our general partner and its affiliates. We may, but are not required to, retain separate counsel for ourselves or the holders of common units in the event of a conflict of interest arising between our general partner and its affiliates, on the one hand, and us or the holders of common units, on the other, depending on the nature of the conflict. Such conflicts may arise out of extraordinary transactions between us and Sunoco, Inc. or its affiliates, such as transfers of material assets or mergers or material amendments to our agreements with Sunoco, Inc. and its affiliates. We do not intend to retain separate counsel in most cases.

Our general partner's affiliates may compete with us.

Our partnership agreement provides that the general partner will be restricted from engaging in any business activities other than those incidental to its ownership of interests in us and certain services the employees of our general partner provide to Sunoco, Inc. and its affiliates. Except as provided in our partnership agreement and in our omnibus agreement with Sunoco, Inc. and its affiliates, Sunoco, Inc. and its affiliates, other than the general partner, are not prohibited from engaging in other businesses or activities, including those that might be in direct competition with us.

Table of Contents

Fiduciary Responsibilities

Our general partner is accountable to us and our unitholders as a fiduciary. Fiduciary duties owed to unitholders by our general partner are prescribed by law and the partnership agreement. The Delaware Act provides that Delaware limited partnerships may, in their partnership agreements, restrict, eliminate or otherwise modify the fiduciary duties otherwise owed by a general partner to limited partners and the partnership.

Our partnership agreement contains various provisions modifying and restricting the fiduciary duties that might otherwise be owed by our general partner. These modifications, among other things, restrict the remedies available to unitholders for actions that, without those limitations, might constitute breaches of fiduciary duty, as described below. The following is a summary of the material restrictions of the fiduciary duties owed by our general partner to the limited partners:

State-law fiduciary duty standards

Fiduciary duties are generally considered to include an obligation to act in good faith and with due care and loyalty. The duty of care, in the absence of a provision in a partnership agreement providing otherwise, would generally require a general partner to act for the partnership in the same manner as a prudent person would act on his own behalf. The duty of loyalty, in the absence of a provision in a partnership agreement providing otherwise, would generally prohibit a general partner of a Delaware limited partnership from taking any action or engaging in any transaction where a conflict of interest is present.

Partnership agreement modified standards

Our partnership agreement contains provisions that waive or consent to conduct by our general partner and its affiliates that might otherwise raise issues about compliance with fiduciary duties or applicable law. For example, our partnership agreement provides that when our general partner is acting in its capacity as our general partner, as opposed to in its individual capacity, it must act in good faith and will not be subject to any other standard under applicable law. In addition, when our general partner is acting in its individual capacity, as opposed to in its capacity as our general partner, it may act without any fiduciary obligation to us or the unitholders whatsoever. These standards reduce the obligations to which our general partner would otherwise be held.

Our partnership agreement generally provides that affiliated transactions and resolutions of conflicts of interest not involving a vote of unitholders and that are not approved by the conflicts committee of the board of directors of our general partner must be:

on terms no less favorable to us than those generally being provided to or available from unrelated third parties; or

fair and reasonable to us, taking into account the totality of the relationships between the parties involved (including other transactions that may be particularly favorable or advantageous to us).

If our general partner does not seek approval from the conflicts committee and its board of directors determines that the resolution or course of action taken with respect to the conflict of interest satisfies

Table of Contents

either of the standards set forth in the bullet points above, then it will be presumed that, in making its decision, the board of directors acted in good faith, and in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of any limited partner or the partnership, the person bringing or prosecuting such proceeding will have the burden of overcoming such presumption. These standards reduce the obligations to which our general partner would otherwise be held.

In addition to the other more specific provisions limiting the obligations of our general partner, our partnership agreement further provides that our general partner and its officers and directors will not be liable for monetary damages to us, our limited partners or assignees for errors of judgment or for any acts or omissions unless there has been a final and non-appealable judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction determining that the general partner or its officers and directors acted in bad faith or engaged in fraud, willful misconduct or gross negligence.

Rights and remedies of unitholders under Delaware law

The Delaware Act generally provides that a limited partner may institute legal action on behalf of the partnership to recover damages from a third party where a general partner has refused to institute the action or where an effort to cause a general partner to do so is not likely to succeed. These actions include actions against a general partner for breach of its fiduciary duties or of the partnership agreement. In addition, the statutory or case law of some jurisdictions may permit a limited partner to institute legal action on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated limited partners to recover damages from a general partner for violations of its fiduciary duties to the limited partners.

In order to become one of our limited partners, a common unitholder is required to agree to be bound by the provisions in the partnership agreement, including the provisions discussed above. This is in accordance with the policy of the Delaware Act favoring the principle of freedom of contract and the enforceability of partnership agreements. The failure of a limited partner or assignee to sign a partnership agreement does not render the partnership agreement unenforceable against that person.

Table of Contents

MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

This section is a summary of the material tax considerations that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States and, unless otherwise noted in the following discussion, is the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., counsel to our general partner and us, insofar as it relates to legal conclusions with respect to matters of U. S. 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 Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P and Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P., our operating partnership.

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

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

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

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

Partnership Status

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

partnership or the partner unless the amount of cash distributed to him is in excess of the partner's adjusted basis in his partnership interest.

Table of Contents

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 in this discussion 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, marketing and processing of crude oil, the storage and marketing of refined products, natural gas and products thereof and fertilizer. Other types of qualifying income include interest (other than from a financial business), dividends, gains from the sale of real property and gains from the sale or other disposition of capital assets held for the production of income that otherwise constitutes qualifying income. We estimate that less than 7% of our current gross income is not qualifying income; however, this estimate could change from time to time. Based upon and subject to this estimate, the factual representations made by us and our general partner and a review of the applicable legal authorities, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is of the opinion that at least 90% of our current gross income constitutes qualifying income. The portion of our income that is qualifying income may change from time to time.

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

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

(a) Neither we nor the operating partnership has elected or will elect to be treated as a corporation;

(b) Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. and Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. have been and will be operated in accordance with applicable partnership statutes, the applicable partnership agreement and in the manner described in this prospectus; and

(c) For each of our taxable years, more than 90% of our gross income has been and will be income from sources that Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has opined or will opine as generating qualifying income within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code.

We believe that these representations have been true in the past and expect that these representations will be true in the future.

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.

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

If we were treated as an association taxable as a corporation in any taxable year, either as a result of a failure to meet the Qualifying Income Exception or otherwise, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction would be reflected only on our tax return rather than being passed through to our unitholders, and our net income would be taxed to us at corporate rates. In addition, any distribution made to a unitholder would be treated as either taxable dividend income, to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, or, in the absence of earnings and profits, a nontaxable return of capital, to the extent of the unitholder's tax basis in his common units, or

Table of Contents

taxable capital gain, after the unitholder's tax basis in his common units is reduced to zero. Accordingly, taxation as a corporation would result in a material reduction in a unitholder's cash flow and after-tax return and thus would likely result in a substantial reduction of the value of the units.

The discussion below is based on Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.'s opinion that Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. will be classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes and Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P. will be treated as a disregarded entity for federal income tax purposes.

Limited Partner Status

Unitholders who are or become limited partners of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. will be treated as partners of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. for federal income tax purposes. Also:

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

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

will be treated as partners of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. for federal income tax purposes. As there is no direct or indirect controlling authority addressing the federal income tax treatment of assignees of common units who are entitled to execute and deliver transfer applications and thereby become entitled to direct the exercise of attendant rights, but who fail to execute and deliver transfer applications, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.'s opinion does not extend to these persons. Furthermore, a purchaser or other transferee of common units who does not execute and deliver a transfer application may not receive some federal income tax information or reports furnished to record holders of common units unless the common units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application for those common units.

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

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

The references to unitholders in the discussion that follows are to persons who are treated as partners in Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. for federal income tax purposes.

Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership

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

Treatment of Distributions. Distributions by us to a unitholder generally will not be taxable to the unitholder for federal income tax purposes, except to the extent the amount of any such cash distribution exceeds his tax basis in his common units immediately before the distribution. Our cash distributions in excess of a unitholder's tax basis generally will be considered to be gain from the sale or exchange of the common units,

Table of Contents

taxable in accordance with the rules described under **Disposition of Common Units** below. Any reduction in a unitholder's share of our liabilities for which no partner, including our general partner, bears the economic risk of loss, known as nonrecourse liabilities, will be treated as a distribution by us of cash to that unitholder. To the extent our distributions cause a unitholder's at-risk amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year, he must recapture any losses deducted in previous years. Please read **Limitations on Deductibility of Losses**.

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

Basis of Common Units. A unitholder's initial tax basis for his common units will be the amount he paid for the common units plus his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. That basis will be increased by his share of our income and by any increases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. That basis will be decreased, but not below zero, by distributions from us, by the unitholder's share of our losses, by any decreases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities and by his share of our expenditures that are not deductible in computing taxable income and are not required to be capitalized. A unitholder will have no share of our debt that is recourse to our general partner, but will have a share, generally based on his share of profits, of our nonrecourse liabilities. Please read **Disposition of Common Units** **Recognition of Gain or Loss**.

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 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.

Table of Contents

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 a unitholder's investments in other publicly traded partnerships), or a unitholder's 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 by the unitholder 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:

- (a) interest on indebtedness properly allocable to property held for investment;
- (b) our interest expense attributed to portfolio income; and
- (c) 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 for purposes of the investment interest deduction limitation. In addition, the unitholder's share of our portfolio income will be treated as investment income. In addition, the unitholder's share of our portfolio income will be treated as investment income. However, to the extent our portfolio income consist of qualified dividends, for the years 2003 through 2010, a unitholder must specifically elect to include qualified dividends in investment income for purposes of calculating the limit on the investment interest deduction. If this election is made, the reduced dividend tax rate of 15% for tax years 2003-2010 is not applicable to any qualified dividends included in 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 unitholder, general partner or former unitholder on whose behalf the payment was made. If the payment is made on behalf of a person whose identity cannot be determined, we are authorized to treat the payment as a distribution to all current unitholders. We are authorized to amend our partnership agreement in the manner necessary to maintain uniformity of intrinsic tax characteristics of units and to adjust later distributions, so that after giving effect to these distributions, the priority and characterization of distributions otherwise applicable under our partnership agreement is maintained as nearly as is practicable. Payments by us as described above could give rise to an overpayment of tax on behalf of an individual unitholder in which event the unitholder would be required to file a claim in order to obtain a credit or refund.

Table of Contents

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 recipients to the extent of these distributions. If we have a net loss, that loss will be allocated first to our general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us to the extent of their positive capital accounts and, second, to our general partner.

Specified items of our income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated to account for (i) any difference between the tax basis and fair market value of our assets at the time of an offering and (ii) any difference between the tax basis and fair market value of any property contributed to us by the general partner and its affiliates that exists at the time of such contribution, together, referred to in this discussion as the *Contributed Property*. These *Section 704(c) Allocations* are required 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*. The effect of these allocations to a unitholder purchasing common units from us in an offering will be essentially the same as if the tax bases of our assets were equal to their fair market value at the time of such offering. In the event we issue additional common units or engage in certain other transactions in the future, *Reverse Section 704(c) Allocations*, similar to the *Section 704(c) Allocations* described above, will be made to the general partner and our other unitholders immediately prior to such issuance or other transactions to account for the *Book-Tax Disparity* of all property held by us at the time of such issuance or other transaction. In addition, items of recapture income will be allocated to the extent possible to the unitholder who was allocated the deduction giving rise to the treatment of that gain as recapture income in order to minimize the recognition of ordinary income by some unitholders. Finally, although we do not expect that our operations will result in the creation of negative capital accounts, if negative capital accounts nevertheless result, items of our income and gain will be allocated in an amount and manner sufficient to eliminate the negative balance as quickly as possible.

An allocation of items of our income, gain, loss or deduction, other than an allocation required by the Internal Revenue Code to eliminate *Book-Tax Disparities* 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:

- (a) his relative contributions to us;

- (b) the interests of all the partners in profits and losses;

- (c) the interest of all the partners in cash flow; and

- (d) the rights of all the partners to distributions of capital upon liquidation.

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

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:

1. any of our income, gain, loss or deduction with respect to those units would not be reportable by the unitholder;
2. any cash distributions received by the unitholder as to those units would be fully taxable; and
3. all of these distributions would appear to be ordinary income.

Table of Contents

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not rendered an opinion regarding the tax treatment of a unitholder whose common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units; 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 previously announced that it is 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 of units acquired from another unitholder. This election does not apply to a person who purchases common units directly from us. The Section 743(b) adjustment belongs to the purchaser and not to other unitholders. For purposes of this discussion, a unitholder's inside basis in our assets will be considered to have two components: (1) his share of our tax basis in our assets (common basis) and (2) his Section 743(b) adjustment to that basis.

Where the remedial allocation method is adopted (which we have adopted and will adopt as to 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. Under our partnership agreement, our general partner is authorized to take a position to preserve the uniformity of units even if that position is not consistent with these and any other Treasury Regulations. Please read [Uniformity of Units](#).

Although Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is unable to opine as to the validity of this approach because there is no direct or indirect controlling authority on this issue, we intend to depreciate the portion of a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the value of Contributed Property, to the extent of any unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, using a rate of depreciation or amortization derived from the depreciation or amortization method and useful life applied to the 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, and Treasury Regulation Section 1.197-2(g)(3). To the extent this Section 743(b) adjustment is attributable to appreciation in value in excess of the unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, we will apply the rules

Table of Contents

described in the Treasury Regulations and legislative history. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may take a depreciation or amortization position under which all purchasers acquiring units in the same month would receive depreciation or amortization, whether attributable to common basis or a Section 743(b) adjustment, based upon the same applicable rate as if they had purchased a direct interest in our assets. This kind of aggregate approach may result in lower annual depreciation or amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to some unitholders. Please read [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 read [Disposition of Common Units](#) [Recognition of Gain or Loss](#). The IRS may challenge our position with respect to depreciating or amortizing the Section 743(b) adjustment we take to preserve the uniformity of the units. If such a challenge were sustained, the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions.

A Section 754 election is advantageous if the transferee's tax basis in his units is higher than the units' share of the aggregate tax basis of our assets immediately prior to the transfer. In that case, as a result of the election, the transferee would have, among other items, a greater amount of depreciation 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 twelve months of our income, gain, loss and deduction. Please read [Disposition of Common Units](#) [Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees](#).

Tax Basis, Depreciation and Amortization. The tax basis of our assets will be used for purposes of computing depreciation and cost recovery deductions and, ultimately, gain or loss on the disposition of these assets. The federal income tax burden associated with the difference between the fair market value of our assets

Table of Contents

and their tax basis immediately prior to an offering will be borne by our general partner and other unitholders immediately prior to such offering. Please read [Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership](#) [Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction](#).

To the extent allowable, we may elect to use the depreciation and cost recovery methods that will result in the largest deductions being taken in the early years after assets subject to these allowances are placed in service. Property we subsequently acquire or construct may be depreciated using accelerated methods permitted by the Internal Revenue Code.

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

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

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

Disposition of Common Units

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

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

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

adjusting the current rate). However, a portion, which will likely be substantial, of this gain or loss will be separately computed and taxed as ordinary income or loss under Section 751 of the Internal Revenue Code to the extent attributable to assets giving rise to depreciation recapture or other unrealized receivables or to inventory items we own. The term unrealized receivables includes potential recapture items, including depreciation

Table of Contents

recapture. Ordinary income attributable to unrealized receivables, inventory items and depreciation recapture may exceed net taxable gain realized upon the sale of a unit and may be recognized even if there is a net taxable loss realized on the sale of a unit. Thus, a unitholder may recognize both ordinary income and a capital loss upon a sale of units. Net capital losses may offset capital gains and no more than \$3,000 of ordinary income, in the case of individuals, and may only be used to offset capital gains in the case of corporations.

The IRS has ruled that a partner who acquires interests in a partnership in separate transactions must combine those interests and maintain a single adjusted tax basis for all those interests. Upon a sale or other disposition of less than all of those interests, a portion of that tax basis must be allocated to the interests sold using an equitable apportionment method, which generally means that the tax basis allocated to the interest sold equals an amount that bears the same relation to the partner's tax basis in his entire interest in the partnership as the value of the interest sold bears to the value of the partner's entire interest in the partnership. Treasury Regulations under Section 1223 of the Internal Revenue Code allow a selling unitholder who can identify common units transferred with an ascertainable holding period to elect to use the actual holding period of the common units transferred. Thus, according to the ruling 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) a short sale;

- (b) an offsetting notional principal contract; or

- (c) 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 Treasury 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.

Edgar Filing: SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS L.P. - Form 424B3

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

Table of Contents

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

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

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

Constructive Termination. We will be considered to have 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 could result in 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) and Treasury Regulation Section 1.197-2(g)(3). Any non-uniformity could have a negative impact on the value of the units. Please read [Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership](#) Section 754 Election.

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

Table of Contents

common basis of which is not amortizable, consistent with the Treasury Regulations under Section 743 of the Internal Revenue Code, even though that position may be inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), which is not expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets, and Treasury Regulation Section 1.197-2(g)(3). Please read [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 material adverse effect on the unitholders. If we choose not to utilize this aggregate method, we may use any other reasonable depreciation and amortization method to preserve the uniformity of the intrinsic tax characteristics of any units that would not have a material adverse effect on the unitholders. The IRS may challenge any method of depreciating the Section 743(b) adjustment described in this paragraph. If this challenge were sustained, the uniformity of units might be affected, and the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions. Please read [Disposition of Common Units](#) [Recognition of Gain or Loss](#).

Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors

Ownership of units by employee benefit plans, other tax-exempt organizations, regulated investment companies, non-resident aliens, non-U.S. 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 less certain allowable deductions allocated to a unitholder that is a tax-exempt organization will be unrelated business taxable income and will be taxable to them.

Non-resident aliens and non-U.S. 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, cash distributions to non-U.S. unitholders will be subject to withholding at the highest applicable effective tax rates. 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 non-U.S. 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 non-U.S. corporation's U.S. net equity, which is effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business. That tax may be reduced or eliminated by an income tax treaty between the United States and the country in which the non-U.S. 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 non-U.S. 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 non-U.S. unitholder. Under a ruling

published by the IRS, interpreting the

Table of Contents

scope of effectively connected income, a non-U.S. unitholder would be considered to be engaged in a trade or business in the U.S. by virtue of our U.S. activities, 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 non-U.S. 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, non-U.S. 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 reviewed by counsel, we will take various accounting and reporting positions, some of which have been mentioned earlier, to determine each unitholder's share of income, gain, loss and deduction. We cannot assure you that those positions will yield a result that conforms to the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, Treasury Regulations or administrative interpretations of the IRS. Neither we nor Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. can assure prospective unitholders that the IRS will not successfully contend in court that those positions are impermissible. Any challenge by the IRS could negatively affect the value of the units.

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

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

Table of Contents

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

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

(b) whether the beneficial owner is:

1. a person that is not a United States person;

2. a non-U.S. government, an international organization or any wholly owned agency or instrumentality of either of the foregoing; or

3. a tax-exempt entity;

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

(d) specific information including the dates of acquisitions and transfers, means of acquisitions and transfers, and acquisition cost for purchases, as well as the amount of net proceeds from sales.

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

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

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

(1) for which there is, or was, substantial authority ; or

(2) as to which there is a reasonable basis and the pertinent facts of that position are disclosed on the return.

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

A substantial valuation misstatement exists if (a) the value of any property, or the tax 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 tax 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). The penalty is increased to 40% in the event of a gross valuation misstatement. We do not anticipate making any valuation misstatements.

Table of Contents

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 read 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 provisions of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004:

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

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

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

We do not expect to engage in any reportable transactions.

State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Considerations

In addition to federal income taxes, you likely will be subject to other taxes, such as state, local and foreign income taxes, unincorporated business taxes, and estate, inheritance or intangible taxes that may be imposed by the various jurisdictions in which we do business or own property or in which you are a resident. Although an analysis of those various taxes is not presented here, each prospective unitholder should consider their potential impact on his investment in us. We currently own property or conduct business in the following 13 states: Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia. Most of these states currently impose a personal income tax on individuals and also impose an income tax on corporations and other entities. We may also own property or do business in other jurisdictions in the future. Although you may not be required to file a return and pay taxes in some jurisdictions because your income from that jurisdiction falls below the filing and payment requirement, you will be required to file income tax returns and to pay income taxes in many of these jurisdictions in which we do business or own property and may be subject to penalties for failure to comply with those requirements. In some jurisdictions, tax losses may not produce a tax benefit in the year incurred and may not be available to offset income in subsequent taxable years. Some of the jurisdictions may require us, or we may elect, to withhold a percentage of income from amounts to be distributed to a unitholder who is not a resident of the jurisdiction. Withholding, the amount of which may be greater or less than a particular unitholder's income tax liability to the jurisdiction, generally does not relieve a nonresident unitholder from the obligation to file an income tax return. Amounts withheld will be treated as if distributed to unitholders for purposes of determining the amounts distributed by us. Please read Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership Entity-Level Collections. Based on current law and our estimate of our future operations, our general partner anticipates that any amounts required to be withheld will not be material.

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

in us.

Table of Contents

Tax Consequences of Ownership of Debt Securities

A description of the material federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of any series of debt securities that we may offer hereunder will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the offering of such debt securities.

Table of Contents

SELLING UNITHOLDERS

We are registering for resale an indeterminate number of our common units held by certain of our unitholders to be named in a prospectus supplement.

The prospectus supplement for any offering of our common units by a selling unitholder hereunder will include, among other things, the following information:

the name of the each selling unitholder;

the nature of any position, office or other material relationship which each selling unitholder has had within the last three years with us or any of our predecessors or affiliates;

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

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

the number and (if one percent or more) the percentage of common units held by each of the selling unitholders after the offering.

Table of Contents

INVESTMENT IN US BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

An investment in our common units or debt securities by an employee benefit plan is subject to certain additional considerations because the investments of such plans are subject to the fiduciary responsibility and prohibited transaction provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA), and restrictions imposed by Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code. As used herein, the term employee benefit plan includes, but is not limited to, qualified pension, profit-sharing and stock bonus plans, Keogh plans, simplified employee pension plans and tax deferred annuities or IRAs established or maintained by an employer or employee organization. Among other things, consideration should be given to (a) whether such investment is prudent under Section 404(a)(1)(B) of ERISA; (b) whether in making such investment, such plan will satisfy the diversification requirement of Section 404(a)(1)(C) of ERISA; and (c) whether such investment will result in recognition of unrelated business taxable income by such plan and, if so, the potential after-tax investment return. Please read Tax Considerations Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors. The person with investment discretion with respect to the assets of an employee benefit plan (a fiduciary) should determine whether an investment in us is authorized by the appropriate governing instrument and is a proper investment for such plan.

Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code (which also applies to IRAs that are not considered part of an employee benefit plan) prohibit an employee benefit plan from engaging in certain 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 limited partnership units or the debt securities is a prohibited transaction, a fiduciary of an employee benefit plan should consider whether such plan will, by investing in our common units, be deemed to own an undivided interest in our assets, with the result that our general partner also would be a fiduciary of such plan and 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 certain circumstances. Pursuant to these regulations, an entity's assets would not be considered to be plan assets if, among other things, (a) the equity interest acquired by employee benefit plans are publicly offered securities i.e., the equity interests are widely held by 100 or more investors independent of the issuer and each other, freely transferable and registered pursuant to certain provisions of the federal securities laws, (b) the entity is an operating partnership 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 less than 25% of the value of each class of equity interest (disregarding certain interests held by our general partner, its affiliates and certain other persons) is held by employee benefit plans that are subject to ERISA or are deemed to hold plan assets. Our assets should not be considered plan assets under these regulations because it is expected that an investment in our common units will satisfy the requirements in (a) and (b) above and may also satisfy the requirements in (c).

Plan fiduciaries contemplating a purchase of our limited partnership units or debt securities 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 violations.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We or selling unitholders will sell the securities being offered hereby through underwriters on a firm commitment basis.

The prospectus supplement with respect to any offering of securities will set forth the terms of the offering, including: (i) the name or names of any underwriters; (ii) the purchase price of the securities and the proceeds to us and, if applicable, any selling unitholder from the sale; (iii) any underwriting discounts and commissions and other items constituting underwriters' compensation; and (iv) any delayed delivery arrangements.

We and, if applicable, the selling unitholders will enter into an underwriting agreement with the underwriters at the time of sale to them. We will set forth the names of these underwriters and the terms of the transaction in the prospectus supplement, which will be used by the underwriters to make resales of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered to the public. We and, if applicable, the selling unitholders may indemnify the underwriters under the relevant underwriting agreement against specific liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. The underwriters may also be our customers or may engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

LEGAL

Certain legal matters in connection with the securities will be passed upon by Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., as our counsel. Any underwriters will be advised about other issues relating to any offering by their own legal counsel.

EXPERTS

The financial statements of Sunoco Logistics Partners L. P., appearing in our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 27, 2010, and the parent-company-only balance sheet of Sunoco Partners LLC and the effectiveness of Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008 appearing in Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports thereon included therein and incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements of Sunoco Logistics Partners L. P. and parent-company-only balance sheet of Sunoco Partners LLC are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

Table of Contents

\$

Sunoco Logistics Partners Operations L.P.

% Senior Notes due 2020

% Senior Notes due 2040

Guaranteed By Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.

Preliminary Prospectus Supplement

February 9, 2010

Barclays Capital

Citi

UBS Investment Bank

Wells Fargo Securities