

Spectra Energy Partners, LP
Form 424B2
April 02, 2013
Table of Contents

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

Subject to Completion, dated April 2, 2013

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To Prospectus dated August 11, 2011)

Spectra Energy Partners, LP
4,500,000 Common Units
Representing Limited Partner Interests

We are selling 4,500,000 common units representing limited partner interests in Spectra Energy Partners, LP. Our common units trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SEP. The last reported trading price of our common units on the New York Stock Exchange on April 1, 2013 was \$38.97 per common unit.

As a result of certain FERC rate-making policies, we require an owner of our common units to be an Eligible Holder. Eligible Holders are individuals or entities subject to United States federal income taxation on our income or entities not subject to such taxation so long as all of the entity's owners are subject to such taxation.

Investing in our common units involves risks. Read Risk Factors beginning on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement and beginning on page 5 of the accompanying base prospectus.

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	Per Common Unit	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discount	\$	\$
Proceeds to Spectra Energy Partners, LP (before expenses)	\$	\$

We have granted Barclays a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 675,000 common units from us on the same terms and conditions as set forth above if Barclays sells more than 4,500,000 common units in this offering.

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 base prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Barclays expects to deliver the common units on or about April , 2013.

Sole Book-Running Manager

Barclays

Prospectus Supplement dated , 2013.

Table of Contents

Spectra Energy Partners, LP Assets

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS
PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

<u>Summary</u>	S-1
<u>The Offering</u>	S-2
<u>Risk Factors</u>	S-5
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-6
<u>Capitalization</u>	S-7
<u>Price Range of Common Units and Distributions</u>	S-8
<u>Material Tax Considerations</u>	S-9
<u>Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest)</u>	S-11
<u>Legal Matters</u>	S-14
<u>Experts</u>	S-14
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	S-15
<u>Information Incorporated by Reference</u>	S-17
<u>Application for Transfer of Common Units</u>	A-1
<u>Schedule A</u>	A-4

PROSPECTUS

<u>About this Prospectus</u>	1
<u>About Spectra Energy Partners, LP</u>	1
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	2
<u>Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	3
<u>Risk Factors</u>	5
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	5
<u>Description of the Common Units</u>	6
<u>Description of Debt Securities</u>	8
<u>Provisions of our Partnership Agreement Relating to Cash Distributions</u>	17
<u>The Partnership Agreement</u>	24
<u>Conflicts of Interest and Fiduciary Duties</u>	37
<u>Material Tax Consequences</u>	45
<u>Legal Matters</u>	59
<u>Experts</u>	59

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

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

Any statement made in this prospectus or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or in any other subsequently filed document that is also incorporated by reference into this prospectus modifies or supersedes that statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus. Please read Information Incorporated by Reference on page S-17 of this prospectus supplement.

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

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus. It does not contain all of the information that you should consider before making an investment decision. You should read this entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus and the documents incorporated herein by reference for a more complete understanding of our business and this offering of common units, as well as material tax and other considerations that may be important to you in making your investment decision. Please read "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 for information regarding risks you should consider before investing in our common units. Unless the context otherwise indicates, the information included in this prospectus supplement assumes that the underwriter does not exercise its option to purchase additional common units.

Throughout this prospectus supplement, when we use the terms we, us, our or the partnership, we are referring either to Spectra Energy Partners, LP in its individual capacity or to Spectra Energy Partners, LP and its operating subsidiaries collectively, as the context requires. References in this prospectus supplement to our general partner refer to Spectra Energy Partners (DE) GP, LP and/or Spectra Energy Partners GP, LLC, the general partner of Spectra Energy Partners (DE) GP, LP, as appropriate.

Spectra Energy Partners, LP

Spectra Energy Partners, LP, through our subsidiaries and equity affiliates, is engaged in the transportation and gathering of natural gas through interstate pipeline systems with over 3,500 miles of pipelines and the storage of natural gas in underground facilities with aggregate working gas storage capacity of approximately 57 billion cubic feet (Bcf) in the United States. We are a Delaware master limited partnership (MLP) formed on March 19, 2007.

We own and operate natural gas transportation and storage assets in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, Virginia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and the Gulf of Mexico. Our assets are strategically located in geographic regions of the United States where demand primarily for natural gas for electricity generation is expected to increase steadily. We have a broad mix of customers, including local gas distribution companies (LDC), municipal utilities, interstate and intrastate pipelines, direct industrial users, electric power generators, marketers and producers, and exploration and production companies. Our interstate gas transmission pipeline and storage operations are regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) with the exception of Moss Bluff intrastate storage operations and the Ozark gathering facilities which are subject to oversight by various state commissions.

Our wholly owned operations and activities are managed by our general partner, Spectra Energy Partners (DE) GP, LP, which in turn is managed by its general partner, Spectra Energy Partners GP, LLC (the General Partner). The General Partner is wholly owned by a subsidiary of Spectra Energy Corp (Spectra Energy). Spectra Energy is a separate, publicly traded entity which trades on the NYSE under the symbol SE. As of the date of this prospectus supplement after giving effect to this offering, but without giving effect to the underwriter's exercise of the over-allotment option, Spectra Energy and its subsidiaries collectively owned 58.0% of our common units and the remaining 42.0% was publicly owned.

Table of Contents

THE OFFERING

Common units offered by us	4,500,000 common units. 5,175,000 common units if the underwriter exercises in full its option to purchase an additional 675,000 common units.
Common units outstanding before this offering	103,633,733 common units.
Common units outstanding after this offering	108,133,733 common units, or 108,808,733 common units if the underwriter exercises in full its option to purchase an additional 675,000 common units.
Use of proceeds	<p>The net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$ million, including our general partner's proportionate capital contribution, or approximately \$ million if the underwriter exercises its option to purchase additional common units in full, in each case, after deducting the underwriting discount and estimated offering expenses payable by us.</p> <p>We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering, including the net proceeds from any exercise of the underwriter's over-allotment option, for funding capital expenditures and acquisitions. Please see Use of Proceeds.</p>
Cash distributions	<p>Our partnership agreement requires us to distribute all of our cash on hand at the end of each quarter, less reserves established by our general partner. We refer to this cash as available cash, and we define its meaning in our partnership agreement.</p> <p>Our partnership agreement requires that we make distributions of available cash from operating surplus for any quarter after the subordination period in the following manner:</p> <p>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</p> <p>thereafter, in the manner described in General Partner Interest and Incentive Distribution Rights below.</p> <p>If cash distributions to our unitholders exceed \$0.345 per common unit in any quarter, our general partner will receive, in addition to distributions on its 2% general partner interest, increasing percentages, up to 50%, of the cash we distribute in excess of that amount. We refer to these distributions as incentive distributions.</p>

Table of Contents

On February 14, 2013, we paid a quarterly cash distribution for the quarter ended December 31, 2012 of \$0.495 per unit to unitholders of record at the close of business on February 7, 2013. This represents an increase of 1.0% over the distribution for the quarter ended September 30, 2012 of \$0.49 per unit, and a 4.2% increase over the distribution for the quarter ended December 31, 2011.

Eligible Holders and redemption

We have the right, which we may assign to any of our affiliates, but not the obligation, to redeem all of the common units of any holder that is not an Eligible Holder or that has failed to certify or has falsely certified that such holder is an Eligible Holder. Eligible Holders are:

individuals or entities subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by us; or

entities not subject to United States federal taxation on the income generated by us, so long as all of the entity's owners are subject to such taxation.

The purchase price for any such redemption by us or our assignee would be equal to the lower of the holder's purchase price and the then-current market price of the units. The redemption price will be paid in cash or by delivery of a promissory note, as determined by our general partner.

Please read "Description of the Common Units," "Transfer of Common Units," and "The Partnership Agreement - Non-Taxpaying Assignees; Redemption" in our registration statement on Form 8-A and incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement.

Estimated ratio of taxable income to distributions

We estimate that if you own the common units you purchase in this offering through the record date for distributions for the period ending December 31, 2015, you will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for that period that will be 20% or less of the cash distributed to you with respect to that period. For example, if you receive an annual distribution of \$1.98 per unit, we estimate that your average allocable federal taxable income per year will be less than \$0.40 per unit. Please read "Material Tax Considerations" in this prospectus supplement and "Material Tax Consequences" in the accompanying base prospectus.

Material tax consequences

For a discussion of other material federal income tax consequences that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States, please read "Material Tax Considerations" in this prospectus supplement and "Material Tax Consequences" in the accompanying base prospectus.

New York Stock Exchange symbol

SEP

Table of Contents

Conflicts of Interest

Because the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA, views our common units as interests in a direct participation program, the offering is being made in compliance with Rule 2310 of the FINRA Rules. Investor suitability with respect to the common units will be judged similarly to the suitability with respect to the other securities that are listed for trading on a national securities exchange.

Risk factors

You should read **Risk Factors** beginning on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement and found in the documents incorporated herein by reference, as well as the other cautionary statements throughout this prospectus supplement, to ensure you understand the risks associated with an investment in our common units.

S-4

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Before making an investment in the common units offered hereby, you should carefully consider the risk factors included in Item 1A. Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, together with all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. If any of these risks were to occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected. In such case, the value of the common units could decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment.

S-5

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$ million, including our general partner's proportionate capital contribution, or approximately \$ million if the underwriter exercises its option to purchase additional common units in full, in each case, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

We intend to use the net proceeds, including the net proceeds from any exercise of the underwriter's over-allotment option, for funding capital expenditures and acquisitions. Pending such use, the net proceeds of this offering will be held as cash or invested in short term securities, or a combination of both.

S-6

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our cash and cash equivalents, other investments and capitalization (including short-term borrowings) as of December 31, 2012 on:

a historical basis; and

an as adjusted basis to reflect the sale of common units in this offering and our general partner's proportionate capital contribution, net of offering expenses, as described in Use of Proceeds.

You should read our financial statements and notes that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus for additional information about our capital structure. The following table does not reflect any common units that may be sold to the underwriter upon exercise of its option to purchase additional common units.

	As of December 31, 2012	
	Historical	As Adjusted
	(in millions)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 20.6	\$ 20.6
Other investments(1)	140.7	
Short-term borrowings	\$ 353.4	\$ 353.4
Long-term debt:		
2.95% senior notes due 2016	250.0	250.0
4.60% senior notes due 2021	250.0	250.0
2024 note(2)	200.0	200.0
Total long-term debt	700.0	700.0
Total debt	1,053.4	1,053.4
Partners' capital:		
Common units	1,659.5	
General partner units	42.2	
Accumulated other comprehensive income	3.9	3.9
Total partners' capital	1,705.6	
Total capitalization	\$ 2,759.0	\$

- (1) Represents cash or short-term securities held solely for funding future capital expenditures and acquisitions.
(2) Represents East Tennessee's 3.10% unsecured note payable, which matures in 2024.

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

Our common units trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SEP. The following table shows the high and low sales prices per common unit, as reported by the New York Stock Exchange, and cash distributions paid per common unit for the periods indicated.

Quarter Ended	High	Low	Distribution per Common Unit
June 30, 2013 (through April 1, 2013)	\$ 40.12	\$ 38.64	\$ (1)
March 31, 2013	40.08	31.59	(1)
December 31, 2012	32.20	27.15	0.495
September 30, 2012	32.86	30.07	0.49
June 30, 2012	32.84	29.36	0.485
March 31, 2012	33.27	31.00	0.48
December 31, 2011	32.00	26.35	0.475
September 30, 2011	32.18	25.53	0.47
June 30, 2011	34.93	29.64	0.465
March 31, 2011	33.50	30.73	0.46

(1) The distribution attributable to the quarters ending March 31, 2013 and June 30, 2013 has not yet been declared or paid. We expect to declare and pay a cash distribution within 45 days following the end of such quarters.

The last reported sales price of our common units on the New York Stock Exchange on April 1, 2013 was \$38.97 per unit. As of April 1, 2013, there were approximately 33 record holders of our common units.

Table of Contents

MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The tax consequences to you of an investment in our common units will depend in part on your own tax circumstances. For a discussion of the principal federal income tax considerations associated with our operations and the purchase, ownership and disposition of our common units, please read "Material Tax Consequences" in the accompanying base prospectus. Please also read "Item 1A. Risk Factors - Tax Risks to Common Unitholders" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 for a discussion of the tax risks related to purchasing and owning our common units. You are urged to consult with your own tax advisor about the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences peculiar to your circumstances.

Ratio of Taxable Income to Distributions

We estimate that if you purchase common units in this offering and own them through the record date for distributions for the period ending December 31, 2015, then you will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for that period that will be 20% or less of the cash distributed with respect to that period. Thereafter, we anticipate that the ratio of allocable taxable income to cash distributions to the unitholders will increase. These estimates are based upon the assumption that gross income from operations will approximate the amount required to maintain the current quarterly distribution amount on all units and other assumptions with respect to capital expenditures, cash flow, net working capital and anticipated cash distributions. These estimates and assumptions are subject to, among other things, numerous business, economic, regulatory, competitive and political uncertainties beyond our control. Further, the estimates are based on current tax law and tax reporting positions that we will adopt and with which the IRS could disagree. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that these estimates will prove to be correct. The actual ratio of allocable taxable income to cash distributions to unitholders could be higher or lower than expected, and any differences could be material and could materially affect the value of the common units. For example, the ratio of allocable taxable income to cash distributions to a purchaser of common units in this offering will be higher, and perhaps substantially higher, than our estimate with respect to the period described above if:

gross income from operations exceeds the amount required to maintain the current quarterly distribution amounts on all units, yet we only distribute the current quarterly distribution amount on all units; or

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

Tax Rates

Beginning January 1, 2013, the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income of individuals is 39.6% 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 one year) of individuals is 20.0%. However, these rates are subject to change by new legislation at any time.

In addition, a 3.8% Medicare tax on certain net investment income earned by individuals, estates, and trusts applies for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012. For these purposes, net investment income generally includes a unitholder's allocable share of our income and gain realized by a unitholder from a sale of units. In the case of an individual, the tax will be imposed on the lesser of (i) the unitholder's net investment income from all investments, or (ii) the amount by which the unitholder's modified adjusted gross income exceeds \$250,000 (if the unitholder is married and filing jointly or a surviving spouse), \$125,000 (if married filing separately) or \$200,000 (if the unitholder is single or in any other case). In the case of an estate or trust, the tax will be imposed on the lesser of

(i) undistributed net investment income or (ii) the excess adjusted gross income over the dollar amount at which the highest income tax bracket applicable to an estate or trust begins.

Table of Contents

Alternative Minimum Tax

Each common 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 \$179,500 of alternative minimum taxable income in excess of the exemption amount and 28% on any additional alternative minimum taxable income. Prospective common unitholders are urged to consult with their tax advisors as to the impact of an investment in common units on their liability for the alternative minimum tax.

Accuracy-Related Penalties

The 20% accuracy-related penalty applies to any portion of an underpayment of tax that is attributable to transactions lacking economic substance. To the extent that such transactions are not disclosed, the penalty imposed is increased to 40%. Additionally, there is no reasonable cause defense to the imposition of this penalty to such transactions.

Tax Exempt Organizations and Other Investors

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

Legislative Developments

The present federal income tax treatment of publicly traded partnerships, including us, or an investment in our common units may be modified by administrative, legislative, or judicial interpretation at any time. For example, from time to time, members of the U.S. Congress propose and consider substantive changes to the existing federal income tax laws that affect publicly traded partnerships. Currently, one such legislative proposal would eliminate the qualifying income exception upon which we rely for our treatment as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. We are unable to predict whether any such changes will ultimately be enacted. However, it is possible that a change in law could affect us and may be applied retroactively. Any such changes could negatively impact the value of an investment in our units.

Table of Contents

UNDERWRITING

We are offering the common units described in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus through the underwriter, Barclays Capital Inc., which is acting as sole book-running manager of the offering. Subject to the terms and conditions stated in the underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, the underwriter has agreed to purchase 4,500,000 common units.

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriter to purchase the common units included in this offering are subject to approval of legal matters by counsel and to other conditions. The underwriter is obligated to purchase all of the common units if it purchases any of the common units.

Underwriting Discount and Expenses

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

We have granted to the underwriter an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to an aggregate of 675,000 additional common units at the public offering price listed on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, less the underwriting discount set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. The underwriter may exercise this option solely for the purpose of covering overallotments, if any, made in connection with the offering of the common units offered by this prospectus supplement. If the underwriter's option is exercised in full, the total price to the public would be \$ _____, the total underwriter's discount would be \$ _____ and the total proceeds to us before expenses would be \$ _____.

The following table shows the underwriting discounts that we are to pay to the underwriter in connection with this offering.

	No Exercise	Full Exercise
Per Unit	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____	\$ _____

We estimate that our total expenses for this offering, other than underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$350,000.

Lock-Up Agreements

We, our general partner and certain of its affiliates, including the directors and officers of our general partner, have agreed not to, without the prior written consent of the underwriter (1) offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell an option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, lend, or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, any common units or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common units, (2) enter into any swap or other agreement that transfers, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of the common units whether any such transaction described in clause (1) or (2) above is to be settled by delivery of common units or such other securities, in cash or otherwise or (3) make any demand for or exercise any right with respect to the registration of any common units or any security convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable into common units for a period of 45 days from the date of this prospectus supplement. The underwriter in its discretion, may release the common units and the other securities subject to the lock-up agreements described above in whole or in part at any time with or without notice. When determining whether or not to release

Table of Contents

common units and the other securities from lock-up agreements, the underwriter will consider, among other factors, the unitholder's reasons for requesting the release, the number of common units and other securities for which the release is being requested and the market conditions at the time.

Subject to certain conditions, the foregoing agreement shall not apply to (a) transactions relating to common units or other securities acquired in open market transactions after the completion of this offering, (b) transfers of common units or any security convertible into common units as a bona fide gift, or (c) the establishment of a trading plan pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, for the transfer of common units.

Conflicts of Interest

Because the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA, views our common units as interests in a direct participation program, the offering is being made in compliance with Rule 2310 of the FINRA Rules. Investor suitability with respect to the common units will be judged similarly to the suitability with respect to the other securities that are listed for trading on a national securities exchange.

NYSE Listing

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

Price Stabilization and Short Positions

In connection with the offering, the underwriter may purchase and sell common units in the open market. These transactions may include naked short sales and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve sales of common units in excess of the number of common units to be purchased by the underwriter in the offering, which creates a short position. The underwriter must close out any naked short position by purchasing common units in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriter is concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the common units in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of bids for or purchases of common units in the open market while the offering is in progress.

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

Relationships

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

In the ordinary course of its various business activities, the underwriter and its affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and

Table of Contents

such investment and securities activities may involve our securities and/or instruments. The underwriter and its affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Electronic Distribution

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus in electronic format may be made available on the website maintained by the underwriter. The underwriter may agree to allocate a number of common units for sale to its online brokerage account holders. In addition, common units may be sold by the underwriter to securities dealers who resell common units to online brokerage account holders.

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

Indemnification

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriter against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriter may be required to make because of any of those liabilities.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the common units will be passed upon for us by Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., Houston, Texas. Certain legal matters in connection with the common units offered hereby will be passed upon for the underwriter by Baker Botts L.L.P., Houston, Texas.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Spectra Energy Partners, LP and subsidiaries, and the related financial statement schedule, incorporated by reference in the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement is a part from the Spectra Energy Partners, LP Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, and the effectiveness of Spectra Energy Partners, LP's internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements and financial statement schedule have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements of Gulfstream Natural Gas System, L.L.C., incorporated by reference in the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement is a part from the Spectra Energy Partners, LP Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Market Hub Partners Holding and subsidiaries, incorporated by reference in the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement is a part from the Spectra Energy Partners, LP Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the information included in this prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference herein contain forward-looking statements. All statements that are not statements of historical facts, including statements regarding our future financial position, business strategy, budgets, projected costs and plans and objectives of management for future operations, are forward-looking statements. You can typically identify forward-looking statements by the use of forward-looking words, such as may, could, project, believe, anticipate, expect, estimate, potential, plan, forecast and other similar words. When considering forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the risk factors and other cautionary statements in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus and the documents we have incorporated by reference.

These forward-looking statements reflect our intentions, plans, expectations, assumptions and beliefs about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside our control. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements include known and unknown risks. Known risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the risks set forth in Risk Factors beginning on page S-5 in this prospectus supplement and in Item 1A. Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 as well as the following risks and uncertainties:

state and federal legislative and regulatory initiatives that affect cost and investment recovery, have an effect on rate structure, and affect the speed at and degree to which competition enters the natural gas industries;

outcomes of litigation and regulatory investigations, proceedings or inquiries;

weather and other natural phenomena, including the economic, operational and other effects of hurricanes and storms;

the timing and extent of changes in interest rates;

general economic conditions, including the risk of a prolonged economic slowdown or decline, or the risk of delay in a recovery, which can affect the long-term demand for natural gas and related services;

potential effects arising from terrorist attacks and any consequential or other hostilities;

changes in environmental, safety and other laws and regulations;

the development of alternative energy resources;

results of financing efforts, including the ability to obtain financing on favorable terms, which can be affected by various factors, including credit ratings and general market and economic conditions;

increases in the cost of goods and services required to complete capital projects;

growth in opportunities, including the timing and success of efforts to develop U.S. pipeline, storage, gathering and other related infrastructure projects and the effects of competition;

the performance of natural gas transmission, storage and gathering facilities;

the extent of success in connecting natural gas supplies to transmission and gathering systems and in connecting to expanding gas markets;

the effect of accounting pronouncements issued periodically by accounting standard-setting bodies;

conditions of the capital markets during the periods covered by these forward-looking statements; and

the ability to successfully complete merger, acquisition or divestiture plans; regulatory or other limitations imposed as a result of a merger, acquisition or divestiture; and the success of the business following a merger, acquisition or divestiture.

S-15

Table of Contents

You should read these statements carefully because they discuss our expectations about our future performance, contain projections of our future operating results or our future financial condition, or state other forward-looking information. Before you invest, you should be aware that the occurrence of any of the events described in Risk Factors beginning on page S-5 in this prospectus supplement and in Item 1A. Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 and in the other documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement could substantially harm our business, results of operations and financial condition. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the events described in the forward-looking statements might not occur or might occur to a different extent or at a different time than we have described. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

S-16

Table of Contents

INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

We file annual, quarterly and other reports with and furnish other information to the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. You may read and copy any document we file with or furnish to the SEC at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information on their public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we have filed with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you without actually including the specific information in this prospectus supplement by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus supplement. Information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and may replace information in this prospectus supplement and information previously filed with the SEC. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings made 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), including all such documents we may file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus supplement and until the termination of this offering:

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012; and

The description of our common units contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed on June 22, 2007, and any subsequent amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

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 may request a copy of any document incorporated by reference into this prospectus (including exhibits to those documents specifically incorporated by reference in this document), at no cost, by visiting our website at <http://www.spectraenergypartners.com>, or by writing or calling us at the following address:

Spectra Energy Partners, LP

5400 Westheimer Court

Houston, Texas 77056

Attention: Secretary

Telephone: (713) 627-5400

The information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

Appendix A

APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF COMMON UNITS

Transferees of Common Units must execute and deliver this application to **SPECTRA ENERGY PARTNERS, LP, c/o Spectra Energy Partners GP, LP, 5400 Westheimer Ct., Houston, TX 77056; Attn: CFO**, to be admitted as limited partners to SPECTRA ENERGY PARTNERS, LP.

The undersigned (Assignee) hereby applies for transfer to the name of the Assignee of the Common Units evidenced hereby and hereby certifies to SPECTRA ENERGY PARTNERS, LP (the Partnership) that the Assignee (including to the best of Assignee s knowledge, any person for whom the Assignee will hold the Common Units) is an Eligible Holder.*

The Assignee (a) requests admission as a Substituted Limited Partner and agrees to comply with and be bound by, and hereby executes, the Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of the Partnership, as amended, supplemented or restated to the date hereof (the Partnership Agreement), (b) represents and warrants that the Assignee has all right, power and authority and, if an individual, the capacity necessary to enter into the Partnership Agreement, (c) appoints the General Partner of the Partnership and, if a Liquidator shall be appointed, the Liquidator of the Partnership as the Assignee s attorney-in-fact to execute, swear to, acknowledge and file any document, including, without limitation, the Partnership Agreement and any amendment thereto and the Certificate of Limited Partnership of the Partnership and any amendment thereto, necessary or appropriate for the Assignee s admission as a Substituted Limited Partner and as a party to the Partnership Agreement, (d) gives the powers of attorney provided for in the Partnership Agreement, and (e) makes the waivers and gives the consents and approvals contained in the Partnership Agreement. Capitalized terms not defined herein have the meanings assigned to such terms in the Partnership Agreement. This application constitutes a Taxation Certification, as defined in the Partnership Agreement.

Date

Social Security or other identifying number of Assignee

Signature of Assignee

Purchase Price including commissions, if any Name and Address of Assignee

Type of Entity (check one):

Individual Partnership Corporation

Table of Contents

If not an Individual (check one):

- “ the entity is subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by the Partnership;

- “ the entity is not subject to United States federal income taxation, but it is a pass-through entity and all of its beneficial owners are subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by the Partnership;

- “ the entity is not subject to United States federal income taxation and it is (a) not a pass-through entity or (b) a pass-through entity, but not all of its beneficial owners are subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by the Partnership. Important Note by checking this box, the Assignee is contradicting its certification that it is an Eligible Holder.

Nationality (check one):

“ U.S. Citizen, Resident or Domestic Entity

“ Non-resident Alien

“ Foreign Corporation

If the U.S. Citizen, Resident or Domestic Entity box is checked, the following certification must be completed.

Under Section 1445(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), the Partnership must withhold tax with respect to certain transfers of property if a holder of an interest in the Partnership is a foreign person. To inform the Partnership that no withholding is required with respect to the undersigned interestholder's interest in it, the undersigned hereby certifies the following (or, if applicable, certifies the following on behalf of the interestholder).

Complete Either A or B:

A. Individual Interestholder

1. I am not a non-resident alien for purposes of U.S. income taxation.

2. My U.S. taxpayer identification number (Social Security Number) is _____.

3. My home address is _____.

B. Partnership, Corporation or Other Interestholder

- 1.

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The interestholder is not a foreign corporation, foreign partnership, foreign trust or foreign estate (as those terms are defined in the Code and Treasury Regulations).

2. The interestholder's U.S. employer identification number is _____.

3. The interestholder's office address and place of incorporation (if applicable) is _____.

The interestholder agrees to notify the Partnership within sixty (60) days of the date the interestholder becomes a foreign person.

The interestholder understands that this certificate may be disclosed to the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by the Partnership and that any false statement contained herein could be punishable by fine, imprisonment or both.

A-2

Table of Contents

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this certification and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct and complete and, if applicable, I further declare that I have authority to sign this document on behalf of:

Name of Interestholder

Signature and Date

Title (if applicable)

Note: If the Assignee is a broker, dealer, bank, trust company, clearing corporation, other nominee holder or an agent of any of the foregoing, and is holding for the account of any other person, this application should be completed by an officer thereof or, in the case of a broker or dealer, by a registered representative who is a member of a registered national securities exchange or a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., or, in the case of any other nominee holder, a person performing a similar function. If the Assignee is a broker, dealer, bank, trust company, clearing corporation, other nominee owner or an agent of any of the foregoing, the above certification as to any person for whom the Assignee will hold the Common Units shall be made to the best of the Assignee's knowledge.

Table of Contents

SCHEDULE A

Eligible Holders

The following are considered Eligible Holders:

Individuals (U.S. or non-U.S.)

C corporations (U.S. or non-U.S.)

Tax exempt organizations subject to tax on unrelated business taxable income or UBTI, including IRAs, 401(k) plans and Keough accounts

S corporations with shareholders that are individuals, trusts or tax exempt organizations subject to tax on UBTI

Potentially Eligible Holders

S corporations (unless they have ESOP shareholders*)

Partnerships (unless its partners include mutual funds, real estate investment trusts or REITs, governmental entities and agencies, S corporations with ESOP shareholders* or other partnerships with such partners)

Trusts (unless beneficiaries are not subject to tax)

Non-Eligible Holders

The following are not considered Eligible Holders:

Mutual Funds

REITs

Governmental entities and agencies

S corporations with ESOP shareholders

* S corporations with ESOP shareholders are S corporations with shareholders that include employee stock ownership plans.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

Spectra Energy Partners, LP

Common Units

Debt Securities

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more series:

common units representing limited partnership interests in Spectra Energy Partners, LP; and

debt securities of Spectra Energy Partners, LP, which may be either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities.
The securities we may offer:

will be offered at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more accompanying prospectus supplements; and

may be offered separately or together, or in separate series.

Our common units are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SEP. We will provide information in the prospectus supplement for the trading market, if any, for any debt securities we may offer.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer to sell securities we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about those securities and the terms of that offering, including the specific manner in which we will offer the securities. The prospectus supplement also may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. This prospectus may be used to offer and sell securities only if accompanied by a prospectus supplement. You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement carefully before you invest. You should also carefully read the documents we refer to in the **Where You Can Find More Information** section of this prospectus for information on us and our financial statements.

Our principal executive offices are located at 5400 Westheimer Court, Houston, Texas 77056. Our telephone number is (713) 627-5400.

Investing in our securities involves risks. You should carefully consider each of the factors described under Risk Factors, which begin on page 5 of this prospectus, before you make an investment in our securities.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is August 11, 2011

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>ABOUT SPECTRA ENERGY PARTNERS, LP</u>	1
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	2
<u>CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	3
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	5
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	5
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON UNITS</u>	6
<u>The Units</u>	6
<u>Transfer Agent and Registrar</u>	6
<u>Transfer of Common Units</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	8
<u>General</u>	8
<u>Events of Default, Remedies and Notice</u>	9
<u>Amendments and Waivers</u>	11
<u>Satisfaction and Discharge</u>	12
<u>Defeasance</u>	13
<u>No Personal Liability</u>	13
<u>No Protection in the Event of a Change of Control</u>	14
<u>Provisions Relating only to the Senior Debt Securities</u>	14
<u>Provisions Relating only to the Subordinated Debt Securities</u>	14
<u>Book Entry, Delivery and Form</u>	14
<u>Governing Law</u>	15
<u>The Trustee</u>	15
<u>PROVISIONS OF OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT RELATING TO CASH DISTRIBUTIONS</u>	17
<u>Distributions of Available Cash</u>	17
<u>Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus</u>	17
<u>Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus</u>	19
<u>General Partner Interest and Incentive Distribution Rights</u>	19
<u>General Partner's Right to Reset Incentive Distribution Levels</u>	20
<u>Distributions from Capital Surplus</u>	21
<u>Adjustment to the Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels</u>	22
<u>Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation</u>	22
<u>THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT</u>	24
<u>Organization and Duration</u>	24
<u>Purpose</u>	24
<u>Power of Attorney</u>	24
<u>Cash Distributions</u>	24
<u>Capital Contributions</u>	25
<u>Voting Rights</u>	25
<u>Limited Liability</u>	26
<u>Issuance of Additional Securities</u>	27
<u>Amendment of the Partnership Agreement</u>	27
<u>Merger, Consolidation, Conversion, Sale or Other Disposition of Assets</u>	29
<u>Termination and Dissolution</u>	30
<u>Liquidation and Distribution of Proceeds</u>	30

Table of Contents

<u>Withdrawal or Removal of the General Partner</u>	31
<u>Transfer of General Partner Units</u>	32
<u>Transfer of Ownership Interests in the General Partner</u>	32
<u>Transfer of Incentive Distribution Rights</u>	32
<u>Change of Management Provisions</u>	32
<u>Limited Call Right</u>	33
<u>Non-Taxpaying Assignees; Redemption</u>	33
<u>Meetings; Voting</u>	34
<u>Status as Limited Partner</u>	35
<u>Non-Citizen Assignees; Redemption</u>	35
<u>Indemnification</u>	35
<u>Reimbursement of Expenses</u>	35
<u>Books and Reports</u>	36
<u>Right to Inspect Our Books and Records</u>	36
<u>Registration Rights</u>	36
<u>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND FIDUCIARY DUTIES</u>	37
<u>Conflicts of Interest</u>	37
<u>Fiduciary Duties</u>	42
<u>MATERIAL TAX CONSEQUENCES</u>	45
<u>Taxation of the Partnership</u>	45
<u>Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership</u>	47
<u>Tax Treatment of Operations</u>	51
<u>Disposition of Common Units</u>	52
<u>Uniformity of Units</u>	54
<u>Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors</u>	54
<u>Administrative Matters</u>	55
<u>State, Local and Other Tax Considerations</u>	57
<u>Tax Consequences of Ownership of Debt Securities</u>	58
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	59
<u>EXPERTS</u>	59

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. 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 such document. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

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 may offer from time to time our common units or debt securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of us and the securities offered under this prospectus.

Each time we sell securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering and the securities being offered. The prospectus supplement also may add to, update, or change information in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, the information in the prospectus supplement will control. We urge you to read carefully this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the additional information described below under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

This prospectus contains summaries of certain provisions contained in some of the documents described herein, but reference is made to the actual documents for complete information. All of the summaries are qualified in their entirety by reference to the actual documents. Copies of some of the documents referred to herein have been filed or will be filed or incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and you may obtain copies of those documents as described below in the section entitled **Where You Can Find More Information**.

Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, references in this prospectus to Spectra Energy Partners, we, our, us or like terms refer to Spectra Energy Partners, LP. References in this prospectus to our general partner refer to Spectra Energy Partners (DE) GP, LP or Spectra Energy Partners GP, LLC, the general partner of Spectra Energy Partners (DE) GP, LP, as appropriate. References to Spectra Energy refer to Spectra Energy Corp, the parent company of our general partner.

ABOUT SPECTRA ENERGY PARTNERS, LP

Spectra Energy Partners, LP, through our subsidiaries and equity affiliates, is engaged in the transportation and gathering of natural gas through interstate pipeline systems with more than 3,200 miles of pipelines that serve the southeastern quadrant of the United States and the storage of natural gas in underground facilities with aggregate working gas storage capacity of approximately 57 billion cubic feet (Bcf) that are located in southeast Texas, south central Louisiana, southwest Virginia and eastern Kentucky. We are a Delaware master limited partnership (MLP) formed on March 19, 2007.

We transport, gather and store natural gas for a broad mix of customers, including local gas distribution companies (LDCs), municipal utilities, interstate and intrastate pipelines, direct industrial users, electric power generators, marketers and producers, and exploration and production companies. In addition to serving the directly connected southeastern quadrant of the United States, our pipeline, storage and gathering systems have access to customers in the mid-Atlantic, northeastern and midwestern regions of the United States through numerous interconnections with major pipelines. Our rates are regulated under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC's) rate-making policies with the exception of Market Hub Partners Holdings' (Market Hub's) intrastate storage operations and our gathering facilities.

Our operations and activities are managed by our general partner, Spectra Energy Partners (DE) GP, LP, which in turn is managed by its general partner, Spectra Energy Partners GP, LLC. Spectra Energy Partners GP, LLC is wholly owned by a subsidiary of Spectra Energy. Spectra Energy is a separate, publicly traded entity which trades on the NYSE under the symbol SE. As of June 30, 2011, Spectra Energy and its subsidiaries collectively owned 64% of us and the remaining 36% was publicly owned.

Table of Contents

Our principal executive offices are located at 5400 Westheimer Court, Houston, Texas 77056, and our telephone number is 713-627-5400.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and other reports with and furnish other information to the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. You may read and copy any document we file with or furnish to the SEC at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information on their public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we have 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 those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus. Information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and may replace information in this prospectus and information previously filed with the SEC. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings made 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), including all such documents we may file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus supplement:

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010;

Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2011 and June 30, 2011;

Our Current Reports on Form 8-K, as filed with the SEC on May 11, 2011, June 9, 2011, June 14, 2011 and July 1, 2011; and

The description of our common units contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed on June 22, 2007, and any subsequent amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

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 may request a copy of any document incorporated by reference into this prospectus (including exhibits to those documents specifically incorporated by reference in this document), at no cost, by visiting our website at <http://www.spectraenergypartners.com>, or by writing or calling us at the following address:

Spectra Energy Partners, LP

5400 Westheimer Court

Houston, Texas 77056

Attention: Secretary

Telephone: (713) 627-5400

The information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the information included in this prospectus and the documents we incorporate by reference herein contain forward-looking statements. All statements that are not statements of historical facts, including statements regarding our future financial position, business strategy, budgets, projected costs and plans and objectives of management for future operations, are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are identified by terms and phrases such as: anticipate, believe, intend, estimate, expect, continue, should, could, may, plan, project, predict, will, potential, forecast, and similar expressions. When considering forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the risk factors and other cautionary statements in this prospectus.

These forward-looking statements reflect our intentions, plans, expectations, assumptions and beliefs about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside our control. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements include known and unknown risks. Known risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the risk factors and other cautionary statements described under the headings Risk Factors included in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, any subsequently filed Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and any subsequently filed Current Reports on Form 8-K, all of which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

Forward-looking statements may include statements about our:

state and federal legislative and regulatory initiatives that affect cost and investment recovery, have an effect on rate structure, and affect the speed at and degree to which competition enters the natural gas industries;

outcomes of litigation and regulatory investigations, proceedings or inquiries;

weather and other natural phenomena, including the economic, operational and other effects of hurricanes and storms;

the timing and extent of changes in interest rates;

general economic conditions, including the risk of a prolonged economic slowdown or decline, or the risk of delay in a recovery, which can affect the long-term demand for natural gas and related services;

potential effects arising from terrorist attacks and any consequential or other hostilities;

changes in environmental, safety and other laws and regulations;

the development of alternative energy resources;

results of financing efforts, including the ability to obtain financing on favorable terms, which can be affected by various factors, including credit ratings and general market and economic conditions;

increases in the cost of goods and services required to complete capital projects;

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growth in opportunities, including the timing and success of efforts to develop domestic pipeline, storage, gathering, and other related infrastructure projects and the effects of competition;

the performance of natural gas transmission, storage and gathering facilities;

the extent of success in connecting natural gas supplies to transmission and gathering systems and in connecting to expanding gas markets;

the effect of accounting pronouncements issued periodically by accounting standard-setting bodies;

conditions of the capital markets during the periods covered by these forward-looking statements; and

Table of Contents

and the ability to successfully complete merger, acquisition or divestiture plans; regulatory or other limitations imposed as a result of a merger, acquisition or divestiture; and the success of the business following a merger, acquisition or divestiture.

You should read these statements carefully because they discuss our expectations about our future performance, contain projections of our future operating results or our future financial condition, or state other forward-looking information. Before you invest, you should be aware that the occurrence of any of the events described under the headings Risk Factors included in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, any subsequently filed Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and any subsequently filed Current Reports on Form 8-K could substantially harm our business, results of operations and financial condition. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the events described in the forward-looking statements might not occur or might occur to a different extent or at a different time than we have described. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our securities involves risks. You should carefully consider all of the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and additional information which may be incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement in the future as provided under *Where You Can Find More Information*, including our annual reports on Form 10-K and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, including the risk factors described under *Risk Factors* in such reports. This prospectus also contains forward looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Please read *Cautionary Note Regarding 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 elsewhere in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. If any of these risks occur, our business, financial condition or results of operation could be adversely affected.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise indicated to the contrary in an accompanying prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities covered by this prospectus for general partnership purposes, which may include debt repayment, future acquisitions, capital expenditures and additions to working capital.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON UNITS

The Units

The common units are a class of limited partner interests in us. The holders of units are entitled to participate in partnership distributions and exercise the rights or privileges available to limited partners under our partnership agreement. For a description of the rights and privileges of limited partners under our partnership agreement, including voting rights, please read The Partnership Agreement.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Duties. American Stock Transfer & Trust Company serves as registrar and transfer agent for the common units. We will pay all fees charged by the transfer agent for transfers of common units except the following that must be paid by unitholders:

surety bond premiums to replace lost or stolen certificates, taxes and other governmental charges;

special charges for services requested by a common unitholder; and

other similar fees or charges.

There will be no charge to unitholders for disbursements of our cash distributions. We will indemnify the transfer agent, its agents and each of their stockholders, directors, officers and employees against all claims and losses that may arise out of acts performed or omitted for its activities in that capacity, except for any liability due to any gross negligence or intentional misconduct of the indemnified person or entity.

Resignation or Removal. The transfer agent may resign, by notice to us, or be removed by us. The resignation or removal of the transfer agent will become effective upon our appointment of a successor transfer agent and registrar and its acceptance of the appointment. If no successor has been appointed and has accepted the appointment within 30 days after notice of the resignation or removal, our general partner may act as the transfer agent and registrar until a successor is appointed.

Transfer of Common Units

Any transfers of a common unit will not be recorded by the transfer agent or recognized by us unless the transferee executes and delivers a properly completed transfer application. By executing and delivering a transfer application, the transferee of common units:

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

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

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

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

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

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gives the consents, covenants, representations and approvals contained in our partnership agreement; and

certifies:

that the transferee is an individual or is an entity subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by us; or

Table of Contents

that, if the transferee is an entity not subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by us, as in the case, for example, of a mutual fund taxed as a regulated investment company or a partnership, all the entity's owners are subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by us.

An assignee will become a substituted limited partner of our partnership for the transferred common units automatically upon the recording of the transfer on our books and records. Our general partner will cause any unrecorded transfers for which a properly completed and duly executed transfer application has been received to be recorded on our books and records no less frequently than quarterly.

A transferee's broker, agent or nominee may, but is not obligated to, complete, execute and deliver a transfer application. We are entitled to treat the nominee holder of a common unit as the absolute owner. In that case, the beneficial holder's rights are limited solely to those that it has against the nominee holder as a result of any agreement between the beneficial owner and the nominee holder.

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

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

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

will not receive cash distributions;

will not be allocated any of our income, gain, deduction, losses or credits for federal income tax or other tax purposes;

may not receive some federal income tax information or reports furnished to record holders of common units; and

will have no voting rights;

unless the common units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application and certification as to itself and any beneficial holders.

The transferor of common units has a duty to provide the transferee with all information that may be necessary to transfer the common units. The transferor does not have a duty to ensure the execution of the transfer application by the transferee and has no liability or responsibility if the transferee neglects or chooses not to execute and deliver a properly completed transfer application to the transfer agent. Please read "The Partnership Agreement - Status as Limited Partner."

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

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

We will issue debt securities under an indenture between Spectra Energy Partners, LP and a trustee that we will name in the related prospectus supplement. If we offer senior debt securities, we will issue them under a senior indenture. If we issue subordinated debt securities, we will issue them under a subordinated indenture. The term "Trustee" as used in this prospectus refers to the trustee under any of the above indentures. References in this prospectus to an "Indenture" refer to the particular indenture under which Spectra Energy Partners, LP issues a series of debt securities. The debt securities will be governed by the provisions of the related Indenture and those made part of the Indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939.

This description is a summary of the material provisions of the debt securities and the Indentures. We urge you to read the Indentures or the forms of Indentures 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:

will be issued only in fully registered form; and

will be our general obligations.

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

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

whether the debt securities are senior or subordinated debt securities;

the form and title of the debt securities;

the total principal amount of the debt securities;

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

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

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

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

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

any option or conversion provisions;

any optional redemption provisions;

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

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

any changes to or additional Events of Default or covenants; and

any other terms of the debt securities.

Table of Contents

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

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

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

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

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

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

Interest payments on debt securities in certificated form may be made by check mailed to the registered holders 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 other governmental charge.

Any funds paid to the Trustee or any 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.

Events of Default, Remedies and Notice

Events of Default

Unless otherwise specified in a supplement to the Indenture, 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 to comply for 60 days after notice with the other agreements contained in the Indenture, any supplement to the Indenture with respect to that series or any board resolution authorizing the issuance of that series; or

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certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the issuer.

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.

Table of Contents

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 notifies us of the default and such default is not cured within 60 days after receipt of notice.

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

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

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

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

If an Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee will be under no obligation, except as otherwise provided in the Indenture, to exercise any of the rights or powers under the Indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders unless such holders have offered to the Trustee reasonable indemnity or security against any costs, liability or expense. No holder may pursue any remedy with respect to the Indenture or the debt securities of any series, except to enforce the right to receive payment of principal, premium or interest on its own debt securities when due, 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 is inconsistent with such request within such 60-day period.

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

conflicts with law;

is inconsistent with any provision of the Indenture;

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

would involve the Trustee in personal liability.

Notice of Event of Default

Within 30 days after the occurrence of an Event of Default, we are required to give written notice to the Trustee and indicate the status of the default and what action we are taking or proposes to take to cure the default.

Table of Contents

In addition, we are required to deliver to the Trustee, within 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, a compliance 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.

Within 90 days after the occurrence of any default known to it, the Trustee must mail to each holder a notice of the default. Except in the case of a default in the payment of principal, premium 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 supplement or amend the Indenture without the consent of any holder of debt securities to, among other things:

cure any ambiguity, omission, defect or inconsistency;

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

secure the debt securities;

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

in the case of any subordinated debt security, to make any change in the subordination provisions that limits or terminates the benefits applicable to any holder of our Senior Indebtedness;

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 the debt securities of any new series.

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;

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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 a currency other than that stated in the debt security;

in the case of any subordinated debt security, make any change in the subordination provisions that adversely affects the rights of any holder under those provisions;

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;

Table of Contents

release any security that has been granted in respect of the debt securities;

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

make any change in the waiver provisions.

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 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 with certain restrictive provisions of the Indenture; and

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

in the payment of principal, premium 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.

Satisfaction and Discharge

The Indenture will be discharged and will cease to be of further effect as to all outstanding debt securities of any series issued thereunder, when:

(a) either:

(1) all outstanding debt securities of that series that have been authenticated (except lost, stolen or destroyed debt securities that have been replaced or paid and debt securities for whose payment money has theretofore been deposited in trust and thereafter repaid to the issuer) have been delivered to the Trustee for cancellation; or

(2) all outstanding debt securities of that series that have not been 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 and in any case we have irrevocably deposited with the Trustee as trust funds cash, certain U.S. government obligations or a combination thereof, in such amounts as will be sufficient, to pay the entire indebtedness of such debt securities not delivered to the Trustee for cancellation, for principal, premium, if any, and accrued interest to the stated maturity or redemption date;

(b) we have paid or caused to be paid all other sums payable by us under the Indenture with respect to the debt securities of that series; and

(c) we have delivered to the Trustee an accountants' certificate as to the sufficiency of the trust funds, without reinvestment, to pay the entire indebtedness of such debt securities at maturity.

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 our obligations specified in the Indenture, including those:

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.

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 and described in the prospectus supplement applicable to such series, other than as described in such prospectus supplement, and any Event of Default resulting from a failure to observe such covenants.

The legal defeasance option may be exercised notwithstanding a prior exercise of the covenant defeasance option. If the legal defeasance option is exercised, payment of the affected series of debt securities may not be accelerated because of an Event of Default with respect to that series. If the covenant defeasance option is exercised, payment of the affected series of debt securities may not be accelerated because of an Event of Default specified in the fourth bullet point under Events of Default, Remedies and Notice Events of Default above or an Event of Default that is added specifically for such series and described in a prospectus supplement.

In order to exercise either defeasance option, we must:

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

comply with certain other conditions, including that no bankruptcy or default with respect to the issuer has occurred and is continuing 91 days after the deposit in trust; and

deliver to the Trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that holders of the defeased series of debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for Federal income tax purposes as a result of such defeasance and will be subject to Federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such 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 a change in applicable Federal income tax law.

No Personal Liability

Our partners, directors, officers, employees, incorporators and members will not be liable for:

any of our obligations under the debt securities or the Indenture; or

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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 the 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.

Table of Contents

No Protection in the Event of a Change of Control

Unless otherwise set forth in the prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not contain any provisions that protect the holders of the debt securities in the event of our change of control or in the event of a highly leveraged transaction, whether or not such transaction results in our change of control.

Provisions Relating only to the Senior Debt Securities

The senior debt securities will rank equally in right of payment with all of our other unsubordinated debt. The senior debt securities will be effectively subordinated, however, to all of our secured debt to the extent of the value of the collateral for that debt. We will disclose the amount of our secured debt in the prospectus supplement.

Provisions Relating only to the Subordinated Debt Securities

Subordinated Debt Securities Subordinated to Senior Indebtedness

The subordinated debt securities will rank junior in right of payment to all of our Senior Indebtedness. Senior Indebtedness will be defined in a supplemental indenture or authorizing resolutions respecting any issuance of a series of subordinated debt securities, and the definition will be set forth in the prospectus supplement.

Payment Blockages

The subordinated indenture will provide that no payment of principal, interest and any premium on the subordinated debt securities may be made in the event:

we or our property is involved in any voluntary or involuntary liquidation or bankruptcy;

we fail to pay the principal, interest, any premium or any other amounts on any Senior Indebtedness of the issuer within any applicable grace period or the maturity of such Senior Indebtedness is accelerated following any other default, subject to certain limited exceptions set forth in the subordinated indenture; or

any other default on any of our Senior Indebtedness occurs that permits immediate acceleration of its maturity, in which case a payment blockage on the subordinated debt securities will be imposed for a maximum of 179 days at any one time.

No Limitation on Amount of Senior Debt

The subordinated indenture will not limit the amount of Senior Indebtedness that we may incur, unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement.

Book Entry, Delivery and Form

The debt securities of a particular series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global certificates that will be deposited with the Trustee as custodian for The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York (DTC). This means that we will not issue certificates to each holder except in the limited circumstances described below. Instead, one or more global debt securities will be issued to DTC, who will keep a computerized record of its participants (for example, your broker) whose clients have purchased the debt securities. The participant will then keep a record of its clients who purchased the debt securities. Unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for a certificated debt security, a global debt security may not be transferred, except that DTC, its nominees and their successors may transfer a global debt security as a whole to one another.

Table of Contents

Beneficial interests in global debt securities will be shown on, and transfers of global debt securities will be made only through, records maintained by DTC and its participants.

DTC has provided us the following information: DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the United States Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a clearing agency registered under the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds securities that its participants (Direct Participants) deposit with DTC. DTC also records the settlement among Direct Participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through computerized records for Direct Participants accounts. This eliminates the need to exchange certificates. Direct Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations.

DTC's book-entry system is also used by other organizations such as securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that work through a Direct Participant. The rules that apply to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

DTC is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (DTCC). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries.

We will wire all payments on the global debt securities to DTC's nominee. We and the Trustee will treat DTC's nominee as the owner of the global debt 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 debt securities to owners of beneficial interests in the global debt securities.

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

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

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

an Event of Default occurs and DTC notifies the Trustee of its decision to exchange the global debt security for certificated debt securities.

Governing Law

Each Indenture and all of the debt securities will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

The Trustee

We will enter into each Indenture with a Trustee that is qualified to act under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, and with any other trustee chosen by us and appointed in a supplemental indenture for a

Table of Contents

particular series of debt securities. Unless we otherwise specify in the applicable prospectus supplement, the initial Trustee for each series of debt securities will be Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. We may maintain a banking relationship in the ordinary course of business with our Trustee and one or more of its affiliates.

Resignation or Removal of Trustee

If the Trustee has or acquires a conflicting interest within the meaning of the Trust Indenture Act after a default has occurred and is continuing, the Trustee must either eliminate its conflicting interest within 90 days, apply to the SEC for permission to continue as trustee or resign, to the extent and in the manner provided by, and subject to the provisions of, the Trust Indenture Act and the applicable indenture. Any resignation will require the appointment of a successor trustee under the applicable indenture in accordance with the terms and conditions of such indenture.

The Trustee may resign or be removed by us with respect to one or more series of debt securities and a successor Trustee may be appointed to act with respect to any such series. The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of any series may remove the Trustee with respect to the debt securities of such series.

Limitations on Trustee if it is Our Creditor

Each indenture will contain certain limitations on the right of the Trustee, in the event that it becomes a creditor of us, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise.

Annual Trustee Report to Holders of Debt Securities

The Trustee is required to submit an annual report to the holders of the debt securities regarding, among other things, the Trustee's eligibility to serve as such, the priority of the Trustee's claims regarding certain advances made by it, and any action taken by the Trustee materially affecting the debt securities.

Certificates and Opinions to be Furnished to Trustee

Each indenture will provide that, in addition to other certificates or opinions that may be specifically required by other provisions of the indenture, every application by us for action by the Trustee shall be accompanied by a certificate of certain of our officers and an opinion of counsel (who may be our counsel) stating that, in the opinion of the signers, all conditions precedent to such action have been complied with by us.

Table of Contents

PROVISIONS OF OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT RELATING TO CASH DISTRIBUTIONS

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

Distributions of Available Cash

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

Definition of Available Cash. Available cash, for any quarter, consists of all cash on hand at the end of that quarter:

less the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner 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, if our general partner so determines, all or a portion of cash on hand on the date of determination of available cash for the quarter.

Minimum Quarterly Distribution. We will distribute to the holders of common units on a quarterly basis at least the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.30 per unit, or \$1.20 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. However, there is no guarantee that we will pay the minimum quarterly distribution on the units in any quarter. Even if our cash distribution policy is not modified or revoked, the amount of distributions paid under our policy and the decision to make any distribution is determined by our general partner, taking into consideration the terms of our partnership agreement. 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 agreement.

General Partner Interest and Incentive Distribution Rights. Our general partner is entitled to 2% of all quarterly distributions since inception that we make prior to our liquidation. This general partner interest is represented by 1,966,081 general partner units. Our general partner has the right, but not the obligation, to contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its current general partner interest. The general partner's initial 2% interest in these distributions will be reduced if we issue additional units in the future and our general partner does not contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its 2% general partner interest.

Our general partner also currently holds incentive distribution rights that entitle it to receive increasing percentages, up to a maximum of 50%, of the cash we distribute from operating surplus (as defined below) in excess of \$0.345 per unit per quarter. The maximum distribution of 50% includes distributions paid to our general partner on its 2% general partner interest and assumes that our general partner maintains its general partner interest at 2%. The maximum distribution of 50% does not include any distributions that our general partner may receive on units that it owns. Please read [General Partner Interest and Incentive Distribution Rights](#) for additional information.

Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus

General. All cash distributed to unitholders will be characterized as either operating surplus or capital surplus. Our partnership agreement requires that we distribute available cash from operating surplus differently than available cash from capital surplus.

Table of Contents

Operating Surplus. We define operating surplus in the partnership agreement and for any period it generally means:

an operating surplus basket equal to the sum of (i) two times the amount needed to pay the minimum quarterly distribution on all of our units (including the general partner units) and (ii) two times the amount in excess of the minimum quarterly distribution needed for any quarter to pay a distribution on our common units at the same per-unit amount as was distributed on our common units in excess of the minimum quarterly distribution in the immediately preceding quarter, provided the amount in (ii) will be deemed to be operating surplus only to the extent that the distribution paid in respect of such amounts is paid on our common units; plus

all of our cash receipts after the closing of our initial public offering, excluding cash from interim capital transactions, as defined below under Capital Surplus ; less

all of our operating expenditures after the closing of our initial public offering, excluding the repayment of borrowings, but including maintenance capital expenditures (including capital contributions to Gulfstream and Market Hub to be used by them for maintenance capital expenditures); less

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

We define operating expenditures in the partnership agreement, and it generally means all of our expenditures, including, but not limited to, taxes, reimbursement of expenses incurred by our general partner on our behalf, non-pro rata purchases of units (other than those made with the proceeds of an interim capital transaction (as defined below)), interest payments, payments made in the ordinary course of business under interest rate hedge contracts and commodity hedge contracts and maintenance capital expenditures, provided that operating expenditures will not include:

payments of principal of and premium on indebtedness;

expansion capital expenditures;

payment of transaction expenses (including taxes) related to interim capital transactions;

distributions to our partners; and

non-pro rata purchases of units of any class made with the proceeds of an interim capital transaction.

Maintenance capital expenditures represent capital expenditures made to replace partially or fully depreciated assets, to maintain the existing operating capacity of our assets and to extend their useful lives, or other capital expenditures that are incurred in maintaining existing system volumes and related asset base. Expansion capital expenditures represent capital expenditures made to increase the long-term operating capacity or asset base, whether through construction or acquisition. Expansion capital expenditures include contributions made to Gulfstream and Market Hub to be used by them for expansion capital expenditures. Costs for repairs and minor renewals to maintain facilities in operating condition and that do not extend the useful life of existing assets will be treated as operations and maintenance expenses as we incur them. Our partnership agreement provides that our general partner, with the concurrence of the conflicts committee, determines how to allocate a capital expenditure for the acquisition or expansion of our assets between maintenance capital expenditures and expansion capital expenditures.

Capital Surplus. We also define capital surplus in the partnership agreement and in Characterization of Cash Distributions below, and it will generally be generated only by the following, which we call interim capital transactions :

borrowings;

sales of our equity and debt securities;

Table of Contents

sales or other dispositions 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 retirement or replacement of assets;

the termination of interest rate hedge contracts or commodity hedge contracts prior to the termination date specified therein;

capital contributions received; and

corporate reorganizations or restructurings.

Characterization of Cash Distributions. Our partnership agreement requires that we treat all available cash distributed as coming from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed since the closing of our initial public offering equals the operating surplus as of the most recent date of determination of available cash. Our partnership agreement requires that we treat any amount distributed in excess of operating surplus, regardless of its source, as capital surplus. 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 this amount of cash we receive in the future from interim capital transactions, that would otherwise be distributed as capital surplus. We do not anticipate that we will make any distributions from capital surplus. The characterization of cash distributions as operating surplus versus capital surplus does not result in a different impact to unitholders for federal tax purposes. Please read **Material Tax Consequences** **Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership** **Treatment of Distributions** for a discussion of the tax treatment of cash distributions.

Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus

Our partnership agreement requires that we 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 **General Partner Interest and Incentive Distribution Rights** below.

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

General Partner Interest and Incentive Distribution Rights

Our partnership agreement provides that our general partner initially will be entitled to 2% of all distributions that we make prior to our liquidation. Our general partner has the right, but not the obligation, to contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its 2% general partner interest if we issue additional units. Our general partner's 2% interest, and the percentage of our cash distributions to which it is entitled, will be proportionately reduced if we issue additional units in the future and our general partner does not contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us in order to maintain its 2% general partner interest. Our general partner will be entitled to make a capital contribution in order to maintain its 2% general partner interest in the form of the contribution to us of common units based on the current market value of the contributed common units.

Incentive distribution rights represent the right to receive an increasing percentage (13%, 23% and 48%) of quarterly distributions of available cash from operating surplus after the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels have been achieved. Our general partner currently holds the incentive distribution rights, but may transfer these rights separately from its general partner interest, subject to restrictions in the partnership agreement.

Table of Contents

The following discussion assumes that the general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and continues to own the incentive distribution rights.

If for any quarter:

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

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

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

first, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.345 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 \$0.375 per unit for that quarter (the second target distribution);

third, 75% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.45 per unit for that quarter (the third target distribution); and

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

General Partner's Right to Reset Incentive Distribution Levels

Our general partner, as the holder of our incentive distribution rights, has the right under our partnership agreement to elect to relinquish the right to receive incentive distribution payments based on the initial cash target distribution levels and to reset, at higher levels, the minimum quarterly distribution amount and cash target distribution levels upon which the incentive distribution payments to our general partner would be set. Our general partner's right to reset the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels upon which the incentive distributions payable to our general partner are based may be exercised, without approval of our unitholders or the conflicts committee of our general partner, at any time when we have made cash distributions to the holders of the incentive distribution rights at the highest level of incentive distribution for each of the prior four consecutive fiscal quarters. The reset minimum quarterly distribution amount and target distribution levels will be higher than the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels prior to the reset such that our general partner will not receive any incentive distributions under the reset target distribution levels until cash distributions per unit following this event increase as described below. We anticipate that our general partner would exercise this reset right in order to facilitate acquisitions or internal growth projects that would otherwise not be sufficiently accretive to cash distributions per common unit, taking into account the existing levels of incentive distribution payments being made to our general partner.

In connection with the resetting of the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels and the corresponding relinquishment by our general partner of incentive distribution payments based on the target cash distributions prior to the reset, our general partner will be entitled to receive a number of newly issued Class B units based on a predetermined formula described below that takes into account the cash parity value of the average cash distributions related to the incentive distribution rights received by our general partner for the two quarters prior to the reset event as compared to the average cash distributions per common unit during this period. We will also issue an additional amount of general partner units in order to maintain the general partner's ownership interest in us relative to the issuance of the Class B units.

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The number of Class B units that our general partner would be entitled to receive from us in connection with a resetting of the minimum quarterly distribution amount and the target distribution levels then in effect would be equal to (x) the average amount of cash distributions received by our general partner in respect of its incentive

Table of Contents

distribution rights during the two consecutive fiscal quarters ended immediately prior to the date of such reset election divided by (y) the average of the amount of cash distributed per common unit during each of these two quarters. Each Class B unit will be convertible into one common unit at the election of the holder of the Class B unit at any time following the first anniversary of the issuance of these Class B units. The issuance of Class B units will be conditioned upon approval of the listing or admission for trading of the common units into which the Class B units are convertible by the national securities exchange on which the common units are then listed or admitted for trading. Each Class B unit will receive the same level of distribution as a common unit on a pari passu basis with other unitholders.

Following a reset election by our general partner, the minimum quarterly distribution amount will be reset to an amount equal to the average cash distribution amount per common unit for the two fiscal quarters immediately preceding the reset election (such amount is referred to as the reset minimum quarterly distribution) and the target distribution levels will be reset to be correspondingly higher such that we would distribute all of our available cash from operating surplus for each quarter thereafter as follows:

first, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives an amount equal to 115% of the reset minimum quarter distribution for that quarter;

second, 85% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives an amount per unit equal to 125% of the reset minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter;

third, 75% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives an amount per unit equal to 150% of the reset minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter; and

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

Distributions from Capital Surplus

How Distributions from Capital Surplus Will Be Made. Our partnership agreement requires that we make distributions of available cash from capital surplus, if any, in the following manner:

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

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