

Edgar Filing: Andersons, Inc. - Form 10-K

Andersons, Inc.

Form 10-K

February 27, 2019

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Accelerated FilerAndersons,

Inc.NoYes915600093250000.62500.6450.6656300000063000000294300002943000017040000034920000.04940.0360.04460

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ande:segment ande:security ande:business

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

✓ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018

Commission file number 000-20557

THE ANDERSONS, INC.

(Exact name of the registrant as specified in its charter)

OHIO 34-1562374
(State of incorporation (I.R.S. Employer
or organization) Identification No.)
1947 Briarfield Boulevard, Maumee, Ohio 43537
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)
Registrant's telephone number, including area code (419) 893-5050

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Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: Common Shares [Nasdaq Global Market]

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

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

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

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated Filer

Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. Yes No

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

The aggregate market value of the registrant's voting stock which may be voted by persons other than affiliates of the registrant was \$914.8 million as of June 30, 2018, computed by reference to the last sales price for such stock on that date as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market.

The registrant had approximately 32.5 million common shares outstanding, no par value, at February 15, 2019.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on May 10, 2019, are incorporated by reference into Part III (Items 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14) of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The Proxy Statement will be filed with the Commission on or about March 15, 2019.

THE ANDERSONS, INC.

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Part I.

Item 1. Business

Company Overview

The Andersons, Inc. (the "Company") is a diversified company rooted in agriculture. Founded in Maumee, Ohio in 1947, the Company conducts business across North America in the grain, ethanol, plant nutrient and rail sectors.

Segment Descriptions

The Company's operations are classified into four reportable business segments: Grain, Ethanol, Plant Nutrient, and Rail. Each of these segments is organized based upon the nature of products and services offered. See Note 14 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 for information regarding business segments.

Grain Group

The Grain Group primarily operates grain elevators in various states in the U.S. Corn Belt. Income is earned on grain bought and sold or "put thru" the elevator, grain that is purchased and conditioned for resale, and space income. Space income consists of appreciation or depreciation in the basis value of grain held and represents the difference between the cash price of a commodity in one of the Company's facilities and an exchange traded futures price ("basis"); appreciation or depreciation between the future exchange contract months ("spread"); and grain stored for others upon which storage fees are earned. The Grain business also offers a number of unique grain marketing, risk management and corn origination services to its customers and affiliated ethanol facilities for which it collects fees.

The Company has a lease and marketing agreement with Cargill, Incorporated for Cargill's Maumee and Toledo, Ohio grain handling and storage facilities. As part of the agreement, Cargill holds marketing rights to grain in the Cargill-owned facilities as well as the adjacent Company-owned facilities in Maumee and Toledo. As of December 31, 2018, the lease of the Cargill-owned facilities covers approximately 6%, or 8.8 million bushels, of the Company's total storage space.

Grain prices are not predetermined, so sales are negotiated by the Company's merchandising staff. The principal grains sold by the Company are corn, soybeans and wheat. Approximately 86% of grain sales by the Company in 2018 were purchased by U.S. grain processors and feeders, and approximately 14% were exported. Most of the Company's exported grain sales are made through intermediaries while some grain is shipped directly to foreign countries, mainly Canada. The Company ships grain from its facilities by rail, truck, or boat. Rail shipments are made primarily to grain processors and feeders with some rail shipments made to exporters on the Gulf of Mexico or east coast. Boat shipments are from the Port of Toledo. In addition, grain is transported via truck for direct ship transactions in which producers sell grain to the Company, but have it delivered directly to the end user.

The Company's grain operations rely principally on forward purchase contracts with producers, dealers and commercial elevators to ensure an adequate supply of grain to the Company's facilities throughout the year. The Company makes grain purchases at prices referenced to regulated commodity exchanges.

The Company competes in the sale of grain with other public and private grain brokers, elevator operators and farmer owned cooperative elevators. Some of the Company's competitors are also its customers. Competition is based primarily on price, service and reliability. Because the Company generally buys in smaller lots, its competition for the purchase of grain is generally local or regional in scope, although there are some large national and international

companies that maintain regional grain purchase and storage facilities. Significant portions of grain bushels purchased and sold are made using forward contracts.

The grain handling business is seasonal in nature in that the largest portion of the principal grains are harvested and delivered from the farm and commercial elevators in July, October and November although a significant portion of the principal grains are bought, sold and handled throughout the year.

Fixed price purchase and sale commitments as well as grain held in inventory expose the Company to risks related to adverse changes in market prices. Grain prices are typically comprised of two components, futures prices on regulated commodity exchanges and local basis adjustments. The Company manages the futures price risk by entering into exchange-traded futures and option contracts with regulated commodity exchanges. The contracts are economic hedges of price risk but are not

designated or accounted for as hedging instruments. These regulated commodity exchanges maintain futures markets for the grains merchandised by the Company. Futures prices are determined by worldwide supply and demand.

The Company's grain risk management practices are designed to reduce the risk of changing commodity prices. In that regard, such practices also limit potential gains from further changes in market prices. The Company has policies that provide key controls over its risk management practices. These policies include a description of the objectives of the programs and review of daily position limits by key management outside of the trading function along with other internal controls. The Company monitors current market conditions and may expand or reduce the purchasing program in response to changes in those conditions. In addition, the Company monitors its counterparties on a regular basis for credit worthiness, defaults and non-delivery.

Purchases of grain can be made the day the grain is delivered to a terminal or via a forward contract made prior to actual delivery. Sales of grain generally are made by contract for delivery in a future period. When the Company purchases grain at a fixed price or at a price where a component of the purchase price is fixed via reference to a futures price on a regulated commodity exchange, it also enters into an offsetting sale of a futures contract on the regulated commodity exchange. Similarly, when the Company sells grain at a fixed price, the sale is offset with the purchase of a futures contract on the regulated commodity exchange. At the close of business each day, inventory and open purchase and sale contracts as well as open futures and option positions are marked-to-market. Gains and losses in the value of the Company's ownership positions due to changing market prices are netted with, and generally offset in the statement of operations by, losses and gains in the value of the Company's futures positions.

When a futures contract is entered into, an initial margin deposit must be sent to the regulated commodity exchange. The amount of the margin deposit is set by the regulated commodity exchange and varies by commodity. If the market price of a futures contract moves in a direction that is adverse to the Company's position, an additional margin deposit, called a maintenance margin, is required by regulated commodity exchanges. Subsequent price changes could require additional maintenance margin deposits or result in the return of maintenance margin deposits by the regulated commodity exchange. Significant increases in market prices, such as those that occur when grain supplies are affected by unfavorable weather conditions and/or when increases in demand occur, can have an effect on the Company's liquidity and, as a result, require it to maintain appropriate short-term lines of credit. The Company may utilize regulated commodity exchange option contracts to limit its exposure to potential required margin deposits in the event of a rapidly rising market.

As of December 31, 2018, the Company owned 33% of the equity in Lansing Trade Group LLC ("LTG"). LTG is largely focused on the movement of physical commodities, including grain and ethanol, and is exposed to some of the same risks as the Company's grain and ethanol businesses. LTG also trades in commodities that the Company's grain and ethanol businesses do not trade in, some of which are not exchange traded. This investment provides the Company with further opportunity to diversify and complement its income through activity outside of its traditional product and geographic regions. This investment is accounted for under the equity method. The Company, along with LTG, also established joint ventures and purchased a grain and food-bean handler and agronomy input provider with 12 locations across Ontario, Canada and Minnesota. These investments are accounted for under the equity method. The Company periodically enters into transactions with these joint ventures as disclosed in Note 13 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8. In the fourth quarter of 2018, the company announced it entered into an agreement to purchase the remaining equity (not currently owned by the Company) of LTG. The transaction closing was effective January 1, 2019 and will result in the consolidation of LTG and Thompsons and related entities, as they are currently jointly owned by the Company and LTG, in 2019.

Ethanol Group

The Ethanol Group owns 100% of an ethanol plant that is located in Iowa which has nameplate capacity of 55 million gallons. The Group also has ownership interests in three limited liability companies (“the ethanol LLCs” or “LLCs”), each of which owns an ethanol plant that is operated by the Company's Ethanol Group. The plants are located in Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio and have combined nameplate capacity of 330 million gallons of ethanol. The Group purchases and sells ethanol, offers facility operations, risk management, and ethanol and corn oil marketing services to the ethanol plants it invests in and operates.

The Company holds a 55% interest in The Andersons Albion Ethanol LLC (“TAAE”) and a 39% interest in The Andersons Clymers Ethanol LLC (“TACE”). On January 1, 2017, The Andersons Ethanol Investment LLC (“TAEI”) was merged with and into The Andersons Marathon Ethanol LLC (“TAME”). The Company had owned 66% of TAEI, which, in turn, had owned 50% of TAME. Pursuant to the merger, the Company’s ownership units in TAEI were canceled and converted into ownership units in TAME. As a result, the Company now directly owns 33% of the outstanding ownership units of TAME. All operating ethanol LLC investments are accounted for using the equity method of accounting.

The Company has a management agreement with each of the LLCs. As part of these agreements, the Ethanol Group runs the day-to-day operations of the plants and provides all administrative functions. The Company is compensated for these services based on a fixed cost plus an indexed annual increase determined by a consumer price index. Additionally, the Company has entered into agreements with each of the LLCs under which it has the exclusive right to act as supplier for 100% of the corn used by the LLCs in the production of ethanol. For this service, the Company receives a fee for each bushel of corn sold. The Company has entered into marketing agreements with each of the ethanol LLCs. Under the ethanol marketing agreements, the Company purchases most, if not all, of the ethanol produced by the LLCs at the same price it will resell the ethanol to external customers. The Ethanol Group receives a fee for each gallon of ethanol sold to external customers sourced from these LLCs. Under the distillers dried grains ("DDG") and corn oil marketing agreements, the Company markets the DDG and corn oil and receives a fee on units sold.

The Company also owns 51% of ELEMENT, LLC ("ELEMENT") and ICM, Inc. owns the remaining 49% interest. ELEMENT is constructing a 70 million-gallon-per-year bio-refinery. ICM, Inc. will operate the facility under a management contract and manage the initial construction of the facility, while the Company will provide corn origination, ethanol marketing, and risk management services. The plant is expected to be operational in 2019.

Plant Nutrient Group

The Plant Nutrient Group is a leading manufacturer, distributor and retailer of agricultural and related plant nutrients, corncob-based products, and pelleted lime and gypsum products in the U.S. Corn Belt and Puerto Rico. The Group provides warehousing, packaging and manufacturing services to basic nutrient producers and other distributors. The Group also manufactures and distributes a variety of industrial products throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico including nitrogen reagents for air pollution control systems used in coal-fired power plants, and water treatment and dust abatement products.

In its plant nutrient businesses, the Company competes with regional and local cooperatives, wholesalers and retailers, predominantly publicly owned manufacturers and privately-owned retailers, wholesalers and importers. Some of these competitors are also suppliers and have considerably larger resources than the Company. Competition in the nutrient business is based largely on depth of product offering, price, location and service. Sales and warehouse shipments of agricultural nutrients are heaviest in the spring and fall.

Wholesale Nutrients - The Wholesale Nutrients business manufactures, stores, and distributes dry and liquid agricultural nutrients, and pelleted lime and gypsum products annually. The major nutrient products sold by the business principally contain nitrogen, phosphate, potassium and sulfur. Product lines include primary nutrients which are typically bought and sold as commodities and specialty products which support more sustainable farming practices and command higher margins. The distribution and sales channels for both types of nutrients are shared within the Wholesale Nutrients business.

Farm Centers - The Farm Centers offer a variety of essential crop nutrients, crop protection chemicals and seed products in addition to application and agronomic services to commercial and family farmers. Soil and tissue sampling along with global satellite assisted services provide for pinpointing crop or soil deficiencies and prescriptive agronomic advice is provided to farmers.

Cob Products - Corncob-based products are manufactured for a variety of uses including laboratory animal bedding and private-label cat litter, as well as absorbents, blast cleaners, carriers and polishers. The products are distributed throughout the United States and Canada and into Europe and Asia. The principal sources for corncobs are seed corn producers.

Lawn Products - Proprietary professional lawn care products are produced for the golf course and professional turf care markets, serving both U.S. and international customers. These products are sold both directly and through distributors to golf courses and lawn service applicators. The Company also produces and sells fertilizer and control products to various markets.

Rail Group

The Company's Rail Group leases, repairs, and sells various types of railcars, locomotives and barges. In addition, the Rail Group offers fleet management services to private railcar owners.

The Company has a diversified fleet of car types (boxcars, gondolas, covered and open top hopper cars, tank cars and pressure differential cars), locomotives and barges serving a broad customer base. The Company operates in both the new and used car markets, allowing the Company to diversify its fleet both in terms of car types, industries and age of cars, as well as repairing and refurbishing used cars for specific markets and customers.

A significant portion of the railcars, locomotives and barges managed by the Company are included on the balance sheet as long-lived assets. The others are either in off-balance sheet operating leases (with the Company leasing assets from financial intermediaries and leasing those same assets to the end-users) or non-recourse arrangements (in which the Company is not subject to any lease arrangement related to the assets but provides management services to the owner of the assets). The Company generally holds purchase options on most assets owned by financial intermediaries. We are under contract to provide maintenance services for many of the Rail Group assets that we own or manage. Refer to the Off-Balance Sheet Transactions section of Management's Discussion and Analysis for a breakdown of our railcar, locomotive and barge positions at December 31, 2018.

In the case of the Company's off-balance sheet Rail Group assets, the Company's risk management philosophy is to match-fund the lease commitments where possible. Match-funding (in relation to lease transactions) means matching the terms of the financial intermediary funding arrangement with the lease terms of the customer in which the Company is both lessee and sublessor. If the Company is unable to match-fund, it will attempt to negotiate an early buyout provision within the funding arrangement to match the underlying customer lease. The Company does not attempt to match-fund lease commitments for Rail Group assets that are on its balance sheet.

Competition for marketing and fleet maintenance services is based primarily on price, service ability, and access to both used equipment and third-party financing. Repair facility competition is based primarily on price, quality and location.

Other

Our "Other" activities include corporate income and expense and cost for functions that provide support and services to the operating segments. The results include expenses and benefits not allocated to the operating segments, including a portion of our ERP project. The results of our former retail business, which was closed in 2017, are also included in "Other" activities.

Employees

The Andersons offers a broad range of full-time and part-time career opportunities. Each position in the Company is important to its success, and the Company recognizes the worth and dignity of every individual. The Company strives to treat each person with respect and utilize his or her unique talents. At December 31, 2018, the Company had 1,802 full-time and 56 part-time or seasonal employees.

Government Regulation

Grain sold by the Company must conform to official grade standards imposed under a federal system of grain grading and inspection administered by the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA").

The production levels, markets and prices of the grains that the Company merchandises are affected by United States government programs, which include acreage control and price support programs of the USDA. In regard to our investments in ethanol production facilities, the U.S. government has mandated a ten percent blend for motor fuel gasoline sold.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") has developed bioterrorism prevention regulations for food facilities, which require that the Company registers its grain operations with the FDA, provide prior notice of any imports of food or other agricultural commodities coming into the United States and maintain records to be made available upon request that identifies the immediate previous sources and immediate subsequent recipients of its grain commodities.

The Company, like other companies engaged in similar businesses, is subject to a multitude of federal, state and local environmental protection laws and regulations including, but not limited to, laws and regulations relating to air quality, water quality, pesticides and hazardous materials. The provisions of these various regulations could require modifications of certain of the Company's existing facilities and could restrict the expansion of future facilities or significantly increase the cost of their operations. Compliance with environmental laws and regulations did not materially affect the Company's earnings or competitive position in 2018.

In addition, the Company continues to assess the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") and has concluded that the Company is not a major swap dealer or major swap participant. The Company continues to monitor developments in the law, including the regulation of swaps and derivatives.

Available Information

The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports are available on the Company's website soon after filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company's website address is <http://www.andersonsinc.com>. The public may read and copy any materials the Company files with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. These reports are also available at the SEC's website: <http://www.sec.gov>.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Our operations are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in this Form 10-K and could have a material adverse impact on our financial results. These risks can be impacted by factors beyond our control as well as by errors and omissions on our part. The following risk factors should be read carefully in connection with evaluating our business and the forward-looking statements contained elsewhere in this Form 10-K.

Certain of our business segments are affected by the supply and demand of commodities and are sensitive to factors outside of our control. Adverse price movements could negatively affect our profitability and results of operations.

Our Grain, Ethanol and Plant Nutrient businesses buy, sell and hold inventories of agricultural input and output commodities, some of which are readily traded on commodity futures exchanges. Unfavorable weather conditions, both local and worldwide, as well as other factors beyond our control, can affect the supply and demand of these commodities and expose us to liquidity pressures to finance hedges in the grain business in rapidly rising markets. In our Plant Nutrient business, changes in the supply and demand of these commodities can also affect the value of inventories that we hold, as well as the price of raw materials as we are unable to effectively hedge these commodities. Increased costs of inventory and prices of raw material would decrease our profit margins and adversely affect our results of operations.

Corn - The principal raw material that the ethanol LLCs use to produce ethanol and co-products is corn. As a result, an increase in the price of corn in the absence of a corresponding increase in petroleum-based fuel prices will typically decrease ethanol margins thus adversely affecting financial results in the ethanol LLCs. At certain levels, corn prices may make ethanol uneconomical to produce for fuel markets. The price of corn is influenced by weather conditions and other factors affecting crop yields, shift in acreage allocated to corn versus other major crops and general economic and regulatory factors. These factors include government policies and subsidies with respect to agriculture and international trade, and global and local demand and supply. The significance and relative effect of these factors on the price of corn is difficult to predict. Any event that tends to negatively affect the supply of corn, such as adverse weather or crop disease, could increase corn prices and potentially harm the income generated from our investments in ethanol LLCs. In addition, we may also have difficulty, from time to time, in physically sourcing corn on economical terms due to supply shortages. High costs or shortages could require us to suspend ethanol operations until corn is available on economical terms, which would have an adverse effect on operating results.

Grains - While we attempt to manage the risk associated with commodity price changes for our grain inventory positions with derivative instruments, including purchase and sale contracts, we are unable to offset 100% of the price risk of each transaction due to timing, availability of futures and options contracts and third-party credit risk. Furthermore, there is a risk that the derivatives we employ will not be effective in offsetting all of the risks that we are trying to manage. This can happen when the derivative and the underlying value of grain inventories and purchase and sale contracts are not perfectly matched. Our grain derivatives, for example, do not perfectly correlate with the basis component of our grain inventory and contracts. (Basis is defined as the difference between the local cash price of a

commodity and the corresponding exchange-traded futures price.) Differences can reflect time periods, locations or product forms. Although the basis component is smaller and generally less volatile than the futures component of our grain market price, basis moves on a large grain position can significantly impact the profitability of the Grain business.

Our futures, options and over-the-counter contracts are subject to margin calls. If there are large movements in the commodities market, we could be required to post significant levels of margin deposits, which would impact our liquidity. There is no assurance that the efforts we have taken to mitigate the impact of the volatility of the prices of commodities upon which we rely will be successful and any sudden change in the price of these commodities could have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Natural gas - We rely on third parties for our supply of natural gas, which is consumed in the drying of wet grain, manufacturing of certain lawn products, pelleted lime and gypsum, and manufacturing of ethanol within the LLCs. The prices

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for and availability of natural gas are subject to market conditions. These market conditions often are affected by factors beyond our control such as higher prices resulting from colder than average weather and overall economic conditions. Significant disruptions in the supply of natural gas could impair the operations of the ethanol facilities. Furthermore, increases in natural gas prices or changes in our natural gas costs relative to natural gas costs paid by competitors may adversely affect future results of operations and financial position.

Gasoline and oil - We market ethanol as a fuel additive to reduce vehicle emissions from gasoline, as an octane enhancer to improve the octane rating of gasoline with which it is blended and as a substitute for petroleum-based gasoline. As a result, ethanol prices will be influenced by the supply and demand for gasoline and oil and our future results of operations and financial position may be adversely affected if gasoline and oil demand or price changes.

Potash, phosphate and nitrogen - Raw materials used by the Plant Nutrient business include potash, phosphate and nitrogen, for which prices can be volatile and are driven by global and local supply and demand factors. Significant increases in the price of these commodities may result in lower customer demand and higher than optimal inventory levels. In contrast, reductions in the price of these commodities may create lower of cost or net realizable value adjustments to inventories.

Some of our business segments operate in highly regulated industries. Changes in government regulations or trade association policies could adversely affect our results of operations.

Many of our business segments are subject to government regulation and regulation by certain private sector associations, compliance with which can impose significant costs on our business. Other regulations are applicable generally to all our businesses and corporate functions, including, without limitation, those promulgated under the Internal Revenue Code, the Affordable Care Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) and other employment and health care related laws, federal and state securities laws, and the US Patriot Act. Failure to comply with such regulations can result in additional costs, fines or criminal action.

A significant part of our operations is regulated by environmental laws and regulations, including those governing the labeling, use, storage, discharge and disposal of hazardous materials. Because we use and handle hazardous substances in our businesses, changes in environmental requirements or an unanticipated significant adverse environmental event could have an adverse effect on our business. We cannot assure that we have been, or will at all times be, in compliance with all environmental requirements, or that we will not incur costs or liabilities in connection with these requirements. Private parties, including current and former employees, could bring personal injury or other claims against us due to the presence of, or exposure to, hazardous substances used, stored or disposed of by us, or contained in our products. We are also exposed to residual risk because some of the facilities and land which we have acquired may have environmental liabilities arising from their prior use. In addition, changes to environmental regulations may require us to modify our existing plant and processing facilities and could significantly increase the cost of those operations.

Grain and Ethanol businesses - In our Grain and Ethanol businesses, agricultural production and trade flows can be affected by government programs and legislation. Production levels, markets and prices of the grains we merchandise can be affected by U.S. government programs, which include acreage controls and price support programs administered by the USDA and required levels of ethanol in gasoline through the Renewable Fuel Standards as administered by the EPA. Other examples of government policies that can have an impact on our business include tariffs, duties, subsidies, import and export restrictions and outright embargoes. Because a portion of our grain sales are to exporters, the imposition of export restrictions and other foreign countries' regulations could limit our sales opportunities and create additional credit risk associated with export brokers if shipments are rejected at their destination. In particular, the imposition of new tariffs or uncertainty around future tariff levels can cause significant fluctuations in the futures and basis levels of agricultural commodities, impacting our earnings.

The compliance burden and impact on our operations and profitability as a result of the enactment of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and related regulations have imposed additional regulatory tasks which took effect in 2014, although the full burden of the Act is not yet fully-known as some areas of regulatory rule making are not yet completed. These efforts to change the regulation of financial markets may subject users of derivatives to extensive oversight and regulation by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Such initiatives could impose significant additional costs on us, including operating and compliance costs, and could materially affect the availability, as well as the cost and terms, of certain transactions. We will continue to monitor these developments. Any of these matters could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations and prospects.

Rail - Our Rail business is subject to regulation by the American Association of Railroads and the Federal Railroad Administration. These agencies regulate rail operations with respect to health and safety matters. New regulatory rulings could negatively impact financial results through higher maintenance costs or reduced economic value of railcar assets.

The Rail business is also subject to risks associated with the demands and restrictions of the Class I railroads, a group of rail companies owning a high percentage of the existing rail lines. These companies exercise a high degree of control over whether private railcars can be allowed on their lines and may reject certain railcars or require maintenance or improvements to the railcars. This presents risk and uncertainty for our Rail business and it can increase maintenance costs. In addition, a shift in the railroads' strategy to investing in new rail cars and improvements to existing railcars, instead of investing in locomotives and infrastructure, could adversely impact our business by causing increased competition and creating an oversupply of railcars. Our rail fleet consists of a range of railcar types (boxcars, gondolas, covered and open top hoppers, tank cars and pressure differential cars) and locomotives. However, a large concentration of a particular type of railcar could expose us to risk if demand were to decrease for that railcar type. Failure on our part to identify and assess risks and uncertainties such as these could negatively impact our business.

Demand for rail cars closely follows general economic activity and may be adversely affected by recession or general economic slowdowns.

Plant Nutrient - Our Plant Nutrient business manufactures certain agricultural nutrients and uses potentially hazardous materials. All products containing pesticides, fungicides and herbicides must be registered with the EPA and state regulatory bodies before they can be sold. The inability to obtain or the cancellation of such registrations could have an adverse impact on our business. In the past, regulations governing the use and registration of these materials have required us to adjust the raw material content of our products and make formulation changes. Future regulatory changes may have similar consequences. Regulatory agencies, such as the EPA, may at any time reassess the safety of our products based on new scientific knowledge or other factors. If it were determined that any of our products were no longer considered to be safe, it could result in the amendment or withdrawal of existing approvals, which, in turn, could result in a loss of revenue, cause our inventory to become obsolete or give rise to potential lawsuits against us. Consequently, changes in existing and future government or trade association policies may restrict our ability to do business and cause our financial results to suffer.

We are required to carry significant amounts of inventory across all of our businesses. If a substantial portion of our inventory becomes damaged or obsolete, its value would decrease, and our profit margins would suffer.

We are exposed to the risk of a decrease in the value of our inventories due to a variety of circumstances in all of our businesses. For example, within our Grain and Ethanol businesses, there is the risk that the quality of our grain inventory could deteriorate due to damage, moisture, insects, disease or foreign material. If the quality of our grain were to deteriorate below an acceptable level, the value of our inventory could decrease significantly. In our Plant Nutrient business, planted acreage, and consequently the volume of fertilizer and crop protection products applied, is partially dependent upon government programs and the producer's perception of demand. Technological advances in agriculture, such as genetically engineered seeds that resist disease and insects, or that meet certain nutritional requirements, could also affect the demand for our crop nutrients and crop protection products. Either of these factors could render some of our inventory obsolete or reduce its value. Within our rail repair business, major design improvements to loading, unloading and transporting of certain products can render existing (especially old) equipment obsolete.

Our substantial indebtedness could negatively affect our financial condition, decrease our liquidity and impair our ability to operate the business.

If cash on hand is insufficient to pay our obligations or margin calls as they come due at a time when we are unable to draw on our credit facility, it could have an adverse effect on our ability to conduct our business. Our ability to make payments on and to refinance our indebtedness will depend on our ability to generate cash in the future. Our ability to

generate cash is dependent on various factors. These factors include general economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other factors that are beyond our control. Certain of our long-term borrowings include provisions that require minimum levels of working capital and equity and impose limitations on additional debt. Our ability to satisfy these provisions can be affected by events beyond our control, such as the demand for and the fluctuating price of grain. Although we are and have been in compliance with these provisions, noncompliance could result in default and acceleration of long-term debt payments.

We face increasing competition and pricing pressure from other companies in our industries. If we are unable to compete effectively with these companies, our sales and profit margins would decrease, and our earnings and cash flows would be adversely affected.

The markets for our products in each of our business segments are highly competitive. While we have substantial operations in our region, some of our competitors are significantly larger, compete in wider markets, have greater purchasing power, and have considerably larger financial resources. We also may enter into new markets where our brand is not recognized and in

which we do not have an established customer base. Competitive pressures in all of our businesses could affect the price of, and customer demand for, our products, thereby negatively impacting our profit margins and resulting in a loss of market share.

Our Grain and Ethanol businesses use derivative contracts to reduce volatility in the commodity markets. Non-performance by the counter-parties to those contracts could adversely affect our future results of operations and financial position.

A significant amount of our grain and ethanol purchases and sales are made through forward contracting. In addition, the Company uses exchange traded and, to a lesser degree, over-the-counter contracts to reduce volatility in changing commodity prices. A significant adverse change in commodity prices could cause a counter-party to one or more of our derivative contracts to not perform on its obligation.

A significant portion of the Company's assets are geographically concentrated in the Eastern Corn Belt. Localized weather and other market factors may have a disproportionate impact on our business compared to our competitors.

A significant portion of Company's the assets are exposed to conditions in the Eastern Corn Belt. In this region, adverse weather during the fertilizer application, planting, and harvest seasons can have negative impacts on our Grain, Ethanol and Plant Nutrient businesses. Higher basis levels or adverse crop conditions in the Eastern Corn Belt can increase the input costs or lower the market value of our products relative to other market participants that do not have the same geographic concentration.

We rely on a limited number of suppliers for certain of our raw materials and other products and the loss of one or several of these suppliers could increase our costs and have a material adverse effect on any one of our business segments.

We rely on a limited number of suppliers for certain of our raw materials and other products. If we were unable to obtain these raw materials and products from our current vendors, or if there were significant increases in our supplier's prices, it could significantly increase our costs and reduce our profit margins.

Our investments in unconsolidated entities accounted for under the equity method are subject to risks beyond our control.

We currently have investments in several limited liability companies and joint ventures. By operating a business through this arrangement, we do not have control over certain operating decisions as we would if we owned the business outright. Specifically, we cannot act on major business initiatives without the consent of the other investors, who may not always be in agreement with our ideas.

The Company may not be able to effectively integrate future businesses it acquires.

We continuously look for opportunities to enhance our existing businesses through strategic acquisitions. The process of integrating an acquired business into our existing business and operations may result in unforeseen operating difficulties and expenditures as well as require a significant amount of management resources. There is also the risk that our due diligence efforts may not uncover significant business flaws or hidden liabilities. In addition, we may not realize the anticipated benefits of an acquisition and they may not generate the anticipated financial results. Additional risks may include the inability to effectively integrate the operations, products, technologies and personnel of the acquired companies. The inability to maintain uniform standards, controls, procedures and policies would also negatively impact operations.

Our business involves considerable safety risks. Significant unexpected costs and liabilities would have an adverse effect on our profitability and overall financial position.

Due to the nature of some of the businesses in which we operate, we are exposed to significant operational hazards such as grain dust explosions, fires, malfunction of equipment, abnormal pressures, blowouts, pipeline and tank ruptures, chemical spills or run-off, transportation accidents and natural disasters. Some of these operational hazards may cause personal injury or loss of life, severe damage to or destruction of property and equipment or environmental damage and may result in suspension of operations and the imposition of civil or criminal penalties. If grain dust were to explode at one of our elevators, if an ethanol plant were to explode or catch fire, or if one of our pieces of equipment were to fail or malfunction due to an accident or improper maintenance, it could put our employees and others at serious risk.

The Company's information technology systems may impose limitations or failures, or may face external threats, which may affect the Company's ability to conduct its business.

The Company's information technology systems, some of which are dependent on services provided by third parties, provide critical data connectivity, information and services for internal and external users. These interactions include, but are not limited to, ordering and managing materials from suppliers, converting raw materials to finished products, inventory management, shipping products to customers, processing transactions, summarizing and reporting results of operations, complying with regulatory, legal or tax requirements, human resources and other processes necessary to manage the business. The Company has put in place business continuity plans for its critical systems. However, if the Company's information technology systems are damaged, or cease to function properly due to any number of causes, such as catastrophic events or power outages, and the Company's business continuity plans do not allow it to effectively recover on a timely basis, the Company may suffer interruptions in the ability to manage its operations, which may adversely impact the Company's operating results. Our security measures may also be breached due to employee error, malfeasance, or otherwise. In addition, although the systems continue to be refreshed periodically, portions of the infrastructure are outdated and may not be adequate to support new business processes, accounting for new transactions, or implementation of new accounting standards if requirements are complex or materially different than what is currently in place.

Additionally, outside parties may attempt to destroy critical information, or fraudulently induce employees, third-party service providers, or users to disclose sensitive information to gain access to our data or our users' data. As a response, the Company requires user names and passwords to access its information technology systems. The Company also uses encryption and authentication technologies designed to secure the transmission and storage of data and prevent access to Company and user data or accounts. The Company also conducts annual tests and assessments using independent third parties. As with all companies, these security measures are subject to third-party security breaches, employee error, malfeasance, faulty password management, or other irregularities. We cannot assure our ability to prevent, repel or mitigate the effects of such an attack by outside parties. The Company also relies on third parties to maintain and process certain information which could be subject to breach or unauthorized access to Company or employee information. Any such breach or unauthorized access could result in an inability to perform critical functions, significant legal and financial exposure, damage to our reputation, and a loss of confidence in the security of our services that could potentially have an adverse effect on our business.

The Company's design and implementation of the Company's Enterprise Resource Planning system could face significant difficulties.

The Company is designing and implementing the Company's Enterprise Resource Planning ("ERP") systems, requiring significant capital and human resources to deploy. There is risk of such implementations being more expensive and taking longer to fully implement than originally planned, resulting in increased capital investment, higher fees and expenses of third parties, delayed deployment scheduling, and more on-going maintenance expense once implemented, and, as such, the ultimate costs and schedules are not yet known. If for any reason portions of the implementation are not successful, the Company could be required to expense rather than capitalize related amounts. Beyond cost and scheduling, potential flaws in the implementation of an ERP system may pose risks to the Company's ability to operate successfully and efficiently. These risks include, without limitation, inefficient use of employees, distractions to the Company's core businesses, adverse customer reactions, loss of key information, delays in decision making, as well as unforeseen additional costs due to the inability to integrate vital information processes.

Unauthorized disclosure of sensitive or confidential customer information could harm the Company's business and standing with our customers.

The protection of our customer, employee and Company data is critical to us. The Company relies on commercially available systems, software, tools and monitoring to provide security for processing, transmission and storage of confidential customer information, such as payment card and personal information. The Company also conducts annual tests and assessments using independent third parties. Despite the security measures the Company has in place,

its facilities and systems, and those of its third-party service providers, may be vulnerable to security breaches, acts of vandalism, computer viruses, misplaced or lost data, programming or human errors, or other similar events. Any security breach involving the misappropriation, loss or other unauthorized disclosure of confidential information, whether by the Company or its vendors, could damage our reputation, expose us to risk of litigation and liability, disrupt our operations and harm our business.

A change in tax laws or regulations of any federal, state or international jurisdiction in which we operate could increase our tax burden and otherwise adversely affect our financial position, results of operations, cash flows and liquidity.

We continue to assess the impact of various U.S. federal, state, local and international legislative proposals that could result in a material increase to our U.S. federal, state, local and/or international taxes. We cannot predict whether any specific legislation will be enacted or the terms of any such legislation. However, if such proposals were to be enacted, or if modifications were to be made to certain existing regulations, the consequences could have a material adverse impact on us, including increasing our tax burden, increasing our cost of tax compliance or otherwise adversely affecting our financial position, results of operations, cash flows and liquidity. Changes in applicable U.S. or foreign tax laws and regulations, or their interpretation and application, including the possibility of retroactive effect, could affect our tax expense and profitability as they did in 2017 upon passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Such impact may also be affected positively or negatively by subsequent potential judicial interpretation or related regulation or legislation which cannot be predicted with certainty.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

The Company has no unresolved staff comments.

Item 2. Properties

The Company's principal agriculture, rail, and other properties are described below.

Agriculture Facilities

(in thousands)	Grain Storage (bushels)	Agricultural Fertilizer	
		Dry Storage (tons)	Liquid Storage (tons)
Canada	680	—	—
Illinois	12,464	56	11
Indiana	27,095	145	143
Iowa	2,600	—	70
Michigan	30,236	53	27
Minnesota	—	18	67
Nebraska	13,219	—	45
Ohio	37,710	189	65
Puerto Rico	—	—	10
Tennessee	3,567	—	—
Texas	1,043	—	—
Wisconsin	—	27	77
	128,614	488	515

The grain facilities are mostly concrete and steel tanks, with some flat storage buildings. The Company also owns grain inspection buildings and dryers, maintenance buildings and truck scales and dumps. Approximately 90% of the total storage capacity noted above, which excludes temporary pile storage, is owned, while the remaining 10% of the total capacity is leased from third parties.

The Plant Nutrient Group's wholesale nutrient and farm center properties consist mainly of fertilizer warehouse and formulation and packaging facilities for dry and liquid fertilizers. The Company owns approximately 99% of the dry and liquid storage capacity noted above.

Other Properties

The Company owns an ethanol facility in Denison, Iowa with a nameplate capacity of 55 million gallons. The company also owns land in Colwich, Kansas where it is constructing a 70 million-gallon-per-year bio-refinery, on schedule to be completed in 2019.

The Company owns lawn fertilizer production facilities in Maumee, Ohio, Bowling Green, Ohio, Montgomery, Alabama, and Mocksville, North Carolina. It also owns a corncob processing and storage facility in Delphi, Indiana. The Company leases

370,000 square feet of a lawn fertilizer warehouse facility in Toledo, Ohio and a 245,000 square foot distribution center in Maumee, Ohio. The Company operates 24 railcar repair facilities throughout the country.

The Company's administrative office building is leased under a build-to-suit financing arrangement. The Company owns approximately 1,992 acres of land on which the above properties and facilities are located and approximately 351 acres of farmland and land held for future use.

The Company believes that its properties are adequate for its business, well maintained and utilized, suitable for their intended uses and adequately insured.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

The Company is currently subject to various claims and suits arising in the ordinary course of business, which include environmental issues, employment claims, contractual disputes, and defensive counterclaims. The Company accrues liabilities in which litigation losses are deemed probable and estimable. The Company believes it is unlikely that the results of its current legal proceedings, even if unfavorable, will be materially different from what it currently has accrued. There can be no assurance, however, that any claims or suits arising in the future, whether taken individually or in the aggregate, will not have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations.

Item 4. Mine Safety

Not applicable.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

The information is furnished pursuant to Instruction 3 to Item 401(b) of Regulation S-K. The executive officers of The Andersons, Inc., their positions and ages (as of February 27, 2019) are presented in the table below.

Name	Position	Age	Year Assumed
Jeffrey C. Blair	President, Plant Nutrient Group		2017
	Vice President of Sales (Intrepid Potash, Inc)	46	2016
	Director of Potash Sales (Intrepid Potash, Inc)		2013
Valerie M. Blanchett	Vice President, Human Resources	57	2016
	Vice President, Human Resources, Food Ingredients and Systems (Cargill)		2010
Patrick E. Bowe	President and Chief Executive Officer	60	2015
	Corporate Vice President, Food Ingredients and Systems (Cargill)		2007
Naran U. Burchinow	Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary	65	2005
Srikanth R. Dasari	Vice President, Treasurer		2017
	Treasurer (Westinghouse Electric Company)	48	2016
	Head of Treasury Front Office (Dow Corning)		2010
	Corporate Controller		2019
Michael T. Hoelter	Assistant Corporate Controller	36	2017
	Grain Group Controller		2015
	Financial Reporting Manager		2013
Michael S. Irmén	President, Ethanol Group		2016
	Vice President and General Manager, Ethanol Group	65	2015
	Vice President, Commodities and Risk, Ethanol Group		2012
Corbett J. Jorgenson	President, Andersons Trade Group		2016
	Vice President, Americas, Corporate Transportation (Cargill)	44	2015
	Vice President, Commercial Lead, AgHorizons USA (Cargill)		2013
William E. Krueger	President, Andersons Trade Group	52	2018
	President and Chief Executive Officer, Lansing Trade Group, LLC		1995
Anthony A. Lombardi	Chief Information Officer		2016
	Vice President, Global Business Services and Chief Information Officer (Armstrong World Industries)	60	2010
Joseph E. McNeely	President, Rail Group	54	2017
	President and Chief Executive Officer (FreightCar America, Inc.)		2013
Anne G. Rex	Vice President, Strategy, Planning and Development	54	2019
	Vice President, Corporate Controller		2012
Brian A. Valentine	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer		2018
	Corporate Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (The Lubrizol Corporation)	50	2011

Part II.

Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Equity and Related Stockholder Matters

The Common Shares of The Andersons, Inc. trade on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "ANDE." On February 18, 2014, the Company effected a three-for-two stock split to its outstanding shares as of January 21, 2014. All share, dividend and per share information set forth in this 10-K has been retroactively adjusted to reflect the stock split.

Shareholders

At February 15, 2019, there were approximately 32.5 million common shares outstanding, 1,123 shareholders of record and approximately 10,517 shareholders for whom security firms acted as nominees.

The Company's transfer agent and registrar is Computershare Investor Services, LLC, 2 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60602. Telephone: 312-588-4991.

Dividends

The Company has declared and paid consecutive quarterly dividends since the end of 1996, its first year of trading on the Nasdaq market. Dividends paid from January 2017 to January 2019 are as follows:

Payment Date	Amount
1/24/2017	\$0.1600
4/24/2017	\$0.1600
7/24/2017	\$0.1600
10/23/2017	\$0.1600
1/23/2018	\$0.1650
4/23/2018	\$0.1650
7/23/2018	\$0.1650
10/22/2018	\$0.1650
1/23/2019	\$0.1700

While the Company's objective is to pay a quarterly cash dividend, dividends are subject to Board of Director approval.

Equity Plans

The following table gives information as of December 31, 2018 about the Company's Common Shares that may be issued upon the exercise of options under all of its existing equity compensation plans.

Plan category	Equity Compensation Plan Information		
	(a) Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	1,036,971 ⁽¹⁾	\$ 35.32	461,078 ⁽²⁾
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders ⁽³⁾	—	—	—

This number includes 325,000 Non-Qualified Stock Options ("Options"), 246,804 total shareholder return-based performance share units, 246,798 earnings per share-based performance share units, and 218,369 restricted shares outstanding under The Andersons, Inc. 2014 Long-Term Performance Compensation Plan.

(1) This number does not include any shares related to the Employee Share Purchase Plan. The Employee Share Purchase Plan allows employees to purchase common shares at the lower of the market value on the beginning or end of the calendar year through payroll withholdings. These purchases are completed as of December 31.

(2) This number includes 51,414 Common Shares available to be purchased under the Employee Share Purchase Plan and 409,664 shares available under equity compensation plans.

In connection with the Company's acquisition of the interests in LTG the Company did not already own the Company established the Lansing Acquisition 2018 Inducement and Retention Award Plan (the "Inducement Plan"). The Inducement Plan is to be used exclusively for the grant of equity awards to individuals who were not previously an employee or non-employee director of the Company (or following a bona fide period of non-employment), as an inducement material to each such individual entering into employment with the Company and to replace existing LTG equity awards. The Company expects to issue up to 650,000

(3) shares of restricted stock under the Inducement Plan in multiple grants. Approximately 280,000 shares have vesting dates of June 30, 2019, April 1, 2020 and April 1, 2021; and the remaining shares have vesting dates of January 1, 2020, January 1, 2021 and January 1, 2022. All awards under the Inducement Plan are subject to each such employee's continued employment with the Company on such vesting dates. Unvested shares of restricted stock are entitled to vote, entitled to dividends (provided that the actual payment of dividends is conditioned upon the vesting of the shares) and are not transferable.

Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers

No shares were repurchased in 2018, 2017 or 2016.

Performance Graph

The graph below compares the total shareholder return on the Corporation's Common Shares to the cumulative total return for the Nasdaq U.S. Index and a Peer Group Index. The indices reflect the year-end market value of an investment in the stock of each company in the index, including additional shares assumed to have been acquired with cash dividends, if any. The Peer Group Index, weighted for market capitalization, includes the following companies:

Archer-Daniels-Midland Co. Nutrien
 GATX Corp. The Greenbrier Companies, Inc.
 Green Plains, Inc. The Scott's Miracle-Gro Company
 Ingredion Incorporated

We have adjusted the Peer Group Index for 2018 to better reflect the Company's business. We removed Agrium, Inc. due to its merger with Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan to form Nutrien and have included Nutrien in our new peer group.

The graph assumes a \$100 investment in The Andersons, Inc. Common Shares on December 31, 2012 and also assumes investments of \$100 in each of the Nasdaq U.S. and Peer Group indices, respectively, on December 31 of the first year of the graph. The value of these investments as of the following calendar year-ends is shown in the table below the graph.

	Base Period December 31, 2013	Cumulative Returns				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
The Andersons, Inc.	\$ 100.00	\$90.14	\$54.53	\$78.46	\$55.73	\$54.54
NASDAQ U.S.	100.00	114.75	122.74	133.62	173.22	168.30
New Peer Group Index	100.00	116.12	85.61	106.95	113.84	105.18
Former Peer Group Index	100.00	118.47	100.07	128.70	133.42	122.62

Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The following table sets forth selected consolidated financial data of the Company. The data for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2018 is derived from the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company. The data presented below should be read in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," included in Item 7, and the Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto included in Item 8.

(in thousands, except for per share and ratios and other data)	For the years ended December 31,					
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	
Operating results						
Sales and merchandising revenues (a)	\$3,045,382	\$3,686,345	\$3,924,790	\$4,198,495	\$4,540,071	
Gross profit	302,005	318,799	345,506	375,838	397,139	
Equity in earnings of affiliates	27,141	16,723	9,721	31,924	96,523	
Other income, net (b)	16,002	22,507	12,473	46,472	31,125	
Net income (loss)	41,225	42,609	14,470	(11,322)	122,645	
Net income (loss) attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	41,484	42,511	11,594	(13,067)	109,726	
EBITDA (c)	171,560	87,356	123,949	85,219	254,992	
Financial position						
Total assets		2,392,003	2,162,354	2,232,849	2,359,101	2,364,692
Working capital		189,848	260,495	258,350	241,485	226,741
Long-term debt, recourse (d)		349,834	418,339	397,065	436,208	298,638
Long-term debt, non-recourse (d)		146,353	—	—	—	—
Total equity		876,764	822,899	790,697	783,739	824,049
Cash flows / liquidity						
Cash flows from (used in) operations		(35,519)	75,285	39,585	154,134	(10,071)
Depreciation and amortization		90,297	86,412	84,325	78,456	62,005
Cash invested in acquisitions (e)		(2,248)	(3,507)	—	(128,549)	(20,037)
Purchase of investments		(1,086)	(5,679)	(2,523)	(938)	(238)
Investments in property, plant and equipment and capitalized software		(142,579)	(34,602)	(77,740)	(72,469)	(59,675)
Net proceeds from (investment in) Rail Group assets (f)		(87,566)	(106,124)	(28,579)	(38,407)	(57,968)
Per share data (g)						
Net income (loss) - basic		1.47	1.51	0.41	(0.46)	3.85
Net income (loss) - diluted		1.46	1.50	0.41	(0.46)	3.84
Dividends declared		0.6650	0.6450	0.6250	0.5750	0.4700
Year-end market value		29.89	31.15	44.70	31.63	53.14
Ratios and other data						
Net income (loss) attributable to The Andersons, Inc. return on beginning equity attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	5.1	%	5.5	%	1.5	%
Funded long-term debt to equity ratio (h)	0.6-to-1		0.5-to-1		0.5-to-1	0.6-to-1
Weighted average shares outstanding (000's)	28,258		28,126		28,193	28,288
Effective tax rate	22.5	%	307.6	%	32.3	%

(a) Includes sales of \$625.2 million in 2018, \$1,089.7 million in 2017, \$854.6 million in 2016, \$872.1 million in 2015, and \$1,064.4 million in 2014, pursuant to marketing and origination agreements between the Company and the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs. The adoption of ASC 606 led to a change in treatment of grain origination transactions that are now shown net versus gross. This change caused a decrease in revenue and an equal offsetting decrease to cost of sales.

(b) Includes \$23.1 million for the gain on dilution and partial share redemption of the LTG investment in 2015 and \$17.1 million for the gain on partial share redemption of LTG in 2014.

(c) Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, or EBITDA, is a non-GAAP measure. The Company believes EBITDA provides additional information to investors and others about its operations allowing an evaluation of underlying operating performance and period-to-period comparability. EBITDA

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does not and should not be considered as an alternative to net income as determined by generally accepted accounting principles.

(d) Excludes current portion of long-term debt.

(e) During 2015, the Company acquired 100% of the stock of Kay Flo Industries, Inc.

(f) Represents the net of purchases of Rail Group assets offset by proceeds on sales of Rail Group assets.

(g) Earnings per share are calculated based on Income attributable to The Andersons, Inc.

(h) Calculated by dividing long-term debt by total year-end equity as stated under “Financial position.”

The following table sets forth our reconciliation of Net Income (loss) to EBITDA.

(in thousands)	For the years ended December 31,				
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Net income (loss) attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$41,484	\$42,511	\$11,594	\$(13,067)	\$109,726
Add:					
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	11,931	(63,134)	6,911	(242)	61,501
Interest expense	27,848	21,567	21,119	20,072	21,760
Depreciation and amortization	90,297	86,412	84,325	78,456	62,005
EBITDA	\$171,560	\$87,356	\$123,949	\$85,219	\$254,992

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Forward Looking Statements

The following “Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” contains forward-looking statements which relate to future events or future financial performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. The reader is urged to carefully consider these risks and factors, including those listed under Item 1A, “Risk Factors.” In some cases, the reader can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as “may”, “anticipates”, “believes”, “estimates”, “predicts”, or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. These statements are only predictions. Actual events or results may differ materially. These forward-looking statements relate only to events as of the date on which the statements are made and the Company undertakes no obligation, other than any imposed by law, to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements.

Executive Overview

Our operations are organized, managed and classified into four reportable business segments: Grain, Ethanol, Plant Nutrient, and Rail. Each of these segments is based on the nature of products and services offered. Prior to 2018, we reported the Retail operations as a fifth reportable business segment even though it did not meet the quantitative thresholds for segment disclosures. As previously disclosed, we closed the Retail business during 2017, and accordingly have recast the prior results for this segment within the Other category, which also includes other corporate level costs not attributable to an operating segment.

The agricultural commodity-based business is one in which changes in selling prices generally move in relationship to changes in purchase prices. Therefore, increases or decreases in prices of the agricultural commodities that the business deals in will have a relatively equal impact on sales and cost of sales and a much less significant impact on gross profit. As a result, changes in sales for the period may not necessarily be indicative of the overall performance of the business and more focus should be placed on changes to gross profit.

Grain Group

The Grain Group's performance reflects a decrease in storage income which was partially offset by year on year growth in the food ingredient business and risk management services. Additionally, our earnings from affiliates have improved significantly year over year. The Group continues to refine its portfolio and sold four of its Tennessee

locations. We also announced the acquisition of the remaining equity of LTG, which was finalized in January 2019.

Total grain storage capacity, including temporary pile storage, is approximately 141 million bushels as of December 31, 2018 and 150 million bushels as of December 31, 2017. This decrease in capacity is a result of the sale of four Tennessee locations in 2018. Grain inventories on hand at December 31, 2018 were 109.4 million bushels, a de minimis amount of which were stored for others. This compares to 113.8 million bushels on hand at December 31, 2017, of which 1.0 million bushels were stored for others.

The group will focus on integration of the LTG business, growth of originations, risk management services and the food ingredient business while monitoring continuing trade wars which could cause more volatility in the market.

Ethanol Group

The Ethanol Group's results reflect higher sales volumes of ethanol and related co-products with the Albion expansion operating for the full year, better corn to ethanol yields, and improved DDG values. As we move into 2019, we expect the similar pressures that we experienced in 2018 with margins continuing to be impacted by high industry production and inventory levels. Construction of our new bio-refinery continues on budget and we expect production to begin mid-year.

Volumes shipped for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 were as follows:

	Twelve months ended December 31,	
(in thousands)	2018	2017
Ethanol (gallons)	451,306	411,087
E-85 (gallons)	61,382	47,676
Corn Oil (pounds)	20,348	17,959
DDG (tons)	158	162

The above table shows only shipped volumes that flow through the Company's revenues. Total ethanol, DDG, and corn oil production by the unconsolidated LLCs is higher. However, the portion of this volume that is sold directly to their customers is excluded here.

Plant Nutrient Group

The Plant Nutrient Group's results improved year-over-year results in all business lines with the exception of specialty products. Primary nutrient tons were relatively flat but experienced significant margin improvement. An increase in specialty tons was not enough to overcome the decrease in margin for these products. The group focused on cost reduction which helped strengthen results as they work to overcome continued margin compression on specialty products.

Total storage capacity at our wholesale nutrient and farm center facilities was approximately 488 thousand tons for dry nutrients and approximately 515 thousand tons for liquid nutrients at December 31, 2018, which is similar to the prior year.

Looking ahead, the Group expects to be impacted by low margins, especially in specialty nutrients. While primary nutrient prices have strengthened, we do not anticipate significant appreciation in 2019. The Group will remain focused on increasing sales and operational efficiency.

Tons shipped by product line (including sales and service tons) for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 were as follows:

	Twelve months ended December 31,	
(in thousands)	2018	2017
Primary Nutrients	1,424	1,477
Specialty Nutrients	694	654
Other	56	67
Total tons	2,174	2,198

Rail Group

The Rail Group's results were lower than the prior year. Base leasing results were relatively flat due to an increase in gross profit that was partially offset by an increase in interest expense. Income from car sales was lower in 2018 as a result of changes in accounting standards. Despite start-up costs for four new locations, repair income increased compared to 2017. Rail Group assets under management (owned, leased or managed for financial institutions in non-recourse arrangements) at December 31, 2018 were 23,463 compared to 24,104 at December 31, 2017. While overall cars under management decreased, the group was actually able to scrap a significant number of idle cars at favorable scrap rates and purchase new cars, most of which were under lease. As such, the average utilization rate (Rail Group assets under management that are in lease service,

exclusive of those managed for third-party investors) was 90.9% for the year ended December 31, 2018 which was 5.9% higher than the prior year.

In 2019, the Group expects continued, steady growth in the leasing business while withstanding additional expense due to tank car recertification. The Group is also looking for additional growth on its repair business.

Other

In 2018, the Company announced the acquisition of the remaining interest not previously owned in LTG and incurred \$6.5 million in one-time expenses related to the acquisition, which closed in the beginning of 2019. These costs were largely offset by \$5.1 million of gains related to other investments during the year. Looking ahead, the Company will focus on LTG integration efforts and synergy opportunities.

Our “Other” represents corporate functions that provide support and services to the operating segments. The results contained within this group include expenses and benefits not allocated back to the operating segments, including a significant portion of our ERP project and retail from the prior year.

Operating Results

The following discussion focuses on the operating results as shown in the Consolidated Statements of Operations with a separate discussion by segment. Additional segment information is included in Note 14 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8.

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$3,045,382	\$3,686,345	\$3,924,790
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	2,743,377	3,367,546	3,579,284
Gross profit	302,005	318,799	345,506
Operating, administrative and general expenses	257,872	286,993	316,093
Asset impairment	6,272	10,913	9,107
Goodwill impairment	—	59,081	—
Interest expense	27,848	21,567	21,119
Equity in earnings of affiliates	27,141	16,723	9,721
Other income, net	16,002	22,507	12,473
Income (loss) before income taxes	53,156	(20,525)) 21,381
Income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	(259)) 98	2,876
Income (loss) before income taxes attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$53,415	\$(20,623)) \$18,505

Comparison of 2018 with 2017

Grain Group

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2018	2017
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$1,436,979	\$2,106,464
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	1,307,125	1,975,076
Gross profit	129,854	131,388
Operating, administrative and general expenses	105,662	107,478
Asset impairment	1,564	10,913
Interest expense	11,843	8,320
Equity in earnings of affiliates	12,932	4,509

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Other income, net	2,959	3,658
Income (loss) before income taxes	\$26,676	\$12,844

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Operating results for the Grain Group improved \$13.8 million compared to full year 2017 results. Sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$669.5 million compared to 2017 which was largely offset by a decrease in cost of sales and merchandising revenues of \$668.0 million for a decrease in gross profit of \$1.5 million. The adoption of ASC 606 led to a decrease in revenue of \$688.3 million and an equal offsetting decrease to cost of sales related primarily to a change in treatment of grain origination transactions that are now shown net versus gross. Gross profit is down slightly due to the divestiture of certain Tennessee locations, however the remaining locations had a gross profit increase of \$2.4 million, much of which is due to corn and soybean space income.

Operating, administrative and general expenses decreased \$1.8 million compared to full year 2017 results. This is primarily due to a decrease in operating costs as a result of the sale of certain Tennessee locations. However, this decrease was partially offset by a \$2.2 million increase in costs as the Group continued its ERP implementation at several locations, as well as an increase in depreciation, utilities and other direct costs.

The Grain Group recorded asset impairment charges relating to the Tennessee assets of \$1.6 million and \$10.9 million in 2018 and 2017, respectively. These assets were all sold during 2018.

Interest expense increased \$3.5 million due to higher interest rates and higher average working capital levels.

Equity in earnings of affiliates improved \$8.4 million primarily due to the improved operating results of LTG across all of its business units.

Ethanol Group

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2018	2017
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$743,690	\$708,063
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	725,285	688,206
Gross profit	18,405	19,857
Operating, administrative and general expenses	13,296	13,216
Interest (income) expense	(1,888)	(67)
Equity in earnings of affiliates	14,209	12,214
Other income, net	650	54
Income before income taxes	21,856	18,976
Income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	(259)	98
Income (loss) before income taxes attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$22,115	\$18,878

Operating results attributable to the Company for the Ethanol Group improved \$3.2 million from full year 2017 results. Sales and merchandising revenues increased \$35.6 million. This was driven by a 10% increase in ethanol gallons sold, a portion of which is attributable to the Albion plant expansion, and a 29% increase in E-85 gallons sold. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues increased \$37.1 million due to increased volumes sold, along with an increase in input cost and mark-to-market adjustments on open ethanol contracts. Despite higher volumes, the cost of sales drivers led to a gross profit decrease of \$1.5 million.

Interest income increased by \$1.8 million as a result of capitalizing interest related to the construction of the bio-refinery facility. Equity in earnings of affiliates increased \$2.0 million due to improved results from the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs.

Plant Nutrient Group

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2018	2017
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$690,536	\$651,824
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	591,635	547,179
Gross profit	98,901	104,645
Operating, administrative and general expenses	82,867	89,357
Goodwill impairment	—	59,081
Interest expense	6,499	6,420
Other income, net	2,495	5,092
Income (loss) before income taxes attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$12,030	\$(45,121)

Operating results for the Plant Nutrient Group improved \$57.2 million compared to full year 2017 results. Sales and merchandising revenues increased \$38.7 million. This was primarily driven by a 6% increase in Specialty tons due to an increase in lawn product sales. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues increased \$44.5 million as a result of the increase in sales. Despite higher sales, margins remained challenged leading to a decreased of \$5.7 million in gross profit. Primary and Specialty gross profit decreased \$3.4 million driven by compression in the specialty business and the sale of our Florida locations in 2017 led to a \$3.4 million decrease in gross profit. These decreases were slightly offset by favorable results in lawn products.

Operating, administrative, and general expenses decreased \$6.5 million from the prior year. Cost savings initiatives led to a \$1.3 million decrease in expenses primarily related to maintenance, supplies, and professional services. Additionally, health care related expenses decreased \$0.6 million compared to the prior year. Included in 2017 results were \$1.4 million bad debt reserves and one quarter of expenses for the Florida locations prior to their sale.

The group recognized goodwill impairment charges of \$59.1 million in 2017 after experiencing several periods of compressed margins and lower sales volumes, as well as anticipated unfavorable operating conditions in the nutrient market.

Other income decreased \$2.6 million. Current year results are driven by rental income from warehouse space, while prior year results reflect a \$4.7 million gain on the sale of the Florida farm center locations.

Rail Group

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2018	2017
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$174,177	\$172,123
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	119,332	119,664
Gross profit	54,845	52,459
Operating, administrative and general expenses	24,897	23,270
Asset impairment	4,708	—
Interest expense	11,377	7,023
Other income, net	3,516	2,632
Income (loss) before income taxes attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$17,379	\$24,798

Operating results for the Rail Group declined \$7.4 million compared to the full year 2017 results. Sales and merchandising revenues increased \$2.1 million. Leasing revenue increased \$9.4 million due to an increase in full-year average utilization from 85.0% in the prior year to 90.9% in the current year. This was partially offset by \$5.6 million decrease in car sale volume, in part driven by the adoption of the new revenue recognition standard, and a \$1.9 million decrease in repair revenue as a result of a large order that occurred in the prior year but was not repeated. Cost of sales

and merchandising revenues decreased \$0.3 million due to lower car sales, in addition to lower freight and storage costs, as we had fewer idle cars on average than the prior year. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in repair cost of sales related to additional revenue. As a result of these factors, Rail gross profit increased \$2.4 million compared to the prior year.

Operating, administrative and general expenses increased by \$1.6 million, largely due to increased expenses with the addition of four new repair shops.

Asset impairment charges were recorded for \$4.7 million from a decision to scrap idle, out-of-favor cars during the second quarter of 2018, taking advantage of high scrap prices.

Interest expense increased \$4.4 million. This increase was primarily a result of a rising interest rate environment as well as increased borrowings under the group's credit facility which resulted in a \$1.8 million increase in interest. In addition, \$1.7 million of the increase is due to the impact of adopting the new revenue accounting guidance which unrecognized certain car sales from previous periods and recorded those rail assets and a corresponding financing liability in the current year.

Other income increased \$0.9 million due to a \$2.4 million gain on the sale of barges which was partially offset by \$1.7 million lower end of lease settlement gains.

Other Group

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2018	2017
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$—	\$47,871
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	—	37,421
Gross profit	—	10,450
Operating, administrative and general expenses	31,150	53,672
Interest (income) expense	17	(129)
Other income, net	6,382	11,071
Income (loss) before income taxes attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$(24,785)	\$(32,022)

The decreases in sales and merchandising revenue, cost of sales and merchandising revenues, and gross profit are entirely a result of the retail business partially operating in the first six months of 2017 but no longer operational in 2018.

Operating, administrative and general expenses decreased by \$22.5 million. This decrease was a result of \$28.1 million in charges incurred in 2017 related to the retail business which was partially offset by \$6.5 million in transaction costs in 2018 relating to the LTG acquisition.

Other income decreased \$4.7 million compared to the prior year. Other income for 2018 includes \$3.9 million of gains related to the sale of an investment and a \$1.2 million gain related to the revaluation of another investment, both in our venture business. Included in 2017 are \$10.2 million in gains related to the liquidation and sale of the retail stores.

Income Taxes

Income tax expense of \$11.9 million was provided at 22.5%. In 2017, benefit of \$63.1 million was provided at 307.6%. The higher effective tax rate in 2017 relative to the loss before income taxes was due primarily to the US enacted Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, also commonly referred to as "US tax reform" and non-deductible goodwill impairment charges.

Comparison of 2017 with 2016***Grain Group***

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2017	2016
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$2,106,464	\$2,357,171
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	1,975,076	2,249,089
Gross profit	131,388	108,082
Operating, administrative and general expenses	107,478	112,507
Asset impairment	10,913	—
Interest expense	8,320	7,955
Equity in earnings of affiliates	4,509	(8,746)
Other income, net	3,658	5,472
Income (loss) before income taxes	12,844	(15,654)
Loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	—	(3)
Income (loss) before income taxes attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$12,844	\$(15,651)

Operating results for the Grain Group improved \$28.5 million in 2017 compared to full year 2016 results. Sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$250.7 million compared to 2016 due to a 24% decrease in bushels sold. This decrease was driven by two main factors. First, more bushels are being strategically stored due to strong space income opportunities in the market. Second, there was an intentional reduction in bushels sold directly from supplier to customer as the group continues to focus only on the most profitable markets to increase margins. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues decreased due to the same items above but to a lesser extent for a net favorable gross profit impact of approximately \$23.3 million. The gross profit increase was driven by a \$31.5 million increase in space income relating to corn, beans, and wheat as the value of storage capacity significantly improved, as well as a \$7.8 million increase from risk management fees, trading income and other items compared to 2016. These gains were partially offset by a \$12.9 million decrease in drying and mixing income related to unusual wheat blending opportunities in 2016 that did not occur in 2017 and handling margins related to both harvest timing and grain storage decisions.

Operating, administrative and general expenses decreased \$5.0 million in 2017 compared to full year 2016 results. The decrease was primarily due to a reduction of \$3.5 million in costs as a result of the disposition of the Iowa facilities in 2016 and a \$3.6 million decrease due to reductions in labor and benefits at the remaining facilities as a result of productivity initiatives and lower employee costs. The decreases were partially offset by minor increases in 2017 depreciation, maintenance and other expenses.

The Grain Group recorded asset impairment charges of \$10.9 million relating to its Western Tennessee assets in 2017.

Equity in earnings of affiliates improved \$13.3 million in 2017 primarily due to the improved operating results of LTG, which also continued to recover from under performance in its core markets in 2016.

Ethanol Group

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2017	2016
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$708,063	\$544,556
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	688,206	524,252
Gross profit	19,857	20,304
Operating, administrative and general expenses	13,216	11,211
Interest (income) expense	(67)	35

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Equity in earnings of affiliates	12,214	18,467
Other income, net	54	77
Income (loss) before income taxes	18,976	27,602
Income attributable to noncontrolling interests	98	2,879
Income (loss) before income taxes attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$18,878	\$24,723

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Operating results attributable to the Company for the Ethanol Group declined \$5.8 million in 2017 from full year 2016 results. Sales and merchandising revenues increased \$163.5 million. This was driven by a 39% increase in ethanol gallons sold, a portion of which is attributable to the Albion plant expansion. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues increased \$164.0 million due to an increase in sales volume. Despite higher volumes, higher input costs and lower DDG values caused gross profit to decrease \$0.4 million.

Operating, administrative and general expenses increased \$2.0 million in 2017 compared to the same period in 2016, primarily as a result of the write-off of a potential capital project. Equity in earnings of affiliates decreased \$6.3 million due to lower results from the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs. These results were primarily driven by low ethanol and DDG margins. The decrease was also driven by our merging TAEI with and into TAME in the first quarter. Prior to this transaction, the noncontrolling interest in TAEI was attributed 33% of the gains and losses of TAME recorded by the Company in its equity in earnings of affiliates. With a 33% direct ownership in TAME now, our share of gains and losses recorded in equity in earnings of affiliates will decrease, with a correlated decrease in income attributable to noncontrolling interests.

Plant Nutrient Group

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2017	2016
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$651,824	\$725,176
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	547,179	603,045
Gross profit	104,645	122,131
Operating, administrative and general expenses	89,357	102,892
Asset impairment	—	2,331
Goodwill impairment	59,081	—
Interest expense	6,420	6,448
Other income, net	5,092	3,716
Income (loss) before income taxes attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$(45,121)	\$14,176

Operating results for the Plant Nutrient Group declined \$59.3 million when comparing 2017 and 2016 results. Sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$73.4 million. Approximately 64% of the decrease is due to a 30% decrease in farm center tons sold as a result of the sales of our farm center locations in Florida in the first quarter of 2017 and Iowa in the first quarter of 2016 and a 6% decrease in average sales prices for all remaining farm center locations. A 6% decrease in average sale prices in the wholesale business accounts for the majority of the remaining decrease. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$55.9 million, for the same reasons. As such, gross profit decreased by \$17.5 million. Margins remain tight due to competitive pressures, excess nutrient supply in the wholesale and farm center businesses, and lower crop prices.

Operating, administrative, and general expenses decreased \$13.5 million from full year 2016. The largest driver was a \$8.1 million decrease in labor and benefits, much of it relating to the sale of farm center locations in Florida in the first quarter of 2017 and the sale of the farm center locations in Iowa in the first quarter of 2016. Smaller reductions were also realized in a number of other categories as part of our overall cost control efforts. The group recognized goodwill impairment charges of \$59.1 million after experiencing several periods of compressed margins and lower sales volumes, as well as anticipated unfavorable operating conditions in the nutrient market for some time. The group recognized a \$2.3 million asset impairment in 2016 associated with the closure of a cob facility.

Other income increased \$1.4 million compared to fiscal 2016 primarily as a result of a \$4.7 million gain on the sale of farm center locations in Florida in the first quarter of 2017. This increase was partially offset by a \$1.8 million legal settlement, net of insurance recoveries, in the third and fourth quarters of 2017.

Rail Group

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2017	2016
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$ 172,123	\$ 163,658
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	119,664	107,729
Gross profit	52,459	55,929
Operating, administrative and general expenses	23,270	18,971
Asset impairment	—	287
Interest expense	7,023	6,461
Other income, net	2,632	2,218
Income (loss) before income taxes attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$ 24,798	\$ 32,428

Operating results for the Rail Group declined \$7.6 million in 2017 compared to the full year 2016 results. Sales and merchandising revenues increased \$8.5 million. Revenue from car sales increased by \$11.0 million due to a higher volume of car sales and repair and other revenue increased \$2.0 million as a result of revenue generated by new shops. These increases were partially offset by a \$4.5 million decrease in leasing revenues due to average utilization of 85.0% in 2017 and 87.8% in 2016, as well as a 2% decrease in lease rates compared to the prior year. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues increased \$11.9 million due to an \$11.0 million increase in car sales and \$0.8 million related to higher leasing costs. As a result of these factors, Rail gross profit decreased \$3.5 million compared to 2016.

Operating expenses increased by \$4.3 million, largely due to higher labor and benefit costs from opening new repair shops. Interest expense increased due to higher rates and more debt resulting from purchases in 2017.

Other

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2017	2016
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$ 47,871	\$ 134,229
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	37,421	95,169
Gross profit	10,450	39,060
Operating, administrative and general expenses	53,672	70,512
Asset impairment	—	6,489
Interest (income) expense	(129)	220
Other income, net	11,071	990
Income (loss) before income taxes attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$(32,022)	\$(37,171)

Sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$86.4 million while cost of sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$57.7 million. These decreases were due to lower volumes as a result of the closure of the retail business during the second quarter of 2017. Additionally, inventory liquidation markdowns caused a significant decrease in margins leading to a \$28.6 million decrease in gross profit in 2017.

Operating, administrative and general expenses decreased by \$16.8 million as a result of the mid-year retail closure and a reduction in information technology costs. This decrease was partially offset by one-time exit charges of \$11.5 million, most of which was for severance costs. Other income increased \$10.0 million primarily from gains on the sale of three store properties and fixtures.

Income Taxes

Income tax benefit of \$63.1 million was provided at 307.6%. In 2016, income tax expense of \$6.9 million was provided at 32.3%. The higher effective tax rate in 2017 relative to the loss before income taxes was due primarily to

the US enacted Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, also commonly referred to as “US tax reform” and non-deductible goodwill impairment charges.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Working Capital

At December 31, 2018, the Company had working capital of \$189.8 million, a decrease of \$70.6 million from the prior year. This decrease was attributable to changes in the following components of current assets and current liabilities:

(in thousands)	December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017	Variance
Current Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 22,593	\$34,919	\$(12,326)
Accounts receivables, net	207,285	183,238	24,047
Inventories	690,804	648,703	42,101
Commodity derivative assets – current	51,421	30,702	20,719
Other current assets	50,703	63,790	(13,087)
Assets held for sale	392	37,859	(37,467)
Total current assets	1,023,198	999,211	23,987
Current Liabilities:			
Short-term debt	205,000	22,000	183,000
Trade and other payables	462,535	503,571	(41,036)
Customer prepayments and deferred revenue	32,533	59,710	(27,177)
Commodity derivative liabilities – current	32,647	29,651	2,996
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	79,046	69,579	9,467
Current maturities of long-term debt	21,589	54,205	(32,616)
Total current liabilities	833,350	738,716	94,634
Working capital	\$ 189,848	\$260,495	\$(70,647)

In comparison to the prior year, current assets increased primarily due to increases in accounts receivable, inventory and commodity derivative assets. Accounts receivable increased due primarily to a higher volume of grain shipments at the end of the period, coupled with a relative increase in corn prices. Inventory increased for several reasons including higher Primary and Specialty inventory from carryover tons from a slow fall season and higher inventory values in the Grain group as we owned more beans than the prior year. This was partially offset by a decrease in Other current assets primarily due to decreases in prepaid taxes and idle rail group assets as a result of the scrap program and higher utilization year-over-year. Assets held for sale decreased as certain Grain assets and the remaining retail store were sold in the current year. Current commodity derivative assets and liabilities, which reflect the customer net asset or liability based on the value of forward contracts as compared to market prices at the end of the period, have increased. See the discussion below on additional sources and uses of cash for an understanding of the decrease in cash from prior year.

Current liabilities increased as a result of an increase in short-term debt supporting working capital needs. This increase was partially offset by a decrease in payables due to a decrease in payables for grain and a decrease in Customer prepayments and deferred revenue based on timing of shipments in the Grain group in the prior year.

Sources and Uses of Cash 2018 compared to 2017

Operating Activities and Liquidity

Our operating activities used cash of \$35.5 million in 2018 compared to cash provided by operations of \$75.3 million in 2017. The significant change in operating cash flows in 2017 relates primarily to the changes in working capital,

particularly accounts receivable, inventory, and commodity derivatives discussed above.

Net income tax refunds of \$5.4 million were received in 2018 and net income taxes of \$2.1 million were paid in 2017.

Investing Activities

Investing activities used \$186.0 million in 2018 compared to \$113.5 million used in 2017. Cash used for the purchases of property, plant, equipment, and capitalized software increased \$108.0 million primarily due to costs associated with the construction of the bio-refinery facility in 2018.

Purchases of Rail Group assets increased to \$167.0 million in the current year compared to \$143.0 million in 2017 as the Company continues to replace idle and scrapped cars with newer cars under lease. Proceeds from the sale of Rail Group assets were \$79.4 million in 2018 and \$37.0 million in 2017. The increase is primarily due to the sale of 50 barges in 2018. As such, net spend on Rail assets decreased \$18.6 million compared to the prior year.

Capital spending for 2018 on property, plant and equipment includes: Grain - \$17.2 million; Ethanol - \$101.3 million; Plant Nutrient - \$15.7 million; Rail - \$5.3 million; and \$3.0 million in corporate / enterprise resource planning project spending.

Proceeds from the sale of assets increased \$13.6 million due to the sale of three Tennessee grain locations and the sale of a corporate investment.

We expect to spend approximately \$113 million in 2019 on conventional property, plant and equipment which includes estimated 2019 capital spending for the completion of ELEMENT. An additional \$158 million is estimated to be spent on the purchase and capitalized modifications of railcars and barges with related sales or financings of approximately \$133 million.

Financing Arrangements

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$209.2 million in 2018, compared to \$10.5 million in 2017. The change in financing activity is primarily the result of an increase in borrowings to support working capital needs and capital expenditures. Further, we received proceeds from our noncontrolling interest owner related to our investment in the bio-refinery facility, which incurred significant construction costs, as noted above.

As of December 31, 2018, the Company was party to borrowing arrangements with a syndicate of banks that provide a total of \$1,070 million in borrowings. This amount includes \$70 million for ELEMENT and \$200 million for The Andersons Railcar Leasing Company LLC, that is non-recourse to the Company. Of that total, we had \$664.1 million available for borrowing at December 31, 2018. Peak short-term borrowings to date were \$555.0 million on April 12, 2018. Typically, our highest borrowing occurs in the late winter and early spring due to seasonal inventory requirements in our fertilizer and grain businesses.

We paid \$18.6 million in dividends in 2018 compared to \$18.2 million in 2017. We paid \$0.165 per common share for the dividends paid in January, April, July and October 2018, and \$0.160 per common share for the dividends paid in January, April, July and October 2017. On December 20, 2018, we declared a cash dividend of \$0.170 per common share, payable on January 23, 2018 to shareholders of record on January 2, 2018.

Certain of our long-term borrowings include covenants that, among other things, impose minimum levels of equity and limitations on additional debt. We are in compliance with all such covenants as of December 31, 2018. In addition, certain of our long-term borrowings are collateralized by first mortgages on various facilities or are collateralized by railcar assets. Our non-recourse long-term debt is collateralized by ethanol plant assets and railcar assets.

Because we are a significant consumer of short-term debt in peak seasons and the majority of this is variable rate debt, increases in interest rates could have a significant impact on our profitability. In addition, periods of high grain prices and / or unfavorable market conditions could require us to make additional margin deposits on our exchange traded futures contracts. Conversely, in periods of declining prices, we receive a return of cash.

We believe our sources of liquidity will be adequate to fund our operations, capital expenditures and payments of dividends in the foreseeable future. Furthermore, in January, the company entered in to a new syndicated credit facility which provides for unsecured borrowings of up to \$1,650 million and will be used to finance its increased operations as a result of the January acquisition of LTG among other needs.

Sources and Uses of Cash 2017 compared to 2016

Operating Activities and Liquidity

Our operating activities provided cash of \$75.3 million in 2017 compared to cash provided by operations of \$39.6 million in 2016. The increase in cash provided was due to several factors. Net income excluding the non-cash impact of impairments, gains on sale of assets and deferred tax change increased by \$6.0 million compared to 2016 and the impact of operating asset and liability fluctuations resulted in a \$50.0 million increase in operating cash flows. This was partially offset by a \$25.3 million decrease due to improved operating results at our equity affiliates which were not fully distributed in the form of cash, as well as other individually small fluctuations in operating activities.

Net income tax refunds of \$2.1 million and \$10.6 million were received in 2017 and 2016, respectively. The Company makes quarterly estimated tax payments based on year to date annualized taxable income. The net refunds received in 2016 are primarily due to a \$12.0 million refund of overpaid 2015 Federal income taxes.

Investing Activities

Investing activities used \$113.5 million in 2017 compared to \$28.2 million used in 2016. Purchases of Rail Group assets increased to \$143.0 million in 2017 compared to \$85.3 million in 2016. This increase was partially offset by proceeds from the sale of Rail Group assets which were \$36.9 million in 2017 and \$56.7 million in 2016. As such, net spend on Rail assets increased \$77.5 million compared to 2016. Property, plant, and equipment and capitalized software decreased \$43.1 million compared to the same period in 2016 with the largest decrease related to the corporate headquarter spend in 2016. Capital spending for 2017 on property, plant and equipment includes: Grain - \$10.9 million; Ethanol - \$3.7 million; Plant Nutrient - \$10.7 million; Rail - \$3.5 million; and \$5.8 million in corporate / enterprise resource planning project spending. Proceeds from the sale of assets decreased \$36.0 million.

Financing Arrangements

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$10.5 million in 2017, compared to \$12.5 million used in 2016. The change in financing activity is primarily the result of a decrease in the pay down of long term debt compared to 2016 which was partially offset by an increase in cash being paid to reduce short term borrowings.

We have significant amounts of committed short-term lines of credit available to finance working capital, primarily inventories, margin calls on commodity contracts and accounts receivable. We are party to a borrowing arrangement with a syndicate of banks that provides a total of \$815.0 million in borrowing capacity, including \$15.0 million in non-recourse debt of The Andersons Denison Ethanol LLC. Of that total, we had \$660.5 million remaining available for borrowing at December 31, 2017. Peak short-term borrowings were \$367.0 million on February 15, 2017. Typically, the Company's highest borrowing occurs in the first half of the year due to seasonal inventory requirements in the fertilizer businesses.

We paid \$18.2 million in dividends in 2017 compared to \$17.4 million in 2016. We paid \$0.16 per common share for the dividends paid in January, April, July and October 2017, and \$0.155 per common share for the dividends paid in January, April, July and October 2016. On December 20, 2017, we declared a cash dividend of \$0.165 per common share, payable on January 23, 2018 to shareholders of record on January 2, 2018.

Certain of our long-term borrowings include covenants that, among other things, impose minimum levels of equity and limitations on additional debt. We are in compliance with all such covenants as of December 31, 2017. In addition, certain of our long-term borrowings are collateralized by first mortgages on various facilities or are collateralized by railcar assets. In, 2017, our non-recourse long-term debt is collateralized by ethanol plant assets.

Contractual Obligations

Future payments due under contractual obligations at December 31, 2018 are as follows:

(in thousands)	Payments Due by Period				Total
	Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	After 5 years	
Long-term debt, recourse	\$21,331	\$208,606	\$126,493	\$166,820	\$523,250
Long-term debt, non-recourse	4,829	130,859	9,961	6,370	152,019
Interest obligations (a)	18,131	38,816	20,289	38,190	115,426
Operating leases (b)	16,973	21,842	10,010	8,372	57,197
Purchase commitments (c)	967,417	132,855	—	—	1,100,272
Other long-term liabilities (d)	3,317	6,711	6,804	24,695	41,527
Construction commitment (e)	70,263	—	—	—	70,263
Total contractual cash obligations	\$1,102,261	\$539,689	\$173,557	\$244,447	\$2,059,954

(a) Future interest obligations are calculated based on interest rates in effect as of December 31, 2018 for the Company's variable rate debt and do not include any assumptions on expected borrowings, if any, under the short-term line of credit.

(b) Approximately 51% of the operating lease commitments above relate to Rail Group assets that the Company leases from financial intermediaries. See "Off-Balance Sheet Transactions" below.

(c) Includes the amounts related to purchase obligations in the Company's operating units, including \$886 million for the purchase of grain from producers and \$129 million for the purchase of ethanol from the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs. There are also forward grain and ethanol sales contracts to consumers and traders and the net of these forward contracts are offset by exchange-traded futures and options contracts or over-the-counter contracts. See the narrative description of businesses for the Grain and Ethanol Groups in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for further discussion.

(d) Other long-term liabilities include estimated obligations under our retiree healthcare programs and principal and interest payments for the financing arrangement on our headquarters. Obligations under the retiree healthcare programs are not fixed commitments and will vary depending on various factors, including the level of participant utilization and inflation. Our estimates of postretirement payments through 2023 have considered recent payment trends and actuarial assumptions.

(e) In 2018, the Company entered into an agreement to construct a bio-refinery. The company expects to contribute \$70.3 million in 2019 for the construction of this plant.

At December 31, 2018, we had standby letters of credit outstanding of \$32.9 million.

Off-Balance Sheet Transactions

Our Rail Group utilizes leasing arrangements that provide off-balance sheet financing for its activities. We lease assets from financial intermediaries through sale-leaseback transactions, the majority of which involve operating leases. Rail Group assets we own or lease from a financial intermediary are generally leased to a customer under an operating lease. We also arrange non-recourse lease transactions under which we sell assets to a financial intermediary and assign the related operating lease to the financial intermediary on a non-recourse basis. In such arrangements, we generally provide ongoing maintenance and management services for the financial intermediary and receive a fee for such services.

The following table describes our Rail Group asset positions at December 31, 2018.

Method of Control	Financial Statement	Units
Owned - railcars available for sale	On balance sheet – current	373
Owned - railcar assets leased to others	On balance sheet – non-current	20,552
Railcars leased from financial intermediaries	Off balance sheet	2,271
Railcars in non-recourse arrangements	Off balance sheet	254
Total Railcars		23,450
Locomotive assets leased to others	On balance sheet – non-current	24
Locomotive assets leased from financial intermediaries	Off balance sheet	4
Total Locomotive Assets		28
Barge assets leased from financial intermediaries	Off balance sheet	15
Total Barges		15

In addition, we manage approximately 1,360 railcars for third-party customers or owners for which we receive a fee.

We have future lease payment commitments aggregating \$42.3 million for the Rail Group assets we lease from financial intermediaries under various operating leases. Remaining lease terms vary with none exceeding fifteen years. Where appropriate, we utilize non-recourse arrangements in order to minimize credit risk. Refer to Note 15 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 for more information on our leasing activities.

Critical Accounting Estimates

The process of preparing financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Management evaluates these estimates and assumptions on an ongoing basis. Estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and management's knowledge and understanding of current facts and circumstances. Actual results, under conditions and circumstances different from those assumed, may change from these estimates.

Certain of our accounting estimates are considered critical, as they are important to the depiction of the Company's financial statements and/or require significant or complex judgment by management. There are other items within our financial statements that require estimation, however, they are not deemed critical as defined above. Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 describes our significant accounting policies which should be read in conjunction with our critical accounting estimates.

Management believes that the accounting for grain inventories and commodity derivative contracts, including adjustments for counterparty risk, and impairment of long-lived assets, goodwill and equity method investments involve significant estimates and assumptions in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Grain Inventories and Commodity Derivative Contracts

Grain inventories are stated at their net realizable value, which approximates estimated selling prices in the ordinary course of business, less reasonably predictable costs of completion, disposal, and transportation. The Company marks to market all forward purchase and sale contracts for grain and ethanol, over-the-counter grain and ethanol contracts, and exchange-traded futures and options contracts. The overall market for grain inventories is very liquid and active; market value is determined by reference to prices for identical commodities a regulated commodity exchange (adjusted primarily for transportation costs); and the Company's grain inventories may be sold without significant additional processing. The Company uses forward purchase and sale contracts and both exchange traded and over-the-counter contracts (such as derivatives generally used by the International Swap Dealers Association). Management estimates fair value based on exchange-quoted prices, adjusted for differences in local markets, as well as counter-party non-performance risk in the case of forward and over-the-counter contracts. The amount of risk, and therefore the impact to the fair value of the contracts, varies by type of contract and type of counter-party. With the exception of specific customers thought to be at higher risk, the Company looks at the contracts in total, segregated by contract type, in its quarterly assessment of non-performance risk. For those customers that are thought to be at higher risk, the Company makes assumptions as to performance based on past history and facts about the current situation. Changes in fair value are recorded as a component of cost of sales and merchandising revenues in the statement of operations.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets, Goodwill, and Equity Method Investments

The Company's business segments are each highly capital intensive and require significant investment. Fixed assets are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the assets may not be recoverable. This is done by evaluating the recoverability based on undiscounted projected cash flows, excluding interest. If an asset group is considered impaired, the impairment loss to be recognized is measured as the amount by which the asset group's carrying amount exceeds its fair value.

We also annually review the balance of goodwill for impairment in the fourth quarter, using quantitative analyses. Goodwill is tested for impairment at the reporting unit level, which is the operating segment or one level below the operating segment. The quantitative review for impairment takes into account our estimates of future cash flows. Our estimates of future cash flows are based upon a number of assumptions including lease rates, lease terms, operating costs, life of the assets, potential disposition proceeds, budgets and long-range plans. These factors are discussed in more detail in Note 4, Goodwill and Intangible Assets.

In addition, the Company holds investments in several companies that are accounted for using the equity method of accounting. The Company reviews its investments to determine whether there has been a decline in the estimated fair value of the investment that is below the Company's carrying value which is other than temporary. Other than consideration of past and current performance, these reviews take into account forecasted earnings which are based on management's estimates of future performance.

Item 7a. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

The market risk inherent in the Company's market risk-sensitive instruments and positions is the potential loss arising from adverse changes in commodity prices and interest rates as discussed below.

Commodity Prices

The Company's daily net commodity position consists of inventories, related purchase and sale contracts, exchange-traded futures, and over-the-counter contracts. The fair value of the position is a summation of the fair values calculated for each commodity by valuing each net position at quoted futures market prices. The Company has established controls to manage and limit risk exposure, which consists of daily review of position limits and effects of potential market price moves on those positions.

A sensitivity analysis has been prepared to estimate the Company's exposure to market risk of its net commodity position. Market risk is estimated as the potential loss in fair value resulting from a hypothetical 10% adverse change in quoted market prices. The result of this analysis, which may differ from actual results, is as follows:

	December 31,	
(in thousands)	2018	2017
Net commodity position	\$3,373	\$(1,224)
Market risk	337	(122)

Interest Rates

The fair value of the Company's long-term debt is estimated using quoted market prices or discounted future cash flows based on the Company's current incremental borrowing rates and credit ratings for similar types of borrowing arrangements. Market risk, which is estimated as the potential increase in fair value resulting from a hypothetical one-half percent decrease in interest rates, is summarized below:

	December 31,	
(in thousands)	2018	2017
Fair value of long-term debt, including current maturities	\$517,998	\$474,769
Carrying value less fair value	5,813	1,451
Market risk	6,611	7,643

Actual results may differ. The estimated fair value and market risk will vary from year to year depending on the total amount of long-term debt and the mix of variable and fixed rate debt.

Additionally, the Company may enter into interest rate swaps from time to time to manage our mix of fixed and variable interest rate debt effectively. See Note 6 for further discussion on the impact of these hedging instruments.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

The Andersons, Inc.

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and the Board of Directors of
The Andersons, Inc.

Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of The Andersons, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, equity, and cash flows, for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes and the schedule listed in the Index at Item 15 (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). In our opinion, based on our audits and the reports of the other auditors, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2018, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of Lansing Trade Group, LLC or Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à.r.l as of and for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016, the Company's investments which are accounted for by use of the equity method. The accompanying financial statements of the Company include its equity investment in Lansing Trade Group, LLC of \$102 million and \$93 million and Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à r.l of \$45 million and \$47 million as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and its equity in earnings (losses) in Lansing Trade Group, LLC of \$10.4 million, \$4.0 million, and (\$9.9) million and Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à.r.l of \$2.2 million, \$0.5 million, and \$1.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016, respectively. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose reports have been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Lansing Trade Group, LLC and Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à r.l, is based solely on the reports of the other auditors.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated February 27, 2019, expressed an unqualified opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, the Company has changed its method of accounting for revenue from contracts with customers in 2018 due to the adoption of Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*.

Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material

misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits and the reports of the other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Cleveland, Ohio

February 27, 2019

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2015.

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Members and Board of Managers

Lansing Trade Group, LLC:

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Lansing Trade Group, LLC and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2018, the related consolidated statements of comprehensive income, equity, and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes (collectively, the consolidated financial statements). In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2018, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We did not audit the consolidated financial statements of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.a.r.l (Lux JV) (a 50 percent owned investee company). The Company's investment in Lux JV at December 31, 2018 was \$44.7 million and its equity in earnings of Lux JV was \$1.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2018. The consolidated financial statements of Lux JV were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Lux JV, is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audit and the report of the other auditors provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ KPMG LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2017.

Kansas City, Missouri

February 27, 2019

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

**To the Members and Board of Managers
Lansing Trade Group, LLC:**

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Lansing Trade Group, LLC and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2017, the related consolidated statements of comprehensive income, equity, and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes (collectively, the consolidated financial statements). In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for year ended December 31, 2017, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We did not audit the consolidated financial statements of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.a.r.l. (a 50% percent owned investee company). The Company's investment in Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.a.r.l. at December 31, 2017 was \$46.7 million and its equity in earnings of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.a.r.l. was \$0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. The consolidated financial statements of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.a.r.l. were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.a.r.l., is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities law and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB and in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audit and the report of the other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ KPMG LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2017.

Kansas City, Missouri

February 26, 2018

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

**To the Board of Managers and Shareholders of
Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à r.l.**

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à r.l. and its subsidiaries, (together, the Company) as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the related consolidated statements of operations and retained earnings and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2018, including the related notes (not included herein) (collectively referred to as the consolidated financial statements). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the results of operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2018 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

February 21, 2019

London, Canada

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2013.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Managers
Lansing Trade Group, LLC
Overland Park, Kansas

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of comprehensive income, equity and cash flows of Lansing Trade Group, LLC and Subsidiaries (the "Company") the year ended December 31, 2016. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the consolidated financial statements of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à.r.l., an entity in which Lansing Trade Group, LLC has an investment in and accounts for under the equity method of accounting, for which Lansing Trade Group, LLC recorded equity in earnings of affiliates of \$2.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. The financial statements of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à.r.l. were audited by other auditors whose report thereon has been furnished to us, and our opinion on the financial statements expressed herein, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à.r.l., is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

We conducted our audit in accordance with standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) and in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the Company's consolidated results of operations and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2016, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ Crowe LLP

Elkhart, Indiana
February 27, 2017

The Andersons, Inc.
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(In thousands)

	December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$22,593	\$34,919
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$8,325 in 2018; \$9,156 in 2017	207,285	183,238
Inventories (Note 2)	690,804	648,703
Commodity derivative assets – current (Note 6)	51,421	30,702
Other current assets	50,703	63,790
Assets held for sale	392	37,859
Total current assets	1,023,198	999,211
Other assets:		
Commodity derivative assets – noncurrent (Note 6)	480	310
Goodwill (Note 4)	6,024	6,024
Other intangible assets, net (Note 4)	99,138	112,893
Equity method investments	242,326	223,239
Other assets	22,341	12,557
	370,309	355,023
Rail Group assets leased to others, net (Note 3)	521,785	423,443
Property, plant and equipment, net (Note 3)	476,711	384,677
Total assets	\$2,392,003	\$2,162,354

The Andersons, Inc.
Consolidated Balance Sheets (continued)
(In thousands)

	December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
Liabilities and equity		
Current liabilities:		
Short-term debt (Note 5)	\$205,000	\$22,000
Trade and other payables	462,535	503,571
Customer prepayments and deferred revenue	32,533	59,710
Commodity derivative liabilities – current (Note 6)	32,647	29,651
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	79,046	69,579
Current maturities of long-term debt (Note 5)	21,589	54,205
Total current liabilities	833,350	738,716
Other long-term liabilities	32,184	33,129
Commodity derivative liabilities – noncurrent (Note 6)	889	825
Employee benefit plan obligations (Note 7)	22,542	26,716
Long-term debt, less current maturities (Note 5)	496,187	418,339
Deferred income taxes (Note 8)	130,087	121,730
Total liabilities	1,515,239	1,339,455
Commitments and contingencies (Note 15)		
Shareholders' equity:		
Common shares, without par value (63,000 shares authorized; 29,430 shares issued in 2018 and 2017)	96	96
Preferred shares, without par value (1,000 shares authorized; none issued)	—	—
Additional paid-in-capital	224,396	224,622
Treasury shares, at cost (936 in 2018; 1,063 in 2017)	(35,300)	(40,312)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(6,387)	(2,700)
Retained earnings	647,517	633,496
Total shareholders' equity of The Andersons, Inc.	830,322	815,202
Noncontrolling interests	46,442	7,697
Total equity	876,764	822,899
Total liabilities and equity	\$2,392,003	\$2,162,354

The Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

The Andersons, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Operations
(In thousands, except per share data)

	Year ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$3,045,382	\$3,686,345	\$3,924,790
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	2,743,377	3,367,546	3,579,284
Gross profit	302,005	318,799	345,506
Operating, administrative and general expenses	257,872	286,993	316,093
Asset impairment	6,272	10,913	9,107
Goodwill impairment	—	59,081	—
Interest expense	27,848	21,567	21,119
Other income:			
Equity in earnings of affiliates, net	27,141	16,723	9,721
Other income, net	16,002	22,507	12,473
Income (loss) before income taxes	53,156	(20,525)) 21,381
Income tax provision (benefit)	11,931	(63,134)) 6,911
Net income (loss)	41,225	42,609	14,470
Net income (loss) attributable to the noncontrolling interests	(259)) 98	2,876
Net income (loss) attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$41,484	\$42,511	\$11,594
Per common share:			
Basic earnings (loss) attributable to The Andersons, Inc. common shareholders	\$1.47	\$1.51	\$0.41
Diluted earnings (loss) attributable to The Andersons, Inc. common shareholders	\$1.46	\$1.50	\$0.41
Dividends declared	\$0.6650	\$0.6450	\$0.6250

The Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

The Andersons, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income
(In thousands)

	Year ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Net income (loss)	\$41,225	\$42,609	\$14,470
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:			
Change in fair value of convertible preferred securities (net of income tax of \$0, \$0 and \$74)	(86)	344	(126)
Change in unrecognized actuarial gain and prior service cost (net of income tax of \$(879), \$(1,809) and \$(4,355))	359	6,138	7,447
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(3,834)	3,286	1,039
Cash flow hedge activity (net of income tax of \$42, \$0 and \$(72))	(126)	—	111
Other comprehensive income (loss)	(3,687)	9,768	8,471
Comprehensive income (loss)	37,538	52,377	22,941
Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to the noncontrolling interests	(259)	98	2,876
Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$37,797	\$52,279	\$20,065

The Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

The Andersons, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(In thousands)

	Year ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Operating Activities			
Net income (loss)	\$41,225	\$42,609	14,470
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	90,297	86,412	84,325
Bad debt expense	542	3,000	1,191
Equity in (earnings) losses of affiliates, net of dividends	(23,167)	(10,494)	14,766
Gain on sale of assets	(5,218)	(14,401)	(667)
Gains on sales of Rail Group assets and related leases	(9,558)	(10,990)	(11,019)
Deferred income taxes	11,018	(63,234)	6,030
Stock based compensation expense	6,624	6,097	6,987
Goodwill impairment	—	59,081	—
Asset impairment	6,272	10,913	9,107
Other	(1,451)	(55)	(2,070)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(24,788)	9,781	(26,429)
Inventories	(44,060)	16,141	28,165
Commodity derivatives	(16,610)	20,285	(9,990)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(69,935)	(74,237)	(94,688)
Other assets	3,290	(5,623)	19,407
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(35,519)	75,285	39,585
Investing Activities			
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired	(2,248)	(3,507)	—
Purchases of Rail Group assets	(167,005)	(143,020)	(85,268)
Proceeds from sale of Rail Group assets	79,439	36,896	56,689
Purchases of property, plant and equipment and capitalized software	(142,579)	(34,602)	(77,740)
Proceeds from sale of assets and businesses	47,486	33,879	69,904
Proceeds from returns of investments in affiliates	—	1,069	9,186
Purchase of investments	(1,086)	(5,679)	(2,523)
Other	—	1,470	1,534
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(185,993)	(113,494)	(28,218)
Financing Activities			
Net change in short-term borrowings	183,000	(8,059)	14,000
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	132,000	85,175	81,760
Payments of long-term debt	(121,090)	(57,189)	(97,606)
Proceeds from long-term financing arrangements	—	12,195	14,027
Proceeds from (distributions to) noncontrolling interest owner	46,736	(377)	(5,853)
Payments of debt issuance costs	(1,446)	(2,024)	(323)
Acquisition of noncontrolling interest	(10,000)	—	—
Dividends paid	(18,639)	(18,152)	(17,362)
Other	(1,375)	(1,071)	(1,130)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	209,186	10,498	(12,487)
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(12,326)	(27,711)	(1,120)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	34,919	62,630	63,750
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$22,593	\$34,919	\$62,630

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The Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

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The Andersons, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Equity
(In thousands, except per share data)

	The Andersons, Inc. Shareholders' Equity						Total
	Common Shares	Additional Paid-in Capital	Treasury Shares	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Retained Earnings	Noncontrolling Interests	
Balance at January 1, 2016	\$96	\$222,848	\$(52,902)	\$(20,939)	\$615,151	\$19,485	\$783,739
Net income					11,594	2,876	14,470
Other comprehensive loss				8,471			8,471
Cash distributions to noncontrolling interest						(5,853)	(5,853)
Other changes to noncontrolling interest						(172)	(172)
Stock awards, stock option exercises and other shares issued to employees and directors, net of income tax of \$458 (196 shares)		67	7,489				7,556
Dividends declared (\$0.625 per common share)					(17,514)		(17,514)
Performance share unit dividends equivalents		(5)	30		(25)		—
Balance at December 31, 2016	96	222,910	(45,383)	(12,468)	609,206	16,336	790,697
Net income					42,511	98	42,609
Other comprehensive loss				9,768			9,768
Cash distributions to noncontrolling interest						(377)	(377)
Other changes in noncontrolling interest						(8,360)	(8,360)
Stock awards, stock option exercises and other shares issued to employees and directors, net of income tax of \$(323) (138 shares)		1,707	5,007				6,714
Dividends declared (\$0.645 per common share)					(18,152)		(18,152)
Performance share unit dividends equivalents		5	64		(69)		—
Balance at December 31, 2017	96	224,622	(40,312)	(2,700)	633,496	7,697	822,899
Net income					41,484	(259)	41,225
Other comprehensive income				(3,687)			(3,687)
Cash received from (paid to) noncontrolling interest, net		(2,268)				39,004	36,736
Adoption of accounting standard, net of income tax of \$3,492					(7,818)		(7,818)
Stock awards, stock option exercises and other shares issued to employees and directors, net of income tax of \$(267) (127 shares)		2,042	4,871				6,913
Dividends declared (\$0.665 per common share)					(19,504)		(19,504)
Restricted share award dividend equivalents			141		(141)		—
Balance at December 31, 2018	\$96	\$224,396	\$(35,300)	\$(6,387)	\$647,517	\$46,442	\$876,764

The Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

The Andersons, Inc.
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Consolidation

These Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of The Andersons, Inc. and its wholly owned and controlled subsidiaries (the “Company”). All intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated in consolidation. Investments in unconsolidated entities in which the Company has significant influence, but not control, are accounted for using the equity method of accounting.

In the opinion of management, all adjustments consisting of normal recurring items, considered necessary for a fair presentation of the results of operations for the periods indicated, have been made.

Use of Estimates and Assumptions

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and short-term investments with an initial maturity of three months or less. The carrying values of these assets approximate their fair values.

Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Trade accounts receivable are recorded at the invoiced amount and may bear interest if past due. The allowance for doubtful accounts is the best estimate of the amount of probable credit losses in existing accounts receivable. The allowance for doubtful accounts is reviewed quarterly. The allowance is based both on specific identification of potentially uncollectible accounts and the application of a consistent policy, based on historical experience, to estimate the allowance necessary for the remaining accounts receivable. For those customers that are thought to be at higher risk, the Company makes assumptions as to collectability based on past history and facts about the current situation. Account balances are charged off against the allowance when it becomes more certain that the receivable will not be recovered. The Company manages its exposure to counter-party credit risk through credit analysis and approvals, credit limits and monitoring procedures.

Commodity Derivatives and Inventories

The Company's operating results can be affected by changes to commodity prices. The Grain and Ethanol businesses have established “unhedged” position limits (the amount of a commodity, either owned or contracted for, that does not have an offsetting derivative contract to mitigate the price risk associated with those contracts and inventory). To reduce the exposure to market price risk on commodities owned and forward grain and ethanol purchase and sale contracts, the Company enters into exchange traded commodity futures and options contracts and over-the-counter forward and option contracts with various counterparties. The forward purchase and sale contracts are for physical delivery of the commodity in a future period. Contracts to purchase commodities from producers generally relate to the current or future crop years for delivery periods quoted by regulated commodity exchanges. Contracts for the sale

of commodities to processors or other commercial consumers generally do not extend beyond one year.

The Company accounts for its commodity derivatives at fair value. The estimated fair value of the commodity derivative contracts that require the receipt or posting of cash collateral is recorded on a net basis (offset against cash collateral posted or received, also known as margin deposits) within commodity derivative assets or liabilities. Management determines fair value based on exchange-quoted prices and in the case of its forward purchase and sale contracts, fair value is adjusted for differences in local markets and non-performance risk. While the Company considers certain of its commodity contracts to be effective economic hedges, the Company does not designate or account for its commodity contracts as hedges.

Realized and unrealized gains and losses in the value of commodity contracts (whether due to changes in commodity prices, changes in performance or credit risk, or due to sale, maturity or extinguishment of the commodity contract) and grain

inventories are included in cost of sales and merchandising revenues in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. Additional information about the fair value of the Company's commodity derivatives is presented in Notes 6 and 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Grain inventories, which are agricultural commodities and may be acquired under provisionally priced contracts, are stated at their net realizable value, which approximates estimated selling prices in the ordinary course of business, less reasonably predictable costs of completion, disposal and transportation.

All other inventories are stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost is determined by the average cost method. Additional information about inventories is presented in Note 2 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Derivatives - Master Netting Arrangements

Generally accepted accounting principles permit a party to a master netting arrangement to offset fair value amounts recognized for derivative instruments against the right to reclaim cash collateral or obligation to return cash collateral under the same master netting arrangement. The Company has master netting arrangements for its exchange traded futures and options contracts and certain over-the-counter contracts. When the Company enters into a futures, options or an over-the-counter contract, an initial margin deposit may be required by the counterparty. The amount of the margin deposit varies by commodity. If the market price of a futures, option or an over-the-counter contract moves in a direction that is adverse to the Company's position, an additional margin deposit, called a maintenance margin, is required. The Company nets, by counterparty, its futures and over-the-counter positions against the cash collateral provided or received. The margin deposit assets and liabilities are included in short-term commodity derivative assets or liabilities, as appropriate, in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Additional information about the Company's master netting arrangements is presented in Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Derivatives - Interest Rate and Foreign Currency Contracts

The Company periodically enters into interest rate contracts to manage interest rate risk on borrowing or financing activities. The Company has long-term interest rate swaps recorded in other assets or other long-term liabilities that expire in 2021 and have been designated as a cash flow hedge; accordingly, changes in the fair value of the instruments are recognized in other comprehensive income. The Company has interest rate contracts recorded in other assets that are not designated as hedges. While the Company considers all of its derivative positions to be effective economic hedges of specified risks, these interest rate contracts for which hedge accounting is not applied are recorded on the Consolidated Balance Sheets in either other current assets or liabilities (if short-term in nature) or in other assets or other long-term liabilities (if non-current in nature), and changes in fair value are recognized in income as interest expense. Upon termination of a derivative instrument or a change in the hedged item, any remaining fair value recorded on the balance sheet is recorded as interest expense consistent with the cash flows associated with the underlying hedged item. Information regarding the nature and terms of the Company's interest rate derivatives is presented in Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Marketing Agreement

The Company has a marketing agreement that covers certain of its grain facilities, some of which are leased from Cargill, Incorporated ("Cargill"). Under the five-year amended and restated agreement (renewed in June 2018 and ending May 2023), any grain the Company sells to Cargill is at market price. Income earned from operating the facilities (including buying, storing and selling grain and providing grain marketing services to its producer customers) over a specified threshold is shared equally with Cargill. Measurement of this threshold is made on a cumulative basis and cash is paid to Cargill on an annual basis. The Company recognizes its pro rata share of income every month and accrues for any payment owed to Cargill. There was no balance included in customer prepayments

and deferred revenue as of December 31, 2018 and \$3.3 million was included as of December 31, 2017.

Rail Group Assets Leased to Others

The Company's Rail Group purchases, leases, markets and manages railcars and barges for third parties and for internal use. Rail Group assets to which the Company holds title are shown on the balance sheet in one of two categories - other current assets (for those that are available for sale) or Rail Group assets leased to others. Rail Group assets leased to others, both on short and long-term leases, are classified as long-term assets and are depreciated over their estimated useful lives.

Railcars have statutory lives of either 40 or 50 years, measured from the date built. Barges have estimated lives of 30 to 40 years, measured from the date built. At the time of purchase, the remaining life is used in determining useful lives which are

depreciated on a straight-line basis. Repairs and maintenance costs are charged to expense as incurred. Additional information regarding Rail Group assets leased to others is presented in Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at cost. Repairs and maintenance costs are charged to expense as incurred, while betterments that extend useful lives are capitalized. Depreciation is provided over the estimated useful lives of the individual assets, by the straight-line method. Estimated useful lives are generally as follows: land improvements - 16 years; leasehold improvements - the shorter of the lease term or the estimated useful life of the improvement, ranging from 3 to 20 years; buildings and storage facilities - 10 to 40 years; and machinery and equipment - 3 to 20 years. The cost of assets retired or otherwise disposed of and the accumulated depreciation thereon are removed from the accounts, with any gain or loss realized upon sale or disposal credited or charged to operations.

Additional information regarding the Company's property, plant and equipment is presented in Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Deferred Debt Issue Costs

Costs associated with the issuance of debt are deferred and recorded net with debt. These costs are amortized, as a component of interest expense, over the earlier of the stated term of the debt or the period from the issue date through the first early payoff date without penalty, or the expected payoff date if the loan does not contain a prepayment penalty. Deferred costs associated with the borrowing arrangement with a syndication of banks are amortized over the term of the agreement.

Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Goodwill is subject to annual impairment tests or more often when events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of goodwill may be impaired. A goodwill impairment loss is recognized to the extent the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds the business enterprise value. Additional information about the Company's goodwill and other intangible assets is presented in Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Acquired intangible assets are recorded at cost, less accumulated amortization, if not indefinite lived. In addition, we capitalize the salaries and payroll-related costs of employees and consultants who devote time to the development of internal-use software projects. If a project constitutes an enhancement to previously-developed software, we assess whether the enhancement is significant and creates additional functionality to the software, thus qualifying the work incurred for capitalization. Once a project is complete, we estimate the useful life of the internal-use software. Changes in our estimates related to internal-use software would increase or decrease operating expenses or amortization recorded during the period.

Amortization of intangible assets is provided over their estimated useful lives (generally 3 to 10 years) on the straight-line method.

Impairment of Long-lived Assets and Equity Method Investments

Long-lived assets, including intangible assets, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by comparing the carrying amount of the assets to the undiscounted future net cash flows the Company expects to generate with the assets. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the Company recognizes an

impairment loss for the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets.

The Company reviews its equity method investments to determine whether there has been a decline in the estimated fair value of the investment that is below the Company's carrying value which is other than temporary. Other than consideration of past and current performance, these reviews take into account forecasted earnings which are based on management's estimates of future performance.

Provisionally Priced Grain Contracts

Accounts payable includes certain amounts related to grain purchases for which, even though the Company has taken ownership and possession of the grain, the final purchase price has not been fully established. If the futures and basis components are unpriced, it is referred to as a delayed price payable. If the futures component has not been established, but the basis has been set, it is referred to as a basis payable. The unpriced portion of these payables will be exposed to changes in the

fair value of the underlying commodity based on quoted prices on commodity exchanges (or basis levels). Those payables that are fully priced are not considered derivative instruments.

The Company also enters into contracts with customers for risk management purposes that allow the customers to effectively unprice the futures component of their inventory for a period of time, subjecting the bushels to market fluctuations. The Company records an asset or liability for the market value changes of the commodities over the life of the contracts based on quoted exchange prices. See Note 12 for additional discussion on these instruments.

Stock-Based Compensation

Stock-based compensation expense for all stock-based compensation awards is based on the estimated grant-date fair value. The Company recognizes these compensation costs on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the award, adjusted for revisions to performance expectations. Additional information about the Company's stock compensation plans is presented in Note 17 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Deferred Compensation Liability

Included in accrued expenses are \$7.5 million and \$9.6 million at December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively, of deferred compensation for certain employees who, due to Internal Revenue Service guidelines, may not take full advantage of the Company's qualified defined contribution plan. Assets funding this plan are recorded at fair value in other current assets with changes in the fair value recorded in earnings as a component of other income, net. Changes in the fair value of the deferred compensation liability are reflected in earnings as a component of operating, administrative, and general expenses.

Revenue Recognition

The Company's revenue consists of sales from commodity contracts that are accounted for under ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging* (ASC 815), rental revenues from operating leases that are accounted for under ASC 840, *Leases*, and sales of other products and services that are accounted for under ASC 606, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (ASC 606).

Revenue from commodity contracts (ASC 815)

Revenue from commodity contracts primarily relates to forward sales of commodities in the Company's Grain and Ethanol segments, such as corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, ethanol, and corn oil, which are accounted for as derivatives at fair value under ASC 815. These forward sales meet the definition of a derivative under ASC 815 as they have an underlying (e.g. the price of corn), a notional amount (e.g. metric tons), no initial net investment and can be net settled since the commodity is readily convertible to cash. The Company does not apply the normal purchase and normal sale exception available under ASC 815 to these contracts.

Revenue from commodity contracts is recognized in Sales and merchandising revenues for the contractually stated amount when the contracts are settled. Settlement of the commodity contracts generally occurs upon shipment or delivery of the product, when title and risks and rewards of ownership transfers to the customer. Prior to settlement, these forward sales contracts are recognized at fair value with the unrealized gains or losses recorded within Cost of sales and merchandising revenues. Additional information about the fair value of the Company's commodity derivatives is presented in Notes 6 and 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

There are certain transactions that allow for pricing to occur after title of the goods has passed to the customer. In these cases, the Company continues to report the goods in inventory until it recognizes the sales revenue once the

price has been determined. Direct ship grain sales (where the Company never takes physical possession of the grain) are recognized when the grain arrives at the customer's facility.

Certain of the Company's operations provide for customer billings, deposits or prepayments for product that is stored at the Company's facilities. The sales and gross profit related to these transactions are not recognized until the product is shipped in accordance with the previously stated revenue recognition policy and these amounts are classified as a current liability titled "Customer prepayments and deferred revenue".

Revenue from leases (ASC 840)

The Company has a diversified fleet of car types (boxcars, gondolas, covered and open top hopper cars, tank cars and pressure differential cars), locomotives and barges serving a broad customer base. While most of these assets are owned by the Company, it also lease assets from financial intermediaries through sale-leaseback transactions, the majority of which involve operating leases. The Company's Rail Group leases these assets to customers under operating leases, which includes managing the assets for third parties. In exchange for conveying the right to use these railcars to the lessee, the Company receives a fixed monthly rental payment, which is typically expressed on a "per car" basis in the lease agreement. Revenue from these arrangements is recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Certain of the Company's leases include monthly lease fees that are contingent upon some measure of usage ("per diem" leases). This monthly usage is tracked, billed and collected by third-party service providers and funds are generally remitted to the Company along with usage data three months after they are earned. The Company records lease revenue for these per diem arrangements based on recent historical usage patterns and records a true-up adjustment when the actual data is received. Such true-up adjustments were not significant for any period presented.

Additional information about leasing activities is presented in Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Revenue related to railcar or other asset servicing and maintenance contracts is recognized over the term of the lease or service contract.

Revenue from contracts with customers (ASC 606)

Revenue from contracts with customers accounted for under ASC 606 is primarily generated in the Plant Nutrient segment through the sale agricultural and related plant nutrients, corncob-based products, pelleted lime and gypsum products. The Company recognizes revenue from these contracts at a point in time when it satisfies a performance obligation by transferring control of a product to a customer, generally when legal title and risks and rewards of ownership transfer to the customer.

Additional information regarding our revenue recognition policy under ASC 606 is presented in Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Rail Lease Accounting

The Company expenses operating lease payments on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Additional information about leasing activities is presented in Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Income Taxes

Income tax expense for each period includes current tax expense plus deferred expense, which is related to the change in deferred income tax assets and liabilities. Deferred income taxes are provided for temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and the tax basis of assets and liabilities and are measured using enacted tax rates and laws governing periods in which the differences are expected to reverse. The Company evaluates the realizability of deferred tax assets and provides a valuation allowance for amounts that management does not believe are more likely than not to be recoverable, as applicable.

The annual effective tax rate is determined by income tax expense from continuing operations as a percentage of pretax book income. Differences in the effective tax rate and the statutory tax rate may be due to permanent items, tax

credits, foreign tax rates and state tax rates in jurisdictions in which the Company operates, or changes in valuation allowances.

The Company records reserves for uncertain tax positions when, despite the belief that tax return positions are fully supportable, it is anticipated that certain tax return positions are likely to be challenged and that the Company may not prevail. These reserves are adjusted for changing facts and circumstances, such as the progress of a tax audit or the lapse of statutes of limitations.

Additional information about the Company's income taxes is presented in Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Employee Benefit Plans

The Company provides full-time employees hired before January 1, 2003 with postretirement health care benefits. In order to measure the expense and funded status of these employee benefit plans, management makes several estimates and assumptions,

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including employee turnover rates, anticipated mortality rates and anticipated future healthcare cost trends. These estimates and assumptions are based on the Company's historical experience combined with management's knowledge and understanding of current facts and circumstances. The selection of the discount rate is based on an index given projected plan payouts. Additional information about the Company's employee benefit plans is presented in Note 7 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Advertising

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred. Advertising expense of \$1.9 million, \$2.5 million and \$4.9 million in 2018, 2017, and 2016, respectively, is included in operating, administrative and general expenses.

New Accounting Standards

Derivatives and Hedging

In August 2017, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2017-12 Targeted Improvements to Accounting for Hedging Activities. This standard simplifies the recognition and presentation of changes in the fair value of hedging instruments and, among other things, eliminates the requirement to separately measure and record hedge ineffectiveness. The Company early adopted ASU 2017-12 during the current year noting the effects of this standard on our condensed consolidated financial statements were not material. There was no transition impact.

Revenue Recognition

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (ASC 606). The FASB issued subsequent amendments to the initial guidance in August 2015, March 2016, April 2016, May 2016, and December 2016 within ASU 2015-14, ASU 2016-08, ASU 2016-10 ASU 2016-12 and ASU 2016-20, respectively. The core principle of the new revenue standard is that an entity recognizes revenue from the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The Company adopted the standard in the current year using the modified retrospective method. As a result of the adoption, the Company recognized a cumulative catch-up transition adjustment in beginning retained earnings at January 1, 2018 for non-recourse financing transactions that were open as of December 31, 2017. This resulted in a \$25.6 million increase in Rail Group net assets, \$34.0 million increase in financing liabilities and deferred tax liabilities and \$8.4 million decrease to retained earnings. See Note 8 for further detail.

Leasing

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, Leases (ASC 842). The FASB issued subsequent amendments to the initial guidance in July 2018 with ASU 2018-10, in August 2018 with ASU 2018-11, and in December 2018 with ASU 2018-20. ASC 842 supersedes the current accounting for leases. The new standard, while retaining two distinct types of leases, finance and operating, (i) requires lessees to record a right of use asset and a related liability for the rights and obligations associated with a lease, regardless of lease classification, and recognize lease expense in a manner similar to current accounting, (ii) eliminates current real estate specific lease provisions, (iii) modifies the lease classification criteria and (iv) aligns many of the underlying lessor model principles with those in the new revenue standard.

We will adopt the new standard on the required effective date of January 1, 2019 using the Comparatives Under ASC 840 approach, which requires application of the new guidance at the beginning of the standard's effective date. The Company elected the Package of Three practical expedient and has decided not to elect the "Hindsight" practical

expedient. As a result, the Company will measure the right of use asset and lease liability for operating leases upon adoption using the remaining portion of the lease term that was determined under ASC 840 when the lease was entered into.

A cross-functional implementation team is finalizing policy elections, the discount rate to be used based on January 1, 2019 data, and business processes and controls to support recognition and disclosure under the new standard. The primary impact upon adoption will be the recognition of right of use assets and lease liabilities, on a discounted basis, of our minimum lease obligations, as disclosed in Note 15. In addition, the Company will be required to recognize its deferred gains associated with successful sale-and-leaseback transactions as a cumulative effect adjustment to retained earnings upon adoption of the new standard. However, such amounts are not material to the consolidated financial statements. We currently do not expect ASU 2016-12 to have a material effect on our Consolidated Statements of Income.

Other applicable standards

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-15, Intangibles-Goodwill and Other-Internal-Use Software (Subtopic 350-40): Customer's Accounting for Implementation Costs Incurred in a Cloud Computing Arrangement that is a Service Contract. This ASU reduces the complexity of accounting for costs of implementing a cloud computing service arrangement. This standard aligns the accounting for implementation costs of hosting arrangements, regardless of whether they convey a license to the hosted software. The guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2020. The Company is still evaluating the impact of this standard.

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-14, Disclosure Framework - Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Defined Benefit Plans. This standard modified the disclosure requirements for employers that sponsor defined benefit pension or other postretirement plans. The standard is effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2020, and early adoption is permitted. The Company adopted this standard in the current period which did not have a material impact on its disclosures.

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-13 Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Disclosure Framework-Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement which removes and modifies some existing disclosure requirements and adds others. The ASU is effective for all entities for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, including interim periods therein. Early adoption is permitted for any eliminated or modified disclosures upon issuance of this ASU. The Company adopted this standard in the current period which did not have a material impact on its disclosures.

In February 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-02, Income Statement-Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Reclassification of Certain Tax Effects from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income, which allows companies to reclassify stranded income tax effects resulting from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act from accumulated other comprehensive income to retained earnings in their consolidated financial statements. This guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018. We have evaluated the impact of this new standard on our consolidated financial statements noting it is not material. Early adoption is permitted, but the Company has not chosen to do so at this time.

In May 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-09 Compensation-Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Scope of Modification Accounting. Under this standard, if the vesting conditions, fair value, and classification of the awards are the same immediately before and after the modification an entity would not apply modification accounting. The FASB then issued ASU 2018-07 which expands the scope to include share-based payment transactions for acquiring goods and services from nonemployees. The Company has adopted these standards during the year, noting no impact as the Company has not made any modifications to our stock compensation awards.

In March 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-07 Compensation-Retirement Benefits (Topic 715): Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Postretirement Benefit Cost. This standard requires that the service cost component be reported in the same line item as other compensation costs arising from services rendered by the employees during the period. The other components of net benefit costs should be presented in the income statement separately from the service cost component and outside of income from operations if that subtotal is presented. The Company has adopted this standard in the current year using the retrospective approach and prior periods have been recast to reflect this change.

In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-15, Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230): Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments. This standard clarifies how companies present and classify certain cash receipts and payments in the statement of cash flows. The Company has adopted this standard in the current year noting the impact is immaterial.

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13, Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments. The FASB issued subsequent amendments to the initial guidance in November 2018 with ASU 2018-19. This update changes the accounting for credit losses on loans and held-to-maturity debt securities and requires a current expected credit loss (CECL) approach to determine the allowance for credit losses. This includes allowances for trade receivables. The Company has not historically incurred significant credit losses and does not currently anticipate circumstances that would lead to a CECL approach differing from the Company's existing allowance estimates in a material way. The guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019 with a cumulative-effect adjustment to retained earnings as of the beginning of the year of adoption. Early adoption is permitted, but the Company does not plan to do so.

In January 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-01, Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities. The FASB issued subsequent amendments to the initial guidance in February 2018 and March 2018 within ASU 2018-03 and ASU 2018-04, respectively. This standard provides guidance for the recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure of financial instruments. The Company has adopted this standard in the current year noting the impact is immaterial.

2. Inventories

Major classes of inventories are as follows:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
Grain	\$527,471	\$505,217
Ethanol and co-products	11,918	11,003
Plant nutrients and cob products	145,693	126,962
Railcar repair parts	5,722	5,521
	\$690,804	\$648,703

Grain inventories held in storage for others was de minimis as of December 31, 2018. Inventories on the Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2017 do not include 1.0 million bushels of grain held in storage for others. The Company does not have title to the grain and is only liable for any deficiencies in grade or shortage of quantity that may arise during the storage period. Management has not experienced historical losses on any deficiencies and does not anticipate material losses in the future.

3. Property, Plant and Equipment

The components of property, plant and equipment are as follows:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
Land	\$29,739	\$22,388
Land improvements and leasehold improvements	68,826	69,127
Buildings and storage facilities	284,998	284,820
Machinery and equipment	393,640	373,127
Construction in progress	102,394	7,502
	879,597	756,964
Less: accumulated depreciation	402,886	372,287
	\$476,711	\$384,677

Capitalized interest totaled \$1.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2018.

Depreciation expense on property, plant and equipment amounted to \$46.5 million, \$48.3 million and \$48.9 million for the years ended 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

In June 2018, the Company recorded charges totaling \$1.6 million for impairment of property, plant and equipment in the Grain segment related to assets that were reclassified as assets held for sale at June 30, 2018 and were sold in the third quarter.

In December 2017, the Company recorded charges totaling \$10.9 million for impairment of property, plant and equipment in the Grain segment, of which \$5.6 million relates to assets that were deemed held and used and \$5.3 million related to assets that had been reclassified as assets held for sale at December 31, 2017. These assets were then sold during 2018.

In December 2016, the Company recorded charges totaling \$6.0 million for impairment of property, plant and equipment in the Retail segment. This does not include \$0.5 million of impairment charges related to software. The Company also recorded charges totaling \$2.3 million for impairment of property, plant and equipment in the Plant Nutrient segment due to the closing of a cob facility.

Rail Group Assets

The components of the Rail Group assets leased to others are as follows:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
Rail Group assets leased to others	\$640,349	\$531,391
Less: accumulated depreciation	118,564	107,948
	\$521,785	\$423,443

Depreciation expense on Rail Group assets leased to others amounted to \$24.7 million, \$20.0 million and \$18.6 million for the years ended 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

In June 2018, the Company recorded charges totaling \$4.7 million for impairment of Rail Group assets leased to others that had been reclassified as assets held for sale at June 30, 2018. These assets were sold during the second half of 2018.

4. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill by reportable segment for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016 are as follows:

(in thousands)	Grain	Plant Nutrient	Rail	Total
Balance at January 1, 2016	\$—	\$59,767	\$4,167	\$63,934
Acquisitions	—	—	—	—
Balance at December 31, 2016	—	59,767	4,167	63,934
Acquisitions	1,171	—	—	1,171
Impairments	—	(59,081)	—	(59,081)
Balance at December 31, 2017	1,171	686	4,167	6,024
Acquisitions	—	—	—	—
Balance at December 31, 2018	\$1,171	\$686	\$4,167	\$6,024

Goodwill for the Grain segment is \$1.2 million and net of accumulated impairment losses of \$46.4 million as of December 31, 2018. Goodwill for the Plant Nutrient segment is \$0.7 million and net of accumulated impairment losses of \$68.9 million as of December 31, 2018.

Goodwill is tested for impairment annually as of October 1, or more frequently if impairment indicators arise. Upon early adoption of ASU No. 2017-04 during the second quarter of 2017, the Company uses a one-step quantitative approach that compares the business enterprise value ("BEV") of each reporting unit with its carrying value. The BEV was computed based on both an income approach (discounted cash flows) and a market approach. The income approach uses a reporting unit's estimated future cash flows, discounted at the weighted average cost of capital of a hypothetical third-party buyer. The market approach estimates fair value by applying cash flow multiples to the reporting unit's operating performance. The multiples are derived from comparable publicly traded companies with similar operating and investment characteristics to the reporting unit. Any excess of the carrying value of the goodwill over the BEV will be recorded as an impairment loss. The calculation of the BEV is based on significant unobservable inputs, such as price trends, customer demand, material costs and discount rates, and are classified as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy. No goodwill impairment charges were incurred in 2018 as a result of our annual impairment testing.

While performing the annual assessment of goodwill impairment in 2017, the Company recorded an impairment loss related to the Wholesale reporting unit for \$17.1 million. The discounted cash flow model used for the income approach assumed discrete period revenue growth through 2022 that was reflective of market opportunities, changes in product mix, and cyclical trends within the Wholesale reporting unit. In the terminal year, the Company assumed a long-term earnings growth rate of 2.0 percent that is believed to be appropriate given the current industry-specific expectations. As of the valuation date, the Company utilized a weighted-average cost of capital of 10.4 percent, which reflects the relative risk and time value of money. This is in addition to the \$42.0 million of impairment recorded in the Wholesale reporting unit in the second quarter of 2017. As a result, there is no remaining goodwill in the Wholesale reporting unit as of December 31, 2017. No other impairments were incurred in the remaining reporting units as a result of the annual assessment.

No goodwill impairment charges were incurred in 2016 as a result of our annual impairment testing.

The Company's other intangible assets are as follows:

(in thousands)	Original Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value
December 31, 2018			
Intangible asset class			
Customer list	\$40,570	\$ 21,706	\$18,864
Non-compete agreement	3,313	2,753	560
Supply agreement	9,060	5,824	3,236
Technology	13,400	4,857	8,543
Trademarks and patents	17,985	7,682	10,303
Lease intangible	11,564	3,602	7,962
Software	86,723	37,112	49,611
Other	419	360	59
	\$183,034	\$ 83,896	\$99,138
December 31, 2017			
Intangible asset class			
Customer list	\$41,151	\$ 18,437	\$22,714
Non-compete agreement	4,665	3,563	1,102
Supply agreement	9,806	5,699	4,107
Technology	15,500	5,616	9,884
Trademarks and patents	18,185	5,882	12,303
Lease intangible	12,420	5,707	6,713
Software	84,339	28,372	55,967
Other	2,023	1,920	103
	\$188,089	\$ 75,196	\$112,893

Amortization expense for intangible assets was \$19.1 million, \$18.1 million and \$16.8 million for 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Expected future annual amortization expense for the above assets is as follows: 2019 -- \$19.5 million; 2020 -- \$17.7 million; 2021 -- \$16.4 million; 2022 -- \$14.4 million; and 2023 -- \$12.9 million.

5. Debt

Borrowing Arrangements

On April 13, 2017, the Company amended its line of credit agreement with a syndicate of banks. The amended agreement provides for a credit facility in the amount of \$800 million. The Company can designate up to \$400 million of borrowings as long-term when the debt is used for long-term purposes, such as replacing long-term debt that is maturing, funding the purchase of long-term assets, or increasing permanent working capital when needed. It also provides the Company with up to \$90 million in letters of credit. Any amounts outstanding on letters of credit will reduce the amount available on the lines of credit. The Company had standby letters of credit outstanding of \$32.9 million at December 31, 2018. As of December 31, 2018, the Company had \$255.0 million of outstanding borrowings on the lines of credit of which \$205.0 million is classified as short-term debt. Borrowings under the lines of credit bear interest at variable interest rates, which are based off LIBOR plus an applicable spread. The maturity date for the line of credit is April 2022. Draw downs and repayments that are less than 90 days are recorded on a net basis in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

ELEMENT, a consolidated subsidiary of the Company, entered into a financing agreement during the first quarter of 2018. This agreement provides a construction loan of up to \$70 million. Upon project completion, the agreement

provides the opportunity for the Company to convert the construction loan to a term loan of up to \$50.0 million and a revolving term loan of up to \$20.0 million. The maturity date of the credit agreement is March 2, 2025. During the construction period, borrowings under the credit agreement bear interest at variable interest rates, which are based off LIBOR plus an applicable spread. Upon conversion of the construction loan to a term loan, the Company will have the option of fixing the interest on portions of the loans, or continuing at the previously described variable interest rates. There are no outstanding borrowings under this agreement as of December 31, 2018. The agreements include both financial and non-financial covenants that ELEMENT, among other things, is required at a minimum to maintain various working capital levels and debt service coverage ratios based on project milestones as well as a minimum owner's equity level.

The Andersons Railcar Leasing Company LLC, a consolidated subsidiary of the Company, entered into a new line of credit agreement in the first quarter of 2018 and which was subsequently amended and restated during the third quarter of 2018. The amended agreement provides for a credit facility in the amount of \$200 million. The maturity date of the loan agreement is August 2, 2021. Borrowings under the agreement bear interest at market driven, variable interest rates, which are based off LIBOR plus an applicable spread. The agreement includes both financial and non-financial covenants, including maintaining certain leverage and interest coverage ratios, tangible net worth and utilization levels. There are \$118.0 million of outstanding borrowings, classified as non-recourse debt, under this agreement as of December 31, 2018, the proceeds of which were used to purchase Rail Group assets.

The Company's short-term and long-term debt at December 31, 2018 and 2017 consisted of the following:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
Short-term debt - non-recourse	\$—	\$—
Short-term debt - recourse	205,000	22,000
Total short-term debt	\$205,000	\$22,000
Current maturities of long-term debt – non-recourse	\$4,842	\$—
Current maturities of long-term debt – recourse	16,747	54,205
Total current maturities of long-term debt	\$21,589	\$54,205
Long-term debt, less current maturities – non-recourse	\$146,353	\$—
Long-term debt, less current maturities – recourse	349,834	418,339
Total long-term debt, less current maturities	\$496,187	\$418,339

The following information relates to short-term borrowings:

(in thousands, except percentages)	2018	2017	2016
Maximum amount borrowed	\$555,000	\$367,000	\$412,000
Weighted average interest rate	3.32	% 2.56	% 1.94

Long-Term Debt**Recourse Debt**

Long-term debt consists of the following:

	December 31,	
	2018	2017
(in thousands, except percentages)		
Note payable, 4.07%, payable at maturity, due 2021	\$26,000	\$26,000
Note payable, 4.55%, payable at maturity, due 2023	24,000	24,000
Note payable, 4.85%, payable at maturity, due 2026	25,000	25,000
Note payable, 6.78%, payable at maturity, paid 2018	—	41,500
Note payable, 4.92%, payable in increasing amounts (\$2.0 million for 2018), plus interest, due 2021 (a)	16,227	18,241
Note payable, 4.76%, payable in increasing amounts (\$1.6 million for 2018) plus interest, due 2028 (a)	44,330	45,936
Note payable, variable rate (4.85% at December 31, 2018), payable in increasing amounts (\$1.3 million for 2018) plus interest, due 2023 (a)	16,452	17,786
Note payable, 3.29%, payable in increasing amounts (\$1.4 million for 2018) plus interest, due 2022 (a)	18,918	20,293
Note payable, 4.23%, payable quarterly in varying amounts (\$0.5 million for 2018) plus interest, due 2021 (a)	9,948	10,479
Note payable, variable rate (4.19% at December 31, 2018), payable in varying amounts (\$0.3 million for 2018), plus interest, due 2026 (a)	8,417	8,762
Note payable, 4.76%, payable quarterly in varying amounts (\$0.3 million for 2018) plus interest, due 2028 (a)	8,288	8,581
Line of credit, variable rate (3.79% at December 31, 2018), payable at maturity, due 2022	50,000	100,000
Note payable, 3.33%, payable in increasing amounts (\$1.1 million for 2018) plus interest, due 2025 (a)	24,888	25,960
Note payable, 4.5%, payable at maturity, due 2030	16,000	16,000
Note payable, 5.0%, payable at maturity, due 2040	14,000	14,000
Note payable, variable rate (4.15% at December 31, 2018), payable quarterly, (\$1.25 million for 2018) due 2024 (a)	13,250	14,500
Industrial development revenue bonds:		
Variable rate (3.19% at December 31, 2018), payable at maturity, due 2019 (a)	4,650	4,650
Variable rate (3.18% at December 31, 2018), payable at maturity, due 2025 (a)	3,100	3,100
Variable rate (3.14% at December 31, 2018), payable at maturity, due 2036	21,000	21,000
Debenture bonds, 2.65% to 5.00%, due 2018 through 2032	27,323	30,432
	\$371,791	\$476,220
Less: current maturities	16,747	54,205
Less: unamortized prepaid debt issuance costs	5,210	3,676
	\$349,834	\$418,339

(a) Debt is collateralized by first mortgages on certain facilities and related equipment or other assets with a book value of \$143.8 million

As of December 31, 2018, the Company's short-term and long-term borrowing agreements include both financial and non-financial covenants that, among other things, require the Company at a minimum to maintain:

- long-term debt to capitalization of not more than 70%;
- working capital of not less than \$150 million; and
- interest coverage ratio of not less than 2.65 to 1.00.

The Company was in compliance with these financial covenants at and during the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017.

The aggregate annual maturities of recourse, long-term debt are as follows: 2019 -- \$16.5 million; 2020 -- \$15.9 million; 2021 -- \$61.8 million; 2022 -- \$74.8 million; 2023 -- \$41.7 million; and \$160.5 million thereafter.

Non-Recourse Debt

The Company's non-recourse long-term debt consists of the following:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
Line of credit, 4.46%, payable at maturity, due 2021	\$118,000	\$ —
Non-recourse financing obligations, 3.60% to 4.94%, due 2019 through 2026	34,019	—
	\$152,019	\$ —
Less: current maturities	4,842	—
Less: unamortized prepaid debt issuance costs	824	—
	\$146,353	\$ —

The aggregate annual maturities of non-recourse, long-term debt are as follows: 2019 -- \$4.8 million; 2020 -- \$6.9 million; 2021 -- \$123.9 million; 2022 -- \$9.1 million; 2023 -- \$0.9 million; and \$6.4 million thereafter.

6. Derivatives

Commodity Contracts

The Company's operating results are affected by changes to commodity prices. The Grain and Ethanol businesses have established "unhedged" position limits (the amount of a commodity, either owned or contracted for, that does not have an offsetting derivative contract to lock in the price). To reduce the exposure to market price risk on commodities owned and forward grain and ethanol purchase and sale contracts, the Company enters into exchange traded commodity futures and options contracts and over the counter forward and option contracts with various counterparties. These contracts are primarily traded via regulated commodity exchanges. The Company's forward purchase and sales contracts are for physical delivery of the commodity in a future period. Contracts to purchase commodities from producers generally relate to the current or future crop years for delivery periods quoted by regulated commodity exchanges. Contracts for the sale of commodities to processors or other commercial consumers generally do not extend beyond one year.

All these contracts meet the definition of derivatives. While the Company considers its commodity contracts to be effective economic hedges, the Company does not designate or account for its commodity contracts as hedges as defined under current accounting standards. The Company accounts for its commodity derivatives at estimated fair value. The estimated fair value of the commodity derivative contracts that require the receipt or posting of cash collateral is recorded on a net basis (offset against cash collateral posted or received, also known as margin deposits) within commodity derivative assets or liabilities. Management determines fair value based on exchange-quoted prices and in the case of its forward purchase and sale contracts, estimated fair value is adjusted for differences in local markets and non-performance risk. For contracts for which physical delivery occurs, balance sheet classification is based on estimated delivery date. For futures, options and over-the-counter contracts in which physical delivery is not expected to occur but, rather, the contract is expected to be net settled, the Company classifies these contracts as current or noncurrent assets or liabilities, as appropriate, based on the Company's expectations as to when such contracts will be settled.

Realized and unrealized gains and losses in the value of commodity contracts (whether due to changes in commodity prices, changes in performance or credit risk, or due to sale, maturity or extinguishment of the commodity contract) and grain inventories are included in cost of sales and merchandising revenues.

Generally accepted accounting principles permit a party to a master netting arrangement to offset fair value amounts recognized for derivative instruments against the right to reclaim cash collateral or obligation to return cash collateral under the same master netting arrangement. The Company has master netting arrangements for its exchange traded futures and options contracts and certain over-the-counter contracts. When the Company enters into a future, option or an over-the-counter contract, an initial margin deposit may be required by the counterparty. The amount of the margin deposit varies by commodity. If the market price of a future, option or an over-the-counter contract moves in a direction that is adverse to the Company's

position, an additional margin deposit, called a maintenance margin, is required. The margin deposit assets and liabilities are included in short-term commodity derivative assets or liabilities, as appropriate, in the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

The following table presents at December 31, 2018 and 2017, a summary of the estimated fair value of the Company's commodity derivative instruments that require cash collateral and the associated cash posted/received as collateral. The net asset or liability positions of these derivatives (net of their cash collateral) are determined on a counterparty-by-counterparty basis and are included within current or noncurrent commodity derivative assets (or liabilities) on the Consolidated Balance Sheets:

	December 31, 2018		December 31, 2017	
	Net Derivative Asset Position	Net Derivative Liability Position	Net Derivative Asset Position	Net Derivative Liability Position
(in thousands)				
Collateral paid	\$14,944	\$	—\$1,351	\$
Fair value of derivatives	22,285	—	17,252	—
Balance at end of period	\$37,229	\$	—\$18,603	\$

The following table presents, on a gross basis, current and noncurrent commodity derivative assets and liabilities:

	December 31, 2018				Total
	Commodity Derivative Assets - Current	Commodity Derivative Assets - Noncurrent	Commodity Derivative Liabilities - Current	Commodity Derivative Liabilities - Noncurrent	
(in thousands)					
Commodity derivative assets	\$43,463	\$ 484	\$706	\$ 5	\$44,658
Commodity derivative liabilities	(6,986)	(4)	(33,353)	(894)	(41,237)
Cash collateral	14,944	—	—	—	14,944
Balance sheet line item totals	\$51,421	\$ 480	\$(32,647)	\$(889)	\$18,365
	December 31, 2017				Total
	Commodity Derivative Assets - Current	Commodity Derivative Assets - Noncurrent	Commodity Derivative Liabilities - Current	Commodity Derivative Liabilities - Noncurrent	
(in thousands)					
Commodity derivative assets	\$36,929	\$ 311	\$489	\$ 1	\$37,730
Commodity derivative liabilities	(7,578)	(1)	(30,140)	(826)	(38,545)
Cash collateral	1,351	—	—	—	1,351
Balance sheet line item totals	\$30,702	\$ 310	\$(29,651)	\$(825)	\$536

The net pre-tax gains on commodity derivatives not designated as hedging instruments included in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations and the line items in which they are located for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016 are as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
(in thousands)			
Gains (Losses) on commodity derivatives included in cost of sales and merchandising revenues	\$4,236	5,417	(15,012)

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The Company had the following volume of commodity derivative contracts outstanding (on a gross basis) as of December 31, 2018 and 2017:

December 31, 2018				
Commodity (in thousands)	Number of Bushels	Number of Gallons	Number of Pounds	Number of Tons
Non-exchange traded:				
Corn	250,408	—	—	—
Soybeans	22,463	—	—	—
Wheat	14,017	—	—	—
Oats	26,230	—	—	—
Ethanol	—	244,863	—	—
Corn oil	—	—	2,920	—
Other	494	2,000	—	66
Subtotal	313,612	246,863	2,920	66
Exchange traded:				
Corn	130,585	—	—	—
Soybeans	26,985	—	—	—
Wheat	33,760	—	—	—
Oats	1,475	—	—	—
Ethanol	—	77,112	—	—
Subtotal	192,805	77,112	—	—
Total	506,417	323,975	2,920	66
December 31, 2017				
Commodity (in thousands)	Number of Bushels	Number of Gallons	Number of Pounds	Number of Tons
Non-exchange traded:				
Corn	218,391	—	—	—
Soybeans	18,127	—	—	—
Wheat	14,577	—	—	—
Oats	25,953	—	—	—
Ethanol	—	197,607	—	—
Corn oil	—	—	6,074	—
Other	47	—	—	97
Subtotal	277,095	197,607	6,074	97
Exchange traded:				
Corn	82,835	—	—	—
Soybeans	37,170	—	—	—
Wheat	65,640	—	—	—
Oats	1,345	—	—	—
Ethanol	—	39,438	—	—
Other	—	840	—	—
Subtotal	186,990	40,278	—	—
Total	464,085	237,885	6,074	97

Interest Rate and Other Derivatives

The Company periodically enters into interest rate contracts to manage interest rate risk on borrowing or financing activities. While the Company considers all of its interest rate derivative positions to be effective economic hedges of specified risks, these interest rate contracts are recorded on the balance sheet in other current assets or liabilities (if short-term in nature) or in other assets or other long-term liabilities (if non-current in nature) and changes in fair value are recognized currently in earnings as a component of interest expense. The Company also has foreign currency derivatives which are considered effective economic hedges of specified economic risks.

The following table presents the open interest rate contracts at December 31, 2018:

Interest Rate Hedging Instrument	Year Entered	Year of Maturity	Initial Notional Amount (in millions)	Hedged Item	Interest Rate
<i>Long-term</i>					
Swap	2014	2023	\$ 23.0	Interest rate component of debt - not accounted for as a hedge	1.9%
Collar	2013	2021	\$ 40.0	Interest rate component of debt - not accounted for as a hedge	2.9% to 4.8%
Swap	2018	2021	\$ 40.0	Interest rate component of debt - accounted for as cash flow hedge	2.6%
Swap	2018	2021	\$ 25.0	Interest rate component of debt - accounted for as cash flow hedge	2.5%

At December 31, 2018 and 2017, the Company had recorded the following amounts for the fair value of the Company's other derivatives:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
<i>Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments</i>		
Interest rate contracts included in Other long-term assets (Other long-term liabilities)	\$(353)	\$(1,244)
Foreign currency contracts included in Other current assets (Accrued expenses and other current liabilities)	\$(1,122)	\$426
<i>Derivatives designated as hedging instruments</i>		
Interest rate contract included in Other assets (Other long-term liabilities)	\$(168)	\$—

The recording of derivatives gains and losses and the financial statement line item in which they are located are as follows:

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,	
	2018	2017
<i>Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments</i>		
Interest rate derivative gains (losses) included in Interest income (expense)	\$1,115	\$1,286
Foreign currency derivative gains (losses) included in Other income, net	\$(1,548)	\$539
<i>Derivatives designated as hedging instruments</i>		
Interest rate derivative gains (losses) included in OCI	\$(168)	\$—
Interest rate derivative gains (losses) included in Interest income (expense)	\$158	\$—

As of December 31, 2018, the Company had two outstanding interest rate derivatives, with a notional amount of \$40 million and \$25 million, with maturity dates of March 2021 and August 2021, respectively. These derivatives were designated as a cash flow hedge of interest rate risk. The gain or loss on these derivatives is recorded in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income and subsequently reclassified into interest expense in the same periods during which the hedged transaction affects earnings. Amounts reported in accumulated other comprehensive income related to derivatives will be reclassified to interest expense as interest payments are made on the Company's variable-rate debt.

7. Employee Benefit Plans

The Company provides certain full-time employees with pension benefits under defined benefit and defined contribution plans. The measurement date for all plans is December 31. The Company's expense for its defined contribution plans amounted to \$7.2 million in 2018, \$7.3 million in 2017 and \$7.8 million in 2016. The Company also provides health insurance benefits to certain employees and retirees.

The Company has an unfunded noncontributory defined benefit pension plan. The plan provides defined benefits based on years of service and average monthly compensation using a career average formula. Pension benefits were frozen at July 1, 2010.

The Company also has postretirement health care benefit plans covering substantially all of its full time employees hired prior to January 1, 2003. These plans are generally contributory and include a cap on the Company's share of the related costs.

Obligation and Funded Status

Following are the details of the obligation and funded status of the pension and postretirement benefit plans:

(in thousands)	Pension Benefits		Postretirement Benefits	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Change in benefit obligation				
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$5,832	\$7,112	\$22,602	\$29,757
Service cost	—	—	319	391
Interest cost	130	155	752	985
Actuarial (gains) losses	(282)	(245)	(1,623)	(7,903)
Participant contributions	—	—	145	463
Retiree drug subsidy received	—	—	125	184
Benefits paid	(1,318)	(1,190)	(1,682)	(1,275)
Benefit obligation at end of year	\$4,362	\$5,832	\$20,638	\$22,602
(in thousands)				
Change in plan assets				
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—
Actual gains on plan assets	—	—	—	—
Company contributions	1,318	1,190	1,537	812
Participant contributions	—	—	145	463
Benefits paid	(1,318)	(1,190)	(1,682)	(1,275)
Fair value of plan assets at end of year	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—
Under funded status of plans at end of year	\$ (4,362)	\$ (5,832)	\$ (20,638)	\$ (22,602)

Amounts recognized in the Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2018 and 2017 consist of:

(in thousands)	Pension Benefits		Postretirement Benefits	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Accrued expenses	\$(1,516)	\$(1,232)	\$(1,162)	\$(1,098)
Employee benefit plan obligations	(2,846)	(4,600)	(19,476)	(21,504)
Net amount recognized	\$(4,362)	\$(5,832)	\$(20,638)	\$(22,602)

Following are the details of the pre-tax amounts recognized in accumulated other comprehensive loss at December 31, 2018:

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(in thousands)	Pension Benefits		Postretirement Benefits	
	Unamortized Actuarial Net Losses	Unamortized Prior Service Costs	Unamortized Actuarial Net Losses	Unamortized Prior Service Costs
Balance at beginning of year	\$3,747	\$	—\$(7,506)	
Amounts arising during the period	(282)	—	(1,623)	—
Amounts recognized as a component of net periodic benefit cost	(243)	—	—	910
Balance at end of year	\$3,222	\$	—\$(9,129)	\$ 910

Amounts applicable to the Company's defined benefit plans with accumulated benefit obligations in excess of plan assets are as follows:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
Projected benefit obligation	\$4,362	\$5,832
Accumulated benefit obligation	\$4,362	\$5,832

The combined benefits expected to be paid for all Company defined benefit plans over the next ten years (in thousands) are as follows:

Year	Expected Pension Benefit Payout	Expected Postretirement Benefit Payout
2019	\$1,516	\$ 1,161
2020	1,262	1,185
2021	1,011	1,203
2022	210	1,225
2023	220	1,240
2024-2028	418	6,364

Following are components of the net periodic benefit cost for each year:

(in thousands)	Pension Benefits			Postretirement Benefits		
	December 31,			December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016	2018	2017	2016
Service cost	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$319	\$391	\$760
Interest cost	130	155	194	752	985	1,549
Expected return on plan assets	—	—	—	(910)	(455)	(355)
Recognized net actuarial loss	243	252	146	—	—	768
Benefit cost (income)	\$373	\$407	\$340	\$161	\$921	\$2,722

Following are weighted average assumptions of pension and postretirement benefits for each year:

	Pension Benefits			Postretirement Benefits		
	2018	2017	2016	2018	2017	2016
Used to Determine Benefit Obligations at Measurement Date						
Discount rate (a)	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.1 %	3.4%	4.0%
Used to Determine Net Periodic Benefit Cost for Years ended December 31						
Discount rate (b)	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.4 %	3.7%	4.2%

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Expected long-term return on plan assets	N/A	N/A	N/A	—	—	—
Rate of compensation increases	N/A	N/A	N/A	—	—	—

(a) The calculated rate for the unfunded employee retirement plan was 3.20%, 2.50% and 2.40% in 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Since it was terminated in 2015, the defined benefit pension plan did not have a discount rate during the three-year period presented above.

(b) The calculated rate for the unfunded employee retirement plan was 2.50%, 2.40% and 2.60% in 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Since it was terminated in 2015, the defined benefit pension plan did not have a discount rate during the three year period presented above.

Assumed Health Care Cost Trend Rates at Beginning of Year

	2018	2017
Health care cost trend rate assumed for next year	3.0 %	3.0 %
Rate to which the cost trend rate is assumed to decline (the ultimate trend rate) (a)	N/A	N/A
Year that the rate reaches the ultimate trend rate (a)	N/A	N/A

(a) In 2017, the Company's remaining uncapped participants were converted to a Medicare Exchange Health Reimbursement Arrangement, which put a 2% cap on the Company's share of the related costs.

8. Revenue

Many of the Company's revenues are generated from contracts that are outside the scope of ASC 606 and thus are accounted for under other accounting standards. Specifically, many of the Company's Grain and Ethanol sales contracts are derivatives under ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging* and the Rail Group's leasing revenue is accounted for under ASC 840, *Leases*. The breakdown of revenues between ASC 606 and other standards is as follows:

(in thousands)	For the Year ended December 31, 2018
Revenues under ASC 606	\$898,885
Revenues under ASC 840	105,631
Revenues under ASC 815	2,040,866
Total Revenues	\$3,045,382

The remainder of this note applies only to those revenues that are accounted for under ASC 606.

Disaggregation of revenue

The following tables disaggregate revenues under ASC 606 by major product/service line:

(in thousands)	Twelve months ended December 31, 2018				
	Grain	Ethanol	Plant Nutrient	Rail	Total
Specialty nutrients	\$—	\$—	\$260,821	\$—	\$260,821
Primary nutrients	—	—	399,566	—	399,566
Services	14,666	10,786	4,411	35,179	65,042
Co-products	—	114,489	—	—	114,489
Other	1,035	—	25,738	32,194	58,967
Total	\$15,701	\$125,275	\$690,536	\$67,373	\$898,885

For the year ended December 31, 2018, approximately 7% of revenues accounted for under ASC 606 are recorded over time which primarily relates to service revenues noted above.

Specialty and primary nutrients

The Company sells several different types of specialty nutrient products, including: low-salt liquid starter fertilizers, micro-nutrients and other specialty lawn products. These products can be sold through the wholesale distribution channels as well as directly to end users at the farm center locations. Similarly, the Company sells several different

types of primary nutrient products, including nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. These products may be purchased and re-sold as is or sold as finished goods resulting from a blending and manufacturing process. The contracts associated with specialty and primary nutrients generally have just a single performance obligation, as the Company has elected the accounting policy to consider shipping and handling costs as fulfillment costs. Revenue is recognized when control of the product has passed to the customer. Payment terms generally range from 0 - 30 days.

Service

Service revenues primarily relate to the railcar repair business. The Company owns several railcar repair shops which repair railcars through specific contracts with customers or by operating as an agent for a particular railroad to repair cars that are on its rail line per Association of American Railroads (“AAR”) standards. These contracts contain a single performance obligation which is to complete the requested and/or required repairs on the railcars. As the customer simultaneously receives and consumes the benefit of the repair work we perform, revenue for these contracts is recognized over time. The Company uses an input-based measure of progress using costs incurred to total expected costs as that is the measure that most faithfully depicts our progress towards satisfying our performance obligation. Upon completion of the work, the invoice is sent to the customer, with payment terms that generally range from 0 - 30 days.

Co-products

In addition to the ethanol sales contracts that are considered derivative instruments, the Ethanol Group sells several other co-products that remain subject to ASC 606, including E-85, DDGs, syrups and renewable identification numbers (“RINs”). RINs are credits for compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's Renewable Fuel Standard program and are created by renewable fuel producers. Contracts for these co-products generally have a single performance obligation, as the Company has elected the accounting policy to consider shipping and handling costs as fulfillment costs. Revenue is recognized when control of the product has passed to the customer which follows shipping terms on the contract. Payment terms generally range from 5 - 15 days.

Contract balances

The opening and closing balances of the Company’s contract liabilities are as follows:

(in thousands)	Contract liabilities
Balance at January 1, 2018	\$25,520
Balance at December 31, 2018	28,858

The difference between the opening and closing balances of the Company’s contract liabilities primarily results from the timing difference between the Company’s performance and the customer’s payment. Contract liabilities relate to the Plant Nutrient business for payments received in advance of fulfilling our performance obligations under our customer contracts. Contract liabilities are built up at year-end and through the first quarter as a result of payments in advance of fulfilling our performance obligations under our customer contracts in preparation for the spring planing season. The contract liabilities are then relieved as obligations are met through the year and begin to build in preparation for a new season as we approach year-end.

Impact of New Revenue Guidance on Financial Statement Line Items

The following table compares the balance sheet, as of December 31, 2018, to the pro forma amounts had the previous guidance been in effect:

(in thousands)	Balance Sheet		
	December 31, 2018		Pro forma as if the previous accounting guidance was in effect
	As Reported	ASC 606 Impact	
Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash	\$22,593	\$—	\$22,593
Accounts receivable, net	207,285	—	207,285
Inventories	690,804	74	690,878
Commodity derivative assets - current	51,421	—	51,421
Other current assets	51,095	(114)	50,981
Other noncurrent assets	370,309	—	370,309
Rail Group assets leased to others, net	521,785	(22,709)	499,076
Property, plant and equipment, net	476,711	—	476,711
Total assets	2,392,003	(22,749)	2,369,254
Short-term debt and current maturities of long-term debt	226,589	(4,842)	221,747
Trade and other payables and accrued expenses and other current liabilities	541,581	—	541,581
Commodity derivative liabilities - current	32,647	—	32,647
Customer prepayments and deferred revenue	32,533	—	32,533
Commodity derivative liabilities - noncurrent and Other long-term liabilities	33,073	—	33,073
Employee benefit plan obligations	22,542	—	22,542
Long-term debt, less current maturities	496,187	(29,177)	467,010
Deferred income taxes	130,087	3,492	133,579
Total liabilities	1,515,239	(30,527)	1,484,712
Retained earnings	647,517	7,778	655,295
Common shares, additional paid-in-capital, treasury shares, accumulated other comprehensive loss and noncontrolling interests	229,247	—	229,247
Total equity	876,764	7,778	884,542
Total liabilities and equity	\$2,392,003	\$(22,749)	\$2,369,254

Total reported assets were \$22.7 million greater than on the pro forma balance sheet, which assumes the previous guidance remained in effect as of December 31, 2018. This was largely due to the Rail Group assets that were recorded on the balance sheet on January 1, 2018 as part of the cumulative catch-up adjustment upon the adoption of ASC 606.

Total reported liabilities were \$30.5 million greater than on the pro forma balance sheet, which assumes the previous guidance remained in effect as of December 31, 2018. This was largely due to the financing obligation and deferred taxes related to the Rail Group assets that were recorded on the balance sheet on January 1, 2018 as part of the cumulative catch-up adjustment upon the adoption of ASC 606.

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The following table compares the reported condensed statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2018, to the pro forma amounts had the previous guidance been in effect:

(in thousands)	Statement of Operations		
	December 31, 2018		
	As Reported	ASC 606 Impact	Pro forma as if the previous accounting guidance was in effect
Sales and merchandising revenues	\$3,045,382	\$701,437	\$3,746,819
Cost of sales and merchandising revenues	2,743,377	703,358	3,446,735
Gross profit	302,005	(1,921)	\$300,084
Operating, administrative and general expenses	257,872	—	\$257,872
Asset impairment	6,272	—	\$6,272
Interest expense	27,848	(1,563)	\$26,285
Other income:			
Equity in earnings of affiliates, net	27,141	—	\$27,141
Other income, net	16,002	—	\$16,002
Income (loss) before income taxes	53,156	(358)	\$52,798
Income tax provision	11,931	(89)	\$11,842
Net income (loss)	41,225	(269)	\$40,956
Net income attributable to the noncontrolling interests	(259)	—	\$(259)
Net income (loss) attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$41,484	\$(269)	\$41,215

The following summarizes the significant changes on the Company's condensed consolidated statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2018 due to the adoption of ASC 606 on January 1, 2018 compared to the results that would have been reported if the Company had continued to recognize revenues under ASC 605:

While grain origination agreements, and their related sales contracts, will be accounted for under ASC 815, the Company is still required to evaluate the principal versus agent guidance in ASC 606 to determine whether realized gains or losses should be presented on a gross or net basis in the consolidated statements of operations upon physical settlement. The Company has determined that it is the agent in certain origination arrangements within our Grain Group and therefore realized gains or losses will be presented under ASC 606. Since these transactions are now being recorded on a net basis, revenues and related cost of sales would have been \$688.3 million higher under the previous guidance for the twelve months ended December 31, 2018.

ASC 606 requires certain Rail Group assets and related financing obligations to be recorded on the balance sheet as these transactions no longer qualify as sales as a result of the existence of repurchase options within the sales contracts. The result of this change primarily impacts geography within the income statement, as lease expense to the financial institution is replaced with a combination of depreciation and interest expense.

The net impact of accounting for revenue under the new guidance had an immaterial impact on net income (loss) and no impact on the Company's earnings per common share for the year ended December 31, 2018.

The adoption of ASC 606 had an immaterial impact on the Company's cash flows from operations. The aforementioned impacts resulted in offsetting shifts in cash flows throughout net income and various changes in working capital balances.

Transaction Price Allocated to Future Performance Obligations

ASC 606 requires that the Company disclose the aggregate amount of transaction price that is allocated to performance obligations that have not yet been satisfied at period end. The guidance provides certain practical expedients that limit this requirement. The Company has various contracts that meet the following practical expedients provided by ASC 606:

• The performance obligation is part of a contract that has an original expected duration of one year or less.

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The variable consideration is allocated entirely to a wholly unsatisfied performance obligation or to a wholly unsatisfied promise to transfer a distinct good or service that forms part of a single performance obligation in accordance with ASC 606-10-25-14(b), for which the criteria in ASC 606-10-32-40 have been met.

Contract costs

The company has elected to apply the practical expedient and accordingly recognizes the incremental costs of obtaining contracts as an expense when incurred if the amortization period of the assets that the Company otherwise would have recognized is one year or less. These costs are included in Operating, administrative and general expenses.

Significant judgments

In making its determination of standalone selling price, the Company maximizes its use of observable inputs. Standalone selling price, once established, is then used to allocate total consideration proportionally to the various performance obligations, if applicable, within a contract.

To estimate variable consideration, the Company applies both the “expected value” method and “most likely amount” method based on the form of variable consideration, according to which method would provide the best prediction. The expected value method involves a probability-weighted determination of the expected amount, whereas the most likely amount method identifies the single most likely outcome in a range of possible amounts. However, once a method has been applied to one form of variable consideration, it is applied consistently throughout the contract term.

The primary types of variable consideration present in the Company’s contracts are product returns, volume rebates and the CPI index. The overall impact of this variable consideration is not material.

Practical expedients

The Company has elected to apply the following practical expedients provided by ASC 606:

Future performance obligations - see discussion above.

Contract costs - see discussion above.

Shipping and handling activities - see discussion above.

Sales tax presentation - the Company has elected to exclude from the transaction price all sales taxes that are assessed by a governmental authority that are imposed on and concurrent with a specific revenue-producing transaction and collected by the Company from a customer.

Modified retrospective approach - see discussion in Note 1 regarding adoption elections.

9. Income Taxes

Income tax provision (benefit) applicable to continuing operations consists of the following:

	Year ended December 31,		
(in thousands)	2018	2017	2016
Current:			
Federal	\$ (549)	\$ (1,668)	\$ (702)
State and local	323	643	199
Foreign	1,138	1,125	1,385
	\$ 912	\$ 100	\$ 882
Deferred:			
Federal	\$ 10,073	\$ (61,655)	\$ 3,523
State and local	578	(2,107)	1,696
Foreign	367	528	810
	\$ 11,018	\$ (63,234)	\$ 6,029
Total:			
Federal	\$ 9,525	\$ (63,323)	\$ 2,821
State and local	901	(1,464)	1,895
Foreign	1,505	1,653	2,195
	\$ 11,931	\$ (63,134)	\$ 6,911

Income (loss) before income taxes from continuing operations consists of the following:

	Year ended December 31,		
(in thousands)	2018	2017	2016
U.S.	\$ 46,678	\$ (25,645)	\$ 11,526
Foreign	6,478	5,120	9,855
	\$ 53,156	\$ (20,525)	\$ 21,381

A reconciliation from the statutory U.S. federal tax rate to the effective tax rate follows:

	Year ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Statutory U.S. federal tax rate	21.0 %	35.0 %	35.0 %
Increase (decrease) in rate resulting from:			
State and local income taxes, net of related federal taxes	3.4	(4.2)	5.8
Federal income tax credits	(3.4)	—	(7.3)
Change in federal and state tax rates	(2.1)	374.8	—
Income taxes on foreign earnings	(1.5)	(2.2)	(1.3)
Nondeductible compensation	1.5	(2.5)	2.0
Tax effect of GILTI	1.4	—	—
Equity Method Investments	1.1	(0.4)	0.3
Impacts related to the 2017 Tax Act	0.6	(7.1)	—
Other, net	0.5	4.4	(0.8)
Release (accrual) of unrecognized tax benefits	(0.1)	3.0	0.1
Effect of noncontrolling interest	0.1	0.2	(4.7)
Goodwill impairment	—	(93.5)	—

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Tax associated with accrued and unpaid dividends	—	0.1	3.2
Effective tax rate	22.5 %	307.6 %	32.3 %

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Net income tax refunds of \$5.4 million were received in 2018, net income taxes of \$2.1 million were paid in 2017, and net income tax refunds of \$10.6 million were received in 2016. Significant components of the Company's deferred tax liabilities and assets are as follows:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Property, plant and equipment and Rail Group assets leased to others	\$(168,345)	\$(129,876)
Equity method investments	(24,732)	(31,223)
Other	(7,999)	(8,754)
	(201,076)	(169,853)
Deferred tax assets:		
Employee benefits	13,161	15,229
Accounts and notes receivable	2,069	2,317
Inventory	7,595	6,100
Federal income tax credits	13,075	10,225
Net operating loss carryforwards	12,766	5,753
Deferred interest (a)	6,476	—
Lease liability	8,473	—
Other	8,839	9,674
Total deferred tax assets	72,454	49,298
Valuation allowance	(1,185)	(1,024)
	71,269	48,274
Net deferred tax liabilities	\$(129,807)	\$(121,579)

(a) The deferred interest tax asset represents disallowed interest deductions under IRC Section 163(j) (Limitation on Deduction for interest on Certain Indebtedness) for the current year. The disallowed interest is able to be carried forward indefinitely and utilized in future years pursuant to IRC Section 163(j)).

In December 2017, the 2017 Tax Act was enacted. The 2017 Tax Act includes a number of changes to previous U.S. tax laws that impact the company, most notably a reduction of the U.S. corporate income tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent for tax years beginning after December 31, 2017. The 2017 Tax Act also provides for a one-time transition tax on certain foreign earnings and the acceleration of depreciation for certain assets placed into service after September 27, 2017 as well as prospective changes which began in 2018, including repeal of the domestic manufacturing deduction, capitalization of research and development expenditures, additional limitations on executive compensation and limitations on the deductibility of interest.

The company recognized the income tax effects of the 2017 Tax Act in its financial statements in accordance with Staff Accounting Bulletin (SAB) No. 118, which allowed us to record provisional amounts during a measurement period not to extend beyond one year of the enactment date. As a result, we previously provided a provisional estimate of the effect of the Tax Act in our financial statements. In the fourth quarter of 2018, we completed our analysis to determine the effect of the Tax Act and recorded immaterial adjustments as of December 31, 2018.

Beginning in 2018, The Tax Reform Act includes two new U.S. corporate tax provisions, the global intangible low-taxed income (“GILTI”) and the base-erosion and anti-abuse tax (“BEAT”) provisions. The GILTI provision requires the Company to include in its U.S. income tax return non-U.S. subsidiary earnings in excess of an allowable return on the non-U.S. subsidiary’s tangible assets. The Company has elected to treat GILTI as a period cost. The BEAT provision in the Tax Reform Act eliminates the deduction of certain base-erosion payments made to related non-U.S. corporations, and imposes a minimum tax if the amount is greater than the regular tax. The Company evaluated the GILTI and BEAT provision, resulting in a financial statement impact of \$0.7 million and zero, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2018.

On December 31, 2018, the Company had \$46.6 million, \$103.4 million and \$0.6 million of U.S. Federal, state and non-U.S. net operating loss carryforwards that begin to expire in 2034, 2019 and 2035, respectively. The Company also has \$8.3 million of general business credits that expire after 2036 and \$4.5 million of foreign tax credits that begin to expire after 2025.

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. If it is more-likely-than-not

that the deferred tax asset will be realized, no valuation allowance is recorded. Management's judgment is required in determining the provision for income taxes, deferred tax assets and liabilities and the valuation allowance recorded against the net deferred tax assets. The valuation allowance would need to be adjusted in the event future taxable income is materially different than amounts estimated. Significant judgments, estimates and factors considered by management in its determination of the probability of the realization of deferred tax assets include:

- Historical operating results
- Expectations of future earnings
- Tax planning strategies; and
- The extended period of time over which retirement, medical, and pension liabilities will be paid.

During 2018, due to a three-year cumulative loss and future economic uncertainty, we concluded that a valuation allowance was required related to additional State net operating losses. This resulted in an immaterial amount of non-cash charge to income tax expense.

The Company or one of its subsidiaries files income tax returns in the U.S., various foreign jurisdictions and various state and local jurisdictions. The Company is no longer subject to examinations by foreign jurisdictions for years before 2013 and is no longer subject to examinations by U.S. tax authorities for years before 2015. The Company is no longer subject to examination by state tax authorities in most states for tax years before 2015.

A reconciliation of the January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2018 amount of unrecognized tax benefits is as follows:

(in thousands)

Balance at January 1, 2016	\$1,431
Additions based on tax positions related to the current year	113
Additions based on tax positions related to prior years	—
Reductions based on tax positions related to prior years	(40)
Reductions as a result of a lapse in statute of limitations	(52)
Balance at December 31, 2016	1,452
Additions based on tax positions related to the current year	—
Reductions based on tax positions related to prior years	(92)
Reductions as a result of a lapse in statute of limitations	(573)
Balance at December 31, 2017	787
Additions based on tax positions related to the current year	—
Additions based on tax positions related to prior years	—
Reductions based on tax positions related to prior years	—
Reductions as a result of a lapse in statute of limitations	(169)
Balance at December 31, 2018	\$618

The Company anticipates \$0.1 million decrease in the reserve during the next 12 months due to the settling of state tax appeals and a lapse in statute of limitations. Dependent upon the lapse in statute of limitations and the outcome of the state tax appeals, the total liability for unrecognized tax benefits as of December 31, 2018 could impact the effective tax rate.

The Company has elected to classify interest and penalties as Interest expense on the Consolidated Statements of Operations rather than as income tax expense. The Company has \$0.3 million accrued for the payment of interest and

penalties at December 31, 2018. The net interest and penalties benefit for 2018 is zero, due to decreased uncertain tax positions. The Company had \$0.3 million accrued for the payment of interest and penalties at December 31, 2017. The net interest and penalties benefit for 2017 was \$0.1 million.

10. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

The following tables summarize the after-tax components of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) attributable to the Company for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016:

Changes in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) by Component (a)

(in thousands)	For the Year Ended December 31, 2018				
	Losses on Cash Flow Hedges	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Investment in Convertible Preferred Securities	Defined Benefit Plan Items	Total
Beginning Balance	\$—	\$(7,716)	\$ 344	\$4,672	\$(2,700)
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications	(284)	(3,834)	(86)	1,031	(3,173)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss	158	—	—	(672)	(514)
Net current-period other comprehensive income	(126)	(3,834)	(86)	359	(3,687)
Ending balance	\$(126)	\$(11,550)	\$ 258	\$5,031	\$(6,387)

Changes in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) by Component (a)

(in thousands)	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017			
	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Investment in Convertible Preferred Securities	Defined Benefit Plan Items	Total
Beginning Balance	\$(11,002)	\$ —	\$(1,466)	\$(12,468)
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications	3,286	344	6,485	\$10,115
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss	—	—	(347)	\$(347)
Net current-period other comprehensive income	3,286	344	6,138	9,768
Ending balance	\$(7,716)	\$ 344	\$4,672	\$(2,700)

Changes in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) by Component (a)

(in thousands)	For the Year Ended December 31, 2016				
	Losses on Cash Flow Hedges	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Investment in Convertible Preferred Securities	Defined Benefit Plan Items	Total
Beginning Balance	\$(111)	\$(12,041)	\$ 126	\$(8,913)	\$(20,939)
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications	111	1,039	—	7,668	\$8,818
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss	—	—	(126)	(221)	\$(347)
Net current-period other comprehensive income	111	1,039	(126)	7,447	8,471
Ending balance	\$—	\$(11,002)	\$ —	\$(1,466)	\$(12,468)

(a) All amounts are net of tax. Amounts in parentheses indicate debits

The Following tables show the reclassification adjustments from accumulated other comprehensive income to net income for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016:

Reclassifications Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (a)

(in thousands)

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

**Amount
Reclassified
from**

Details about Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income Components **Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income** **Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income Is Presented**

Defined Benefit Plan Items

Amortization of prior-service cost

\$ (910) (b)
(910) Total before tax
238 Income tax benefit
\$(672) Net of tax

Cash Flow Hedges

Interest payments

\$214 (b)
214 Total before tax
(56) Tax expense
\$158 Net of tax

Total reclassifications for the period

\$(514) Net of tax

Reclassifications Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (a)

(in thousands)

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

**Amount
Reclassified
from**

Details about Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income Components **Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income** **Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income Is Presented**

Defined Benefit Plan Items

Amortization of prior-service cost

\$(455) (b)
(455) Total before tax
108 Income tax benefit
\$(347) Net of tax

Total reclassifications for the period

\$(347) Net of tax

Reclassifications Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (a)

(in thousands)

For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

**Amount
Reclassified
from**

Details about Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income Components **Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income** **Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income Is Presented**

**Other
Comprehensive
Income**

Defined Benefit Plan Items

Amortization of prior-service cost

\$(354) (b)
(354) Total before tax
133 Income tax benefit
\$(221) Net of tax

Other Items

Recognition of gain on sale of investment

(200)
(200) Total before tax
74 Income tax benefit
(126) Net of tax

Total reclassifications for the period

\$(347) Net of tax

(a) Amounts in parentheses indicate debits to profit/loss

(b) This accumulated other comprehensive income component is included in the computation of net periodic benefit cost (see Note 7. Employee Benefit Plans footnote for additional details)

11. Earnings Per Share

The Company's non-vested restricted stock that was granted prior to March 2015 is considered a participating security since the share-based awards contain a non-forfeitable right to dividends irrespective of whether the awards ultimately vest. Unvested share-based payment awards that contain non-forfeitable rights to dividends are participating securities and are included in the computation of earnings per share pursuant to the two-class method. The two-class method of computing earnings per share is an earnings allocation formula that determines earnings per share for common stock and any participating securities according to dividends declared (whether paid or unpaid) and participation rights in undistributed earnings.

The computation of basic and diluted earnings per share is as follows:

(in thousands except per common share data)

	Year ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Net income (loss) attributable to The Andersons, Inc.	\$41,484	\$42,511	\$11,594
Less: Distributed and undistributed earnings allocated to non-vested restricted stock	—	1	9
Earnings (losses) available to common shareholders	\$41,484	\$42,510	\$11,585
Earnings per share – basic:			
Weighted average shares outstanding – basic	28,258	28,126	28,193
Earnings (losses) per common share – basic	\$1.47	\$1.51	\$0.41
Earnings per share – diluted:			
Weighted average shares outstanding – basic	28,258	28,126	28,193
Effect of dilutive awards	194	170	238
Weighted average shares outstanding – diluted	28,452	28,296	28,431
Earnings (losses) per common share – diluted	\$1.46	\$1.50	\$0.41

There were 13 thousand and 22 thousand antidilutive share-based awards outstanding at December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively. No antidilutive share-based awards were outstanding at December 31, 2016.

12. Fair Value Measurements

Generally accepted accounting principles define fair value as an exit price and also establish a framework for measuring fair value. An exit price represents the amount that would be received upon the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. Fair value should be determined based on the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. As a basis for considering such assumptions, a three-tier fair value hierarchy is used, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value as follows:

Level 1 inputs: Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets;

Level 2 inputs: Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly; and

Level 3 inputs: Unobservable inputs (e.g., a reporting entity's own data).

In many cases, a valuation technique used to measure fair value includes inputs from multiple levels of the fair value hierarchy. The lowest level of significant input determines the placement of the entire fair value measurement in the hierarchy.

The following table presents the Company's assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2018 and 2017:

(in thousands)	December 31, 2018			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets (liabilities)				
Commodity derivatives, net (a)	37,229	(18,864)	—	18,365
Provisionally priced contracts (b)	(76,175)	(58,566)	—	(134,741)
Convertible preferred securities (c)	—	—	7,154	7,154
Other assets and liabilities (d)	5,186	(353)	—	4,833
Total	\$(33,760)	\$(77,783)	\$7,154	\$(104,389)
(in thousands)	December 31, 2017			
Assets (liabilities)				
Commodity derivatives, net (a)	18,603	(18,067)	—	536
Provisionally priced contracts (b)	(98,190)	(67,094)	—	(165,284)
Convertible preferred securities (c)	—	—	7,388	7,388
Other assets and liabilities (d)	9,705	(1,244)	—	8,461
Total	\$(69,882)	\$(86,405)	\$7,388	\$(148,899)

(a) Includes associated cash posted/received as collateral

(b) Included in "Provisionally priced contracts" are those instruments based only on underlying futures values (Level 1) and delayed price contracts (Level 2)

(c) Recorded in "Other noncurrent assets" on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets related to certain available for sale securities.

(d) Included in other assets and liabilities are assets held by the Company to fund deferred compensation plans, ethanol risk management contracts, and foreign exchange derivative contracts (Level 1) and interest rate derivatives (Level 2).

Level 1 commodity derivatives reflect the fair value of the exchanged-traded futures and options contracts that the Company holds, net of the cash collateral that the Company has in its margin account.

The majority of the Company's assets and liabilities measured at fair value are based on the market approach valuation technique. With the market approach, fair value is derived using prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities.

The Company's net commodity derivatives primarily consist of futures or options contracts via regulated exchanges and contracts with producers or customers under which the future settlement date and bushels (or gallons in the case of ethanol contracts) of commodities to be delivered (primarily wheat, corn, soybeans and ethanol) are fixed and under which the price may or may not be fixed. Depending on the specifics of the individual contracts, the fair value is

derived from the futures or options prices quoted on various exchanges for similar commodities and delivery dates as well as observable quotes for local basis adjustments (the difference, which is attributable to local market conditions, between the quoted futures price and the local cash price). Because “basis” for a particular commodity and location typically has multiple quoted prices from other agribusinesses in the same geographical vicinity and is used as a common pricing mechanism in the agribusiness industry, we have concluded that “basis” is typically a Level 2 fair value input for purposes of the fair value disclosure requirements related to our commodity derivatives, depending on the specific commodity. Although nonperformance risk, both of the Company and

the counterparty, is present in each of these commodity contracts and is a component of the estimated fair values, based on the Company's historical experience with its producers and customers and the Company's knowledge of their businesses, the Company does not view nonperformance risk to be a significant input to fair value for these commodity contracts.

These fair value disclosures exclude physical grain inventories measured at net realizable value. The net realizable value used to measure the Company's agricultural commodity inventories is the fair value (spot price of the commodity in an exchange), less cost of disposal and transportation based on the local market. This valuation would generally be considered Level 2. The amount is disclosed in Note 2 Inventories. Changes in the net realizable value of commodity inventories are recognized as a component of cost of sales and merchandising revenues.

Provisionally priced contract liabilities are those for which the Company has taken ownership and possession of grain but the final purchase price has not been established. In the case of payables where the unpriced portion of the contract is limited to the futures price of the underlying commodity or we have delivered provisionally priced grain and a subsequent payable or receivable is set up for any future changes in the grain price, quoted exchange prices are used and the liability is deemed to be Level 1 in the fair value hierarchy. For all other unpriced contracts which include variable futures and basis components, the amounts recorded for delayed price contracts are determined on the basis of local grain market prices at the balance sheet date and, as such, are deemed to be Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy. The risk management contract liability allows related ethanol customers to effectively unprice the futures component of their inventory for a period of time, subjecting the bushels to market fluctuations. The Company records an asset or liability for the market value changes of the commodities over the life of the contracts based on quoted exchange prices and as such, the balance is deemed to be Level 1 in the fair value hierarchy.

The convertible preferred securities are interests in several early-stage enterprises in the form of convertible debt and preferred equity securities.

A reconciliation of beginning and ending balances for the Company's recurring fair value measurements using Level 3 inputs is as follows:

(in thousands)	Convertible Preferred Securities	
	2018	2017
Assets (liabilities) at January 1,	\$7,388	\$3,294
New investments	1,086	3,750
Sales proceeds	(6,400)	—
Gains (losses) included in earnings	3,900	—
Unrealized gains (losses) included in other comprehensive income	1,180	344
Assets (liabilities) at December 31,	\$7,154	\$7,388

The following tables summarize information about the Company's Level 3 fair value measurements as of December 31, 2018 and 2017:

Quantitative Information about Level 3 Fair Value Measurements

(in thousands)	Fair Value as of 12/31/18	Valuation Method	Unobservable Input	Weighted Average
Convertible preferred securities	\$ 7,154	Implied based on market prices	Various	N/A

(in thousands)	Fair Value as of 12/31/17	Valuation Method	Unobservable Input	Weighted Average
Convertible preferred securities	\$ 7,388	Implied based on market prices	Various	N/A
Real Property	\$ 29,347	Third-Party Appraisal	N/A	N/A

Fair Value of Debt Instruments

Certain long-term notes payable and the Company's debenture bonds bear fixed rates of interest and terms of up to 15 years. Based upon the Company's credit standing and current interest rates offered by the Company on similar bonds and rates currently available to the Company for long-term borrowings with similar terms and remaining maturities, the Company estimates the fair values of its fixed rate long-term debt instruments outstanding at December 31, 2018 and 2017, as follows:

(in thousands)	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Fair Value Hierarchy Level
2018			
Fixed rate long-term notes payable	\$261,618	\$256,447	Level 2
Debenture bonds	27,324	26,154	Level 2
	\$288,942	\$282,601	
2017			
Fixed rate long-term notes payable	\$275,989	\$275,340	Level 2
Debenture bonds	30,432	29,452	Level 2
	\$306,421	\$304,792	

The fair value of the Company's cash equivalents, accounts receivable and accounts payable approximate their carrying value as they are close to maturity.

13. Related Party TransactionsEquity Method Investments

The Company, directly or indirectly, holds investments in companies that are accounted for under the equity method. The Company's equity in these entities is presented at cost plus its accumulated proportional share of income or loss, less any distributions it has received. In January 2019, the Company purchased the remaining equity of LTG.

In January 2003, the Company became a minority investor in LTG, which focuses on grain merchandising as well as trading related to the energy and biofuels industry. The Company accounts for this investment under the equity method. The Company sells and purchases both grain and ethanol with LTG in the ordinary course of business on terms similar to sales and purchases with unrelated customers. In January of 2019, the Company purchased the remaining equity of LTG. See Note 22 for additional information.

In 2005, the Company became an investor in TAAE. TAAE is a producer of ethanol and its co-products DDG and corn oil at its 110 million gallon-per-year ethanol production facility in Albion, Michigan. The Company operates the facility under a management contract and provides corn origination, ethanol, corn oil and DDG marketing and risk management services. The Company is separately compensated for all such services except corn oil marketing. The Company also leases its Albion, Michigan grain facility to TAAE. While the Company holds 55% of the outstanding units of TAAE, a super-majority vote is required for all major operating decisions of TAAE based on the terms of the Operating Agreement. The Company has concluded that the super-majority vote requirement gives the minority shareholders substantive participating rights and therefore consolidation for book purposes is not appropriate. The Company accounts for its investment in TAAE under the equity method of accounting.

In 2006, the Company became a minority investor in TACE. TACE is also a producer of ethanol and its co-products DDG and corn oil at a 110 million gallon-per-year ethanol production facility in Clymers, Indiana. The Company operates the facility under a management contract and provides corn origination, ethanol, corn oil and DDG marketing

and risk management services for which it is separately compensated. The Company also leases its Clymers, Indiana grain facility to TACE.

In 2006, the Company became a minority investor in TAME. TAME is also a producer of ethanol and its co-products DDG and corn oil at a 110 million gallon-per-year ethanol production facility in Greenville, Ohio. In January 2007, the Company transferred its 50% share in TAME to The Andersons Ethanol Investment LLC, a consolidated subsidiary of the Company, of which a third party owned 34% of the shares. The Company operates the facility under a management contract and provides corn origination, ethanol, corn oil and DDG marketing and risk management services for which it is separately compensated. In 2009, TAEI invested an additional \$1.1 million in TAME, retaining a 50% ownership interest. On January 1, 2017, TAEI was

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merged with and into TAME. The Company had owned (66%) of TAEI. Pursuant to the merger, the Company's ownership units in TAEI were canceled and converted into ownership units in TAME. As a result, the Company now directly owns 33% of the outstanding ownership units of TAME.

The Company has marketing agreements with TAAE, TACE, and TAME under which the Company purchases and markets the ethanol produced to external customers. As compensation for these marketing services, the Company earns a fee on each gallon of ethanol sold. The Company has entered into marketing agreements with each of the ethanol LLCs. Under the ethanol marketing agreements, the Company purchases most, if not all, of the ethanol produced by the LLCs at the same price it will resell the ethanol to external customers. The Company acts as the principal in these ethanol sales transactions to external parties as the Company has ultimate responsibility of performance to the external parties. Substantially all of these purchases and subsequent sales are executed through forward contracts on matching terms and, outside of the fee the Company earns for each gallon sold, the Company does not recognize any gross profit on the sales transactions. For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, revenues recognized for the sale of ethanol purchased from related parties were \$625.2 million, \$590.9 million and \$427.8 million, respectively. In addition to the ethanol marketing agreements, the Company holds corn origination agreements, under which the Company originates all of the corn used in production for each unconsolidated ethanol LLC. For this service, the Company receives a unit-based fee. Similar to the ethanol sales described above, the Company acts as an agent in these transactions, and accordingly, these transactions are now being recorded on a net basis. See Note 8 for further discussion. For the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, revenues recognized for the sale of corn under these agreements were \$498.8 million and \$426.8 million, respectively. As part of the corn origination agreements, the Company also markets the DDG produced by the entities. For this service the Company receives a unit-based fee. The Company does not purchase any of the DDG from the ethanol entities; however, as part of the agreement, the Company guarantees payment by the buyer for DDG sales. At December 31, 2018 and 2017, the three unconsolidated ethanol entities had a combined receivable balance for DDG of \$7.0 million and \$5.9 million, respectively, of which \$0.1 million and \$0.1 million, respectively, was more than thirty days past due. As the Company has not experienced historical losses and the DDG receivable balances greater than thirty days past due is immaterial, the Company has concluded that the fair value of this guarantee is inconsequential.

On July 31, 2013, the Company, along with Lansing Trade Group, LLC established joint ventures that acquired 100% of the stock of Thompsons Limited, including its investment in a related U.S. operating company. Each Company owns 50% of the investment. Thompsons Limited is a grain and food-grade bean handler and agronomy input provider, headquartered in Blenheim, Ontario, and operates 12 locations across Ontario and Minnesota. The Company does not hold a majority of the outstanding shares of Thompsons Limited joint ventures. All major operating decisions of these joint ventures are made by their Board of Directors and the Company does not have a majority of the board seats. Due to these factors, the Company does not have control over these joint ventures and therefore accounts for these investments under the equity method of accounting, as of December 31, 2018. As a result of the LTG acquisition in 2019, Thompsons Limited will become a consolidated entity.

The following table presents aggregate summarized financial information of LTG, TAAE, TACE, TAME, Thompsons Limited, and other various investments as they qualified as significant equity method investees in the aggregate. No individual equity investments qualified as significant for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016.

	December 31,		
(in thousands)	2018	2017	2016
Sales	\$6,111,036	\$6,080,795	\$6,579,413
Gross profit	257,594	217,629	188,350
Income from continuing operations	71,608	50,937	12,288
Net income	68,876	42,970	6,445
Current assets	1,111,826	1,045,124	898,081

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Non-current assets	526,169	538,671	565,416
Current liabilities	792,184	802,161	665,387
Non-current liabilities	281,103	309,649	359,816
Noncontrolling interests	—	—	3,628

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The following table presents the Company's investment balance in each of its equity method investees by entity:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
The Andersons Albion Ethanol LLC	\$50,382	\$45,024
The Andersons Clymers Ethanol LLC	24,242	19,830
The Andersons Marathon Ethanol LLC	14,841	12,660
Lansing Trade Group, LLC	101,715	93,088
Thompsons Limited (a)	48,987	50,198
Other	2,159	2,439
Total	\$242,326	\$223,239

(a) Thompsons Limited and related U.S. operating company held by joint ventures

The following table summarizes income (losses) earned from the Company's equity method investments by entity:

(in thousands)	% ownership at December 31, 2018	December 31,		
		2018	2017	2016
The Andersons Albion Ethanol LLC	55%	\$5,531	\$6,052	\$6,167
The Andersons Clymers Ethanol LLC	39%	4,846	4,591	6,486
The Andersons Marathon Ethanol LLC	33%	3,832	1,571	5,814
Lansing Trade Group, LLC	33% (a)	10,413	4,038	(9,935)
Thompsons Limited (b)	50%	2,568	696	1,189
Other	5% - 50%	(49)	(225)	—
Total		\$27,141	\$16,723	\$9,721

(a) This does not consider restricted management units which, once vested, will reduce the ownership percentage by approximately 0.3%.

(b) Thompsons Limited and related U.S. operating company held by joint ventures

Total distributions received from unconsolidated affiliates were \$3.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2018. The balance at December 31, 2018 that represents the undistributed earnings of the Company's equity method investments is \$106.7 million.

Investment in Debt Securities

The Company previously owned 100% of the cumulative convertible preferred shares of Iowa Northern Railway Company ("IANR"), which operates a short-line railroad in Iowa. In the first quarter of 2016, these shares were redeemed and the Company no longer has an ownership stake in this entity.

Related Party Transactions

In the ordinary course of business and on an arms-length basis, the Company will enter into related party transactions with each of the investments described above, along with other related parties.

On March 2, 2018, the Company invested in ELEMENT. The Company owns 51% of ELEMENT and ICM, Inc. owns the remaining 49% interest. ELEMENT, LLC is constructing a 70 million-gallon-per-year bio-refinery. As part of the Company's investment into ELEMENT, the Company and ICM, Inc. entered into a number of agreements with the entity. Most notably, ICM, Inc. will operate the facility under a management contract and manage the initial construction of the facility, while the Company will provide corn origination, ethanol marketing, and risk management services. The results of operations for ELEMENT have been included in the Company's consolidated results and are a component of the Ethanol segment. The plant is expected to be operational in 2019.

The following table sets forth the related party transactions entered into for the time periods presented:

(in thousands)	December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Sales revenues	\$358,856	\$893,950	\$749,746
Service fee revenues (a)	20,843	24,357	17,957
Purchases of product	741,736	615,739	463,832
Lease income (b)	6,523	6,175	5,966
Labor and benefits reimbursement (c)	13,487	13,894	12,809
Other expenses	—	—	149

(a) Service fee revenues include management fee, corn origination fee, ethanol and DDG marketing fees, and other commissions.

(b) Lease income includes the lease of the Company's Albion, Michigan and Clymers, Indiana grain facilities as well as certain railcars to the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs and IANR.

(c) The Company provides all operational labor to the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs and charges them an amount equal to the Company's costs of the related services.

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
Accounts receivable (d)	\$17,829	\$30,252
Accounts payable (e)	28,432	27,866

(d) Accounts receivable represents amounts due from related parties for sales of corn, leasing revenue and service fees.

(e) Accounts payable represents amounts due to related parties for purchases of ethanol and other various items.

From time to time, the Company enters into derivative contracts with certain of its related parties, including the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs, LTG, and the Thompsons Limited joint ventures, for the purchase and sale of grain and ethanol, for similar price risk mitigation purposes and on similar terms as the purchase and sale derivative contracts it enters into with unrelated parties. The fair value of derivative contracts with related parties in a gross asset position as of December 31, 2018 and 2017 was \$1.9 million and \$0.2 million, respectively. The fair value of derivative contracts with related parties in a gross liability position as of December 31, 2018 and 2017 was \$6.3 million and \$2.5 million, respectively.

14. Segment Information

The Company's operations include four reportable business segments that are distinguished primarily on the basis of products and services offered. The Grain business includes grain merchandising, the operation of terminal grain elevator facilities and the investments in LTG and Thompsons Limited. The Ethanol business purchases and sells ethanol and also manages the ethanol production facilities organized as limited liability companies, one is consolidated and three are investments accounted for under the equity method. In 2018, the Ethanol business announced its investment in ELEMENT which is in the process of constructing a bio-refinery and anticipates the bio-refinery to be in production in 2019. There are various service contracts for these investments. The Plant Nutrient business manufactures and distributes agricultural inputs, primary nutrients and specialty fertilizers, to dealers and farmers, along with turf care and corncob-based products. Rail operations include the leasing, marketing and fleet management of railcars and other assets, railcar repair and metal fabrication. The Retail business operated large retail stores, a distribution center, and a lawn and garden equipment sales and service facility. In January 2017, the Company announced its decision to close all retail operations. As of December 31, 2018, the Retail Group has closed all stores, completed its liquidation efforts, and sold its properties. Included in "Other" are the corporate level costs not attributed to an operating segment and the 2016 and 2017 Retail business.

The segment information below includes the allocation of expenses shared by one or more operating segments. Although management believes such allocations are reasonable, the operating information does not necessarily reflect how such data might appear if the segments were operated as separate businesses. Inter-segment sales are made at prices comparable to normal, unaffiliated customer sales. The Company does not have any customers who represent 10 percent, or more, of total revenues.

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Revenues from external customers			
Grain	\$1,436,979	\$2,106,464	\$2,357,171
Ethanol	743,690	708,063	544,556
Plant Nutrient	690,536	651,824	725,176
Rail	174,177	172,123	163,658
Other	—	47,871	134,229
Total	\$3,045,382	\$3,686,345	\$3,924,790

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Inter-segment sales			
Grain	\$2,746	\$761	\$1,638
Plant Nutrient	—	241	470
Rail	1,205	1,213	1,399
Total	\$3,951	\$2,215	\$3,507

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Interest expense (income)			
Grain	\$11,843	\$	\$