

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT  
(To Prospectus dated May 29, 2013)

# Rose Rock Midstream, L.P.

## 4,750,000 Common Units Representing Limited Partner Interests

We are selling 4,750,000 common units representing limited partner interests in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. Our common units are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, or the NYSE, under the symbol "RRMS." The last reported sales price of our common units on the NYSE on August 12, 2013 was \$34.80 per common unit.

*Investing in our common units involves risks. You should carefully consider each of the factors described under "Risk Factors" on page S-9 of this prospectus supplement and on page 3 of the accompanying prospectus and the other risk factors incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.*

	<u>Per Common Unit</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public offering price	\$ 33.44	\$158,840,000
Underwriting discount <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1.34	\$ 6,365,000
Proceeds, before expenses, to Rose Rock Midstream, L.P.	\$ 32.10	\$152,475,000

(1) We refer you to "Underwriting" beginning on page S-15 of this prospectus supplement for additional information regarding underwriter compensation.

The underwriters may also purchase up to an additional 712,500 common units at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount, within 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement.

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

The underwriters expect to deliver the common units on or about August 16, 2013.

*Joint Book-Running Managers*

**Barclays**

**UBS Investment Bank**

**Citigroup**

**Deutsche Bank Securities**

**RBC Capital Markets**

*Senior Co-Managers*

**Stifel**

**BMO Capital Markets**

**Janney Montgomery Scott**

*Junior Co-Managers*

**ABN AMRO**

**LCT Capital, LLC**

**RBS**

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**Table of Contents****TABLE OF CONTENTS****Prospectus Supplement**

	<u>Page</u>
SUMMARY	S-1
THE OFFERING	S-6
RISK FACTORS	S-9
USE OF PROCEEDS	S-10
CAPITALIZATION	S-11
PRICE RANGE OF COMMON UNITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS	S-12
MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS	S-13
UNDERWRITING	S-15
LEGAL MATTERS	S-22
EXPERTS	S-23
INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE	S-24
CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	S-25

**Prospectus**

	<u>Page</u>
ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS	1
ABOUT ROSE ROCK MIDSTREAM, L.P.	2
RISK FACTORS	3
CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	4
USE OF PROCEEDS	6
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES	7
DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON UNITS	8
DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES	10
DESCRIPTION OF GUARANTEES OF DEBT SECURITIES	21
PROVISIONS OF OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT RELATING TO CASH DISTRIBUTIONS	22
THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT	33
MATERIAL FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES	46
INVESTMENT IN ROSE ROCK MIDSTREAM, L.P. BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS	62
SELLING UNITHOLDERS	64
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	66
LEGAL MATTERS	68
EXPERTS	68
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	68

**Important Notice About Information in this Prospectus Supplement and the Accompanying Prospectus**

This document is in two parts. The first part is the prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which gives more general information about the securities we may offer from time to time, some of which may not apply to this offering of common units. If the information relating to the offering varies between the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement.

Any statement made in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or in any other subsequently filed document that is also incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus modifies or supersedes that statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Please read "Incorporation by Reference" on page S-24 of this prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide you with additional or different information. If anyone provides you with additional, different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy our common units in any jurisdiction where such offer or sale would be unlawful. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents or that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since such dates.

The information in this prospectus supplement is not complete. You should review carefully all of the detailed information appearing in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents we have incorporated by reference before making any investment decision.

None of Rose Rock Midstream, L.P., the underwriters or any of their respective representatives is making any representation to you regarding the legality of an investment in our common units by you under applicable laws. You should consult with your own advisors as to legal, tax, business, financial and related aspects of an investment in our common units.

**SUMMARY**

*This summary highlights information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. It does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. You should read carefully the entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference into the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the other documents to which we refer herein and therein for a more complete understanding of this offering.*

*As used in this prospectus supplement, and unless the context indicates otherwise, the terms (i) “Rose Rock,” “the Partnership,” “we,” “our,” “us” or like terms refer to Rose Rock Midstream, L.P., its subsidiaries and its predecessor; (ii) “SemGroup” refers to SemGroup Corporation (NYSE: SEMG) and its subsidiaries and affiliates, other than our general partner and us and our subsidiaries; (iii) our “general partner” refers to Rose Rock Midstream GP, LLC; and (iv) “unitholders” refers to our common, subordinated and Class A unitholders and not our general partner. For a description of the entities comprising our “predecessor,” please see Note 1 to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.*

**Rose Rock Midstream, L.P.****Overview**

We are a growth-oriented Delaware limited partnership formed by SemGroup in 2011 to own, operate, develop and acquire a diversified portfolio of midstream energy assets. We are engaged in the business of crude oil gathering, transportation, storage, distribution and marketing in Colorado, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Wyoming. We serve areas that are experiencing strong production growth and drilling activity through our exposure to the Bakken Shale in North Dakota and Montana, the Denver-Julesburg Basin (“DJ Basin”) and the Niobrara Shale in the Rocky Mountain region, and the Granite Wash and the Mississippi Lime Play in the Mid-Continent region. The majority of our assets are strategically located in, or connected to, the Cushing, Oklahoma crude oil marketing hub. Cushing is the designated point of delivery specified in all NYMEX crude oil futures contracts and is one of the largest crude oil marketing hubs in the United States. We believe that our connectivity in Cushing and our numerous interconnections with third-party pipelines, refineries and storage terminals provide our customers with the flexibility to access multiple points for the receipt and delivery of crude oil.

As of June 30, 2013, we owned and operated the following assets:

- 7.25 million barrels of crude oil storage capacity in Cushing, Oklahoma, with an additional 350,000 barrels currently under construction;
- a 640-mile crude oil gathering and transportation pipeline system with over 660,000 barrels of associated storage capacity in Kansas and northern Oklahoma that is connected to several third-party pipelines and refineries and our storage terminal in Cushing;
- a crude oil gathering, storage, transportation and marketing business in the Bakken Shale in North Dakota and Montana in which we handled and marketed an average of 7,100 barrels of crude oil per day for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 8,200 for the three months ended June 30, 2013; and
- a modern, sixteen-lane crude oil truck unloading facility with 230,000 barrels of associated storage capacity in Platteville, Colorado which connects to the origination point of the White Cliffs Pipeline, described below.

We also own a one-third interest in SemCrude Pipeline, L.L.C. (“SCPL”), which we purchased from SemGroup in January 2013. SCPL owns a 51% interest in White Cliffs Pipeline, L.L.C. (“White Cliffs”), so we

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## Table of Contents

effectively hold a 17% interest in White Cliffs. White Cliffs owns a 527-mile pipeline system that transports crude oil from Platteville, Colorado in the DJ Basin to Cushing, Oklahoma (the “White Cliffs Pipeline”). We account for our ownership in SCPL as an equity method investment.

### Business Strategies

Our principal business objective is to increase the quarterly cash distributions that we pay to our unitholders over time while maintaining the ongoing stability of our business. We expect to achieve this objective through the following strategies:

- **Capitalizing on organic growth opportunities associated with our existing assets**. We seek to identify and evaluate economically organic expansion and asset enhancement opportunities that leverage our existing asset footprint and strategic relationships with our customers.
- **Growing our business through strategic and accretive asset acquisitions from third parties and SemGroup**. We plan to pursue accretive acquisitions from SemGroup and third parties of midstream energy assets that are complementary to our existing asset base or that provide attractive potential returns in new operating regions or business lines.
- **Focusing on stable, fee-based services and fixed-margin transactions**. We focus on opportunities to provide midstream services under fee-based arrangements and fixed-margin transactions, which minimize our direct exposure to commodity price fluctuations.
- **Mitigating commodity price exposure**. We mitigate the commodity price exposure of substantially all of our crude oil marketing operations by entering into “back-to-back” transactions, which are intended to lock in positive margins based on the timing, location or quality of the crude oil purchased and delivered, and through the use of derivative contracts.
- **Maintaining financial flexibility and utilizing leverage prudently**. We plan to pursue a disciplined financial policy and maintain a conservative capital structure to allow us to execute on our identified growth projects, as well as pursue additional growth projects and acquisitions, even in challenging market environments.

### Competitive Strengths

We believe that the following competitive strengths position us to successfully execute our principal business objective:

- **Strategically located assets that provide a strong platform for growth and operational flexibility to our customers**. The majority of our assets are located in or connected to Cushing, and our numerous interconnections to other terminals and pipelines provide our customers with multiple options for the receipt and delivery of crude oil. We believe that we are well positioned to take advantage of both the increased throughput at Cushing that is expected to result from the construction of additional transportation capacity to and from the hub, and the growing production in the Bakken Shale, DJ Basin, Niobrara Shale, Granite Wash and Mississippi Lime Play.
- **Modern crude oil transportation, storage and unloading assets**. White Cliffs Pipeline, our Cushing storage tanks and our Platteville facility have all been placed into service since the beginning of 2009. The recent construction of these facilities results in reduced maintenance costs, and we believe that customers prefer the additional reliability and safety that is generally associated with newer assets.
- **Stable cash flow**. The majority of our adjusted gross margin is generated from fee-based services and fixed-margin transactions. Our fee-based and fixed-margin activities mitigate our exposure to margin fluctuations caused by commodity price volatility.

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## Table of Contents

- ***Affiliation with SemGroup.*** We believe that our relationship with SemGroup strengthens our ability to make strategic acquisitions and to access other business opportunities. In addition, we believe that SemGroup, as the owner of a substantial interest in us, will be motivated to promote and support the successful execution of our business strategies.
- ***Experienced, knowledgeable management team with a proven track record.*** Our management team has an average of over 29 years of experience in the energy industry, including building, acquiring, integrating and operating midstream assets. In addition, our management team has established strong relationships throughout the U.S. upstream and midstream industries, which we believe will be beneficial to us in pursuing acquisition and organic expansion opportunities.

### Recent Developments

#### ***White Cliffs Expansion***

White Cliffs is undertaking an expansion to increase the capacity of the White Cliffs Pipeline from approximately 70,000 barrels per day to about 150,000 barrels per day. The expansion is anticipated to be in service in the first half of 2014. We operate the expanded pipeline.

#### ***Additional Cushing Storage***

We are constructing an additional 350,000 barrels of storage in Cushing, 250,000 barrels of which will be used for blending, which we expect to be completed during the fourth quarter of 2013.

#### ***Acquisition of Transportation Assets from Barcas Field Services***

On August 1, 2013, we executed a definitive agreement to acquire the assets of Barcas Field Services, LLC, which owns and operates a crude oil trucking fleet for \$47 million. The transaction is expected to close, subject to customary closing conditions, during the third quarter of 2013. Highlights of the acquisition include the following:

- 114 trucks, 120 trailers and miscellaneous equipment operating in Colorado, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Wyoming, North Dakota, Kansas, New Mexico, and Texas; and
- a long-term take-or-pay customer transportation agreement.

#### ***Quarterly Distribution***

On July 25, 2013, we announced that the board of directors of our general partner declared a cash distribution for the second quarter of 2013 of \$0.44 per outstanding unit, or \$1.76 on an annualized basis. The cash distribution will be paid on August 14, 2013 to all unitholders of record as of the close of business on August 5, 2013. Purchasers in this offering will not receive the distribution payable on August 14, 2013.

#### ***Planned Retirement of President and Chief Executive Officer***

On August 8, 2013, SemGroup and the Partnership announced that Norman J. Szydlowski, who has served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of our general partner since its formation and as President and Chief Executive Officer of SemGroup since November 2009, will retire once a successor is in place.

### Our Relationship with SemGroup

One of our principal strengths is our relationship with SemGroup. SemGroup provides gathering, transportation, processing, storage, distribution, marketing, and other midstream services primarily to independent oil and natural gas producers, refiners of petroleum products, and other market participants located

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## Table of Contents

in the Mid-Continent and Rocky Mountain regions of the U.S. and in Canada, Mexico and the United Kingdom. SemGroup has structured its business portfolio to be heavily weighted in fee-based and fixed-margin activities along with minimal and managed trading activities. SemGroup's Class A common stock trades on the NYSE, under the symbol "SEMG."

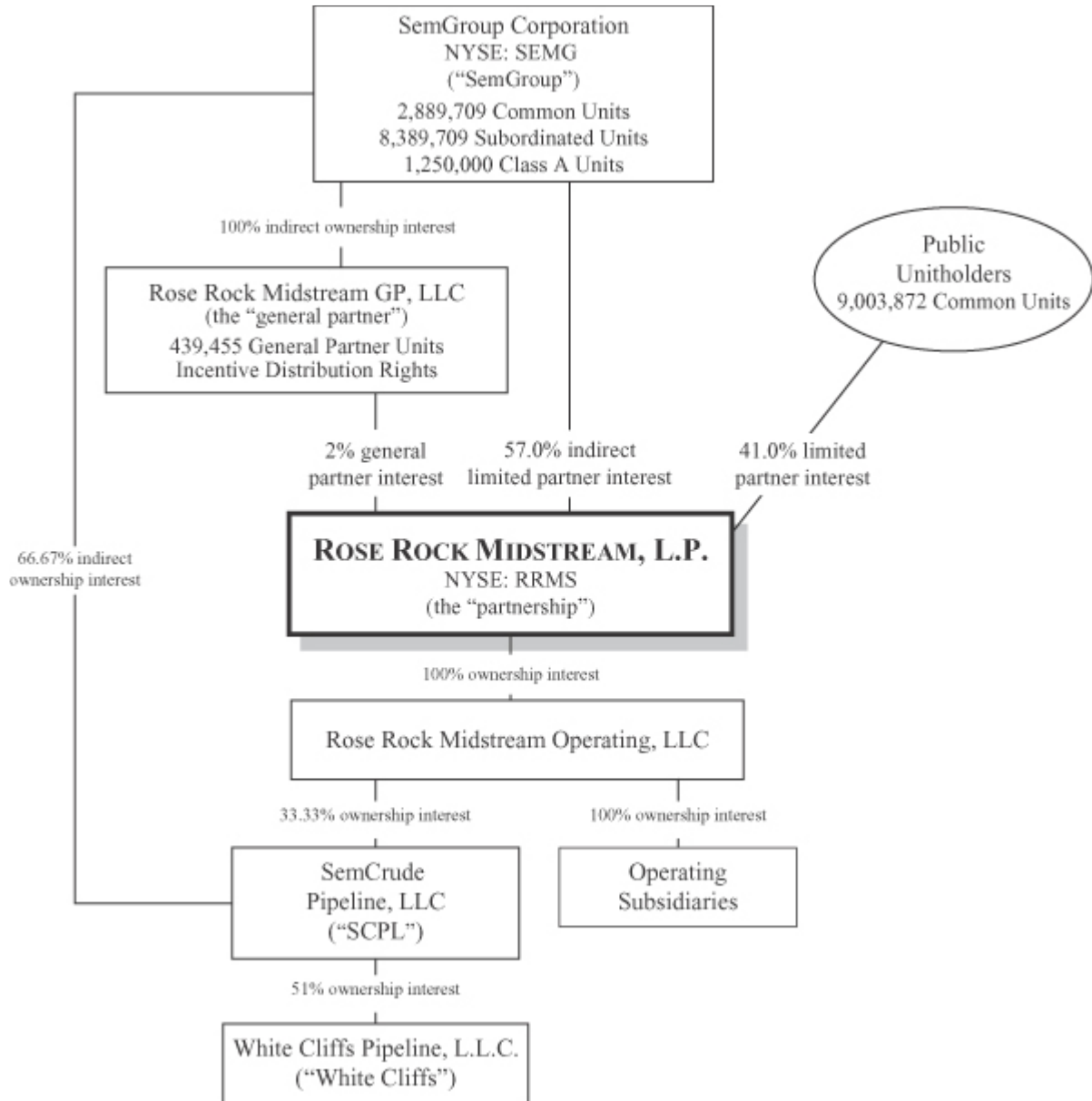
SemGroup owns and operates a substantial portfolio of midstream assets and retains a significant interest in us through its ownership of a 57.0% limited partner interest and 2.0% general partner interest in us (prior to giving effect to the offering of common units hereby), as well as all of our incentive distribution rights. Given SemGroup's significant ownership in us, we believe that SemGroup continues to be motivated to promote and support the successful execution of our business strategies. This support could include the potential contribution to us over time of additional midstream assets that SemGroup currently owns or acquires or develops in the future and the facilitation of accretive acquisitions. However, SemGroup is under no obligation to offer any assets or business opportunities to us or accept any offer for its assets that we may choose to make. SemGroup constantly evaluates acquisitions and dispositions and may elect to acquire or dispose of assets in the future without offering us the opportunity to purchase those assets. SemGroup has retained such flexibility because it believes it is in the best interests of its shareholders to do so. We cannot say with any certainty which, if any, opportunities to acquire assets from SemGroup may be made available to us or if we will choose to pursue any such opportunity. Moreover, the consideration to be paid by us for assets offered to us by SemGroup, if any, as well as the consummation and timing of any acquisition by us of these assets, would depend upon, among other things, the timing of SemGroup's decision to sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of these assets, our ability to successfully negotiate a purchase price and other terms, and our ability to obtain financing.

**Table of Contents**

**Our Ownership and Organizational Structure**

The following diagram reflects a simplified version of our organizational structure with ownership percentages before giving effect to this offering.

Public Common Units	41.0%
Sponsor Units:	
Common Units	13.1%
Class A Units	5.7%
Subordinated Units	38.2%
General Partner Units	2.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>100.0%</u></b>





## Table of Contents

### THE OFFERING

Common units offered.	4,750,000 common units, or 5,462,500 common units if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase 712,500 additional common units.
Units outstanding after this offering	16,643,581 common units, or 17,356,081 common units if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional common units, and 8,389,709 subordinated units and 1,250,000 Class A Units indirectly held by SemGroup.
Use of proceeds	We expect to receive net proceeds from this offering of approximately \$155.6 million, including our general partner's proportionate capital contribution of approximately \$3.2 million to maintain its 2% general partner interest in us, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us. We plan to use the net proceeds from the offering along with cash on hand to repay approximately \$159.2 million of borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility. We plan to use any additional net proceeds from any exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional common units for general partnership purposes. Please read "Use of Proceeds." Affiliates of certain of the underwriters are lenders under our revolving credit facility and accordingly will receive a portion of the proceeds from this offering. Please see "Underwriting."
Cash distributions	<p>We distribute all of our cash on hand at the end of each quarter, after payment of fees and expenses, less reserves (including reserves for capital expenditures, working capital and operating expenses) established by our general partner in its discretion. We refer to this cash as "available cash," and we define its meaning in our partnership agreement.</p> <p>Our partnership agreement requires us to distribute all of our available cash each quarter in the following manner during the subordination period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>first</i>, 98.0% to the holders of common units and 2.0% to our general partner, until each common unit has received the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.3625, plus any arrearages from prior quarters;</li><li>• <i>second</i>, 98.0% to the holders of subordinated units and 2.0% to our general partner, until each subordinated unit has received the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.3625; and</li><li>• <i>third</i>, 98.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until each unit has received a distribution of \$0.416875.</li></ul> <p>If cash distributions to our unitholders exceed \$0.416875 per unit in any quarter, our general partner will receive, in addition to distributions on its 2.0% general partner interest, increasing percentages, up to 48.0%, of the cash we distribute in excess of that amount. We refer to these distributions as "incentive distributions."</p>

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## Table of Contents

The Class A units are not entitled to receive any distributions of available cash (other than upon liquidation) prior to the first day of the month immediately following the first month for which the average daily throughput volumes on the White Cliffs Pipeline for such month are 125,000 barrels per day or greater. Upon such date, the Class A units will automatically convert into an equal number of common units.

Please read “Provisions of Our Partnership Agreement Relating to Cash Distributions” in the accompanying prospectus.

On July 25, 2013, we announced that the board of directors of our general partner declared a cash distribution for the second quarter of 2013 of \$0.44 per outstanding unit, or \$1.76 on an annualized basis. The cash distribution will be paid on August 14, 2013 to all unitholders of record as of the close of business on August 5, 2013. Purchasers in this offering will not receive the distribution payable on August 14, 2013.

Issuance of additional units

Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of additional units without the approval of our unitholders.

Limited voting rights

Our general partner manages and operates our business. Unlike the holders of common stock in a corporation, you have only limited voting rights on matters affecting our business. You have no right to elect our general partner or its directors on an annual or continuing basis. Our general partner may not be removed except by a vote of the holders of at least  $66\frac{2}{3}\%$  of the outstanding limited partner units voting together as a single class, including any limited partner units owned by our general partner and its affiliates, including SemGroup. Upon the closing of this offering, SemGroup will own an aggregate of approximately 17.4% of our common units (or approximately 16.6% of our common units if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional units) and all of our subordinated units and Class A Units, equaling an aggregate approximate 47.7% limited partner interest in us (or an aggregate approximate 46.4% limited partner interest in us if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional units). This gives SemGroup the ability to prevent the involuntary removal of our general partner. Please read “The Partnership Agreement—Meetings; Voting” in the accompanying prospectus.

Material federal income tax consequences

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

Estimated ratio of taxable income to distribution

We estimate that if you own the common units you purchase in this offering through the record date for distributions for the period ending

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**Table of Contents**

December 31, 2015, you will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for that period that will be 20% or less of the cash distributed to you with respect to that period. Please read “Material Tax Considerations” beginning on page S-13 of this prospectus supplement for an explanation of the basis for this estimate.

Exchange listing

Our common units are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “RRMS.”

**RISK FACTORS**

*An investment in our common units involves risk. You should carefully read the risk factors included under the caption “Risk Factors” beginning on page 3 of the accompanying prospectus, as well as the risk factors included in Item 1A. “Risk Factors” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, together with all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. If any of these risks were to occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects could be materially adversely affected. In such case, the trading price of our common units could decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment.*

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We expect to receive net proceeds of approximately \$155.6 million from the sale of 4,750,000 common units offered by us pursuant to this prospectus supplement, including our general partner's proportionate capital contribution of approximately \$3.2 million to maintain its 2% general partner interest in us, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us. If the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional common units from us, we will receive additional net proceeds of approximately \$22.9 million.

We plan to use the net proceeds from the offering along with cash on hand to repay approximately \$159.2 million of borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility. We plan to use any additional net proceeds from any exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional common units for general partnership purposes.

As of August 8, 2013, the weighted average interest rate on our outstanding indebtedness was 4.0% based on approximately \$171.5 million of borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility. The revolving credit facility matures in December 2016. The proceeds of borrowings under our revolving credit facility were used primarily to fund a portion of our purchase of a one-third interest in SCPL, which owns a 51% interest in White Cliffs, and for general partnership purposes.

Affiliates of Barclays Capital Inc., UBS Securities LLC, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., RBC Capital Markets, LLC, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated, BMO Capital Markets Corp. , ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC and RBS Securities Inc. are lenders under our revolving credit facility and will receive a portion of the proceeds from this offering through repayment of indebtedness under the facility. Please read "Underwriting—Relationships" and "—FINRA."

**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table shows our capitalization and cash and cash equivalents as of June 30, 2013 on a historical basis and as adjusted to reflect this offering of common units and the application of the net proceeds as described under “Use of Proceeds.”

The following table should be read together with our historical financial statements and the related notes thereto that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The following table does not reflect any common units that may be sold to the underwriters upon exercise of their option to purchase additional common units.

	<b>As of June 30, 2013</b>	
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>As Adjusted</b>
	(In thousands)	
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 3,650</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
Long-term debt:		
Revolving credit facility <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>\$166,549</u>	<u>\$ 7,344</u>
Total long-term debt	166,549	7,344
Partners’ capital:		
General partner interest	4,633	7,875
Common units held by public	98,277	250,752
Common units held by SemGroup	53,879	53,879
Class A Units held by SemGroup	18,142	18,142
Subordinated units held SemGroup	<u>52,120</u>	<u>52,120</u>
Total partners’ capital	<u>\$227,051</u>	<u>\$ 382,768</u>
Total capitalization	<u>\$393,600</u>	<u>\$ 390,112</u>

(1) As of August 8, 2013, we had approximately \$171.5 million of indebtedness outstanding under our revolving credit facility.

**PRICE RANGE OF COMMON UNITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

Our common units are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “RRMS.” The last reported sales price of the common units on August 12, 2013 was \$34.80. As of July 31, 2013, we had issued and outstanding 11,893,581 common units that were held by approximately 6 holders of record, including common units held by SemGroup. The number of holders of record does not include owners whose common units are held in “street name.” The following table presents the high and low sales prices for our common units (as reported on the New York Stock Exchange) since our initial public offering and the amount of the cash distributions we paid on each of our outstanding units for the periods indicated:

	<u>Price Ranges</u>		<u>Cash</u>
	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Distribution</u>
			<u>per Unit</u>
<b>2013</b>			
Third Quarter (through August 12, 2013)	\$39.05	\$34.10	— (a)
Second Quarter	42.18	35.08	\$ 0.4400 <sup>(b)</sup>
First Quarter	39.83	31.14	0.4300
<b>2012</b>			
Fourth Quarter	\$33.25	\$28.46	\$ 0.4025
Third Quarter	34.58	23.46	0.3925
Second Quarter	25.47	22.18	0.3825
First Quarter	25.59	19.86	0.3725
<b>2011</b>			
Fourth Quarter <sup>(c)</sup>	\$20.90	\$19.00	\$ 0.0670 <sup>(d)</sup>

- (a) Cash distributions in respect of the third quarter of 2013 have not been declared or paid.
- (b) Cash distributions in respect of the second quarter of 2013 were declared on July 25, 2013 and will be paid on August 14, 2013 to all unitholders of record as of the close of business on August 5, 2013. Purchasers in this offering will not receive the distribution payable on August 14, 2013.
- (c) From December 9, 2011, the day our common units began trading on the New York Stock Exchange, through December 31, 2011.
- (d) Reflects the pro rata portion of the \$0.3625 quarterly distribution per unit paid, representing the period from December 14, 2011, the day after the closing date of our initial public offering, through December 31, 2011.

## **MATERIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The tax consequences to you of an investment in our common units will depend in part on your own tax circumstances. For a discussion of the principal federal income tax considerations associated with our operations and the purchase, ownership and disposition of our common units, please read “Material Federal Income Tax Consequences” in the accompanying prospectus. The following discussion is limited and does not address certain holders, in each case as described under the caption “Material Federal Income Tax Consequences” in the accompanying prospectus. Please also read “Item 1A. Risk Factors—Tax Risks” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, for a discussion of the tax risks related to purchasing and owning our common units.

Prospective unitholders are encouraged to consult with their own tax advisors about the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences particular to their own circumstances. In particular, ownership of common units by tax-exempt entities, including employee benefit plans and IRAs, and non-U.S. investors raises issues unique to such persons. The relevant rules are complex, and the discussions herein and in the accompanying base prospectus do not address tax considerations applicable to tax-exempt entities and non-U.S. investors, except as specifically set forth in the accompanying base prospectus. Please read “Material Federal Income Tax Consequences—Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors” in the accompanying prospectus.

### **Partnership Status**

The anticipated after-tax economic benefit of an investment in our common units depends largely on our being treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. We have not requested a ruling from the IRS with respect to our classification as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. In order to be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, at least 90% of our gross income must be from specific qualifying sources, such as the transportation, storage and processing of crude oil, natural gas and products thereof and marketing of any mineral or natural resource. For a more complete description of this qualifying income requirement and the importance of our status as a partnership, please read “Material Federal Income Tax Consequences—Partnership Status” in the accompanying prospectus.

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

### **Estimated Ratio of Taxable Income to Distributions**

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



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## Table of Contents

income to cash distributions to a purchaser of common units in this offering could be higher, and perhaps substantially higher, than our estimate with respect to the period described above if:

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

### Recent Legislative Developments

The present U.S. federal income tax treatment of publicly traded partnerships, including us, or an investment in our common units may be modified by administrative, legislative or judicial interpretation at any time. For example, from time to time, members of the U.S. Congress propose and consider substantive changes to the existing U.S. federal income tax laws that affect certain publicly traded partnerships. Any modification to the U.S. federal income tax laws and interpretations thereof may or may not be applied retroactively and could make it more difficult or impossible to meet the exception for us to be treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. We are unable to predict whether any of these changes, or other proposals, will ultimately be enacted. Any such changes could negatively impact the value of an investment in our common units.

## Table of Contents

### UNDERWRITING

Barclays Capital Inc. , UBS Securities LLC, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and RBC Capital Markets, LLC are acting as the joint book-running managers of this offering and Barclays Capital Inc. is acting as the representative of the underwriters named below. Under the terms of an underwriting agreement, which we will file as an exhibit to our current report on Form 8-K and incorporate by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, each of the underwriters named below has severally agreed to purchase from us the respective number of common units shown opposite its name below:

<u>Underwriters</u>	<u>Number of Common Units</u>
Barclays Capital Inc.	1,068,750
UBS Securities LLC	902,500
Citigroup Global Markets Inc	712,500
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.	712,500
RBC Capital Markets, LLC	712,500
Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated	142,500
BMO Capital Markets Corp.	106,875
Janney Montgomery Scott LLC	35,625
ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC	118,750
LCT Capital, LLC	118,750
RBS Securities Inc.	118,750
Total	<u>4,750,000</u>

The underwriting agreement provides that the underwriters' obligation to purchase common units depends on the satisfaction of the conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, including:

- the obligation to purchase all of the common units offered hereby (other than those common units covered by their option to purchase additional common units as described below), if any of the common units are purchased;
- the representations and warranties made by us to the underwriters are true;
- there is no material adverse change in our business or in the financial markets; and
- our delivery of customary closing documents to the underwriters.

### Commissions and Expenses

The following table summarizes the underwriting discounts and commissions we will pay to the underwriters. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional common units. The underwriting fee is the difference between the initial price to the public and the amount the underwriters pay to us for the common units.

	<u>No Exercise</u>	<u>Full Exercise</u>
Per common unit	\$ 1.34	\$ 1.34
Total	\$6,365,000	\$7,319,750

The representative of the underwriters has advised us that the underwriters propose to offer the common units directly to the public at the public offering price on the cover of this prospectus supplement and to selected dealers, which may include the underwriters, at such offering price less a selling concession not in excess of \$0.804 per common unit. Sales of common units made outside of the United States may be made by affiliates of the underwriters.

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## Table of Contents

The expenses of the offering that are payable by us are estimated to be approximately \$0.2 million (excluding underwriting discounts and commissions).

### Option to Purchase Additional Common Units

We have granted the underwriters an option exercisable for 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase, from time to time, in whole or in part, up to an aggregate of 712,500 common units at the public offering price less underwriting discounts and commissions. This option may be exercised if the underwriters sell more than 4,750,000 common units in connection with this offering. To the extent that this option is exercised, each underwriter will be obligated, subject to certain conditions, to purchase its pro rata portion of these additional common units based on the underwriter's percentage underwriting commitment in the offering as indicated in the table at the beginning of this Underwriting section.

### Lock-Up Agreements

We, our general partner and certain of its affiliates, and the directors and executive officers of our general partner have agreed that, without the prior written consent of Barclays Capital Inc., we and they will not directly or indirectly (1) offer for sale, sell, pledge, or otherwise dispose of (or enter into any transaction or device that is designed to, or could be expected to, result in the disposition by any person at any time in the future of) any common units (including, without limitation, common units that may be deemed to be beneficially owned by us or them in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and common units that may be issued upon exercise of any options or warrants) or securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common units, other than certain permitted transfers and issuances and grants of options (2) enter into any swap or other derivatives transaction that transfers to another, in whole or in part, any of the economic benefits or risks of ownership of the common units, (3) file or cause to be filed a registration statement, including any amendments thereto, with respect to the registration of any common units or securities convertible, exercisable or exchangeable into common units or any of our other securities, or (4) publicly disclose the intention to do any of the foregoing for a period of 45 days after the date of this prospectus supplement.

These restrictions do not apply to, among other things:

- the sale of common units to the underwriters pursuant to the underwriting agreement;
- the issuance by us of additional awards under currently outstanding employee benefit plans, qualified option plans or other employee compensation plans existing on the date of this prospectus;
- the issuance of options, warrants or rights outstanding on the date of this prospectus;
- the issuance by us of common units as consideration to sellers in connection with acquisitions of assets by us, provided that the recipient agrees to be bound by these restrictions;
- the filing of one or more registration statements on Form S-8 relating to any employee benefit plan in effect on the date of this prospectus; or
- certain other exceptions.

The 45-day restricted period described above will be extended if:

- during the last 17 days of the 45-day restricted period we issue an earnings release or material news or a material event relating to us occurs; or
- prior to the expiration of the 45-day restricted period, we announce that we will release earnings results during the 16-day period beginning on the last day of the 45-day period;

in which case the restrictions described in the preceding paragraph will continue to apply until the expiration of the 18-day period beginning on the issuance of the earnings release or the announcement of the material news or occurrence of material event, unless such extension is waived in writing by Barclays Capital Inc.

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## Table of Contents

Barclays Capital Inc., in its sole discretion, may release the common units and other securities subject to the lock-up agreements described above in whole or in part at any time with or without notice. When determining whether or not to release common units and other securities from lock-up agreements, Barclays Capital Inc. will consider, among other factors, the holder's reasons for requesting the release, the number of common units and other securities for which the release is being requested and market conditions at the time.

### Indemnification

We and our general partner have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and to contribute to payments that the underwriters may be required to make for these liabilities.

### Stabilization, Short Positions and Penalty Bids

The representative may engage in stabilizing transactions, short sales and purchases to cover positions created by short sales, and penalty bids or purchases for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of the common units, in accordance with Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

- Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.
- A short position involves a sale by the underwriters of common units in excess of the number of common units the underwriters are obligated to purchase in the offering, which creates the syndicate short position. This short position may be either a covered short position or a naked short position. In a covered short position, the number of common units involved in the sales made by the underwriters in excess of the number of common units they are obligated to purchase is not greater than the number of common units that they may purchase by exercising their option to purchase additional common units. In a naked short position, the number of common units involved is greater than the number of common units in their option to purchase additional common units. The underwriters may close out any short position by either exercising their option to purchase additional common units and/or purchasing common units in the open market. In determining the source of common units to close out the short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of common units available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase common units through their option to purchase additional common units. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there could be downward pressure on the price of the common units in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering.
- Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the common units in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions.
- Penalty bids permit the representative to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the common units originally sold by the syndicate member is purchased in a stabilizing or syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions.

These stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our common units or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common units. As a result, the price of the common units may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions may be effected on The New York Stock Exchange or otherwise and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

Neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the common units. In addition, neither we nor any of the underwriters make representation that the representative will engage in these stabilizing transactions or that any transaction, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

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## Table of Contents

### Electronic Distribution

A prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format may be made available on the Internet sites or through other online services maintained by one or more of the underwriters and/or selling group members participating in this offering, or by their affiliates. In those cases, prospective investors may view offering terms online and, depending upon the particular underwriter or selling group member, prospective investors may be allowed to place orders online. The underwriters may agree with us to allocate a specific number of common units for sale to online brokerage account holders. Any such allocation for online distributions will be made by the representative on the same basis as other allocations.

Other than the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format, the information on any underwriter's or selling group member's web site and any information contained in any other web site maintained by an underwriter or selling group member is not part of the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus forms a part, has not been approved and/or endorsed by us or any underwriter or selling group member in its capacity as underwriter or selling group member and should not be relied upon by investors.

### Stamp Taxes

If you purchase common units offered in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you may be required to pay stamp taxes and other charges under the laws and practices of the country of purchase, in addition to the offering price listed on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

### Relationships

Certain of the underwriters and their related entities have performed, and may in the future perform, commercial, investment banking, advisory and other services for us and our affiliates, including SemGroup, in the ordinary course of their business. They have received, and expect to receive, customary compensation and expense reimbursement for these services. LCT Capital, LLC acts as an adviser to SemGroup with respect to certain strategic matters unrelated to this offering, in which capacity it has earned customary fees and may continue to earn customary fees in the future.

In addition, in the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investment and securities activities may involve our securities and instruments and those of SemGroup.

Barclays Capital Inc., UBS Securities LLC, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., RBC Capital Markets, LLC, BMO Capital Markets Corp., Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated, ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC and RBS Securities Inc. or their respective affiliates are lenders under our revolving credit facility and accordingly will receive a portion of the proceeds of this offering through repayment of indebtedness under the facility.

### FINRA

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

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## Table of Contents

### Selling Restrictions

#### *Notice to Prospective Investors in the EEA*

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

- to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;
- to fewer than 100 or, if the relevant member state has implemented the relevant provision of the 2010 PD Amending Directive, 150, natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), as permitted under the Prospectus Directive, subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant Dealer or Dealers nominated by the Issuer for any such offer; or
- in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive;

provided that no such offer of securities shall require us or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

For purposes of this provision, the expression an “offer of securities to the public” in any relevant member state means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the securities to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the securities, as the expression may be varied in that member state by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that member state, and the expression “Prospectus Directive” means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in the relevant member state), and includes any relevant implementing measure in each relevant member state. The expression “2010 PD Amending Directive” means Directive 2010/73/EU.

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

#### *Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom*

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

(1) if our partnership is a CIS and is marketed by a person who is an authorised person under FSMA, (a) investment professionals falling within Article 14(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Promotion of Collective Investment Schemes) (Exemptions) Order 2001, as amended (the CIS Promotion Order) or (b) high net worth companies and other persons falling within Article 22(2)(a) to (d) of the CIS Promotion Order; or

(2) otherwise, if marketed by a person who is not an authorised person under FSMA, (a) persons who fall within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the Financial Promotion Order) or (b) Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Financial Promotion Order; and

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## **Table of Contents**

(3) in both cases (1) and (2) to any other person to whom it may otherwise lawfully be made (all such persons together being referred to as “relevant persons”).

Our partnership’s common units are only available to, and any invitation, offer or agreement to subscribe, purchase or otherwise acquire such common units will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

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

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland***

This prospectus is being communicated in Switzerland to a small number of selected investors only. Each copy of this prospectus is addressed to a specifically named recipient and may not be copied, reproduced, distributed or passed on to third parties. Our common units are not being offered to the public in Switzerland, and neither this prospectus, nor any other offering materials relating to our common units may be distributed in connection with any such public offering. We have not been registered with the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA as a foreign collective investment scheme pursuant to Article 120 of the Collective Investment Schemes Act of June 23, 2006 (CISA). Accordingly, our common units may not be offered to the public in or from Switzerland, and neither this prospectus, nor any other offering materials relating to our common units may be made available through a public offering in or from Switzerland. Our common units may only be offered and this prospectus may only be distributed in or from Switzerland by way of private placement exclusively to qualified investors (as this term is defined in the CISA and its implementing ordinance).

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in Germany***

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

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

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in the Netherlands***

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

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## Table of Contents

### *Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong*

The common units have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold in Hong Kong, by means of any document, other than (a) to “professional investors” as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) of Hong Kong and any rules made under that Ordinance; or (b) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a “prospectus” as defined in the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32) of Hong Kong or which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of that Ordinance. No advertisement, invitation or document relating to the common units has been or may be issued or has been or may be in the possession of any person for the purposes of issue, whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere, which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public of Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to common units which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to “professional investors” as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made under that Ordinance.

### *Notice to Prospective Investors in Australia*

No placement document, prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document has been lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (“ASIC”), in relation to the offering. This prospectus does not constitute a prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document under the Corporations Act 2001 (the “Corporations Act”), and does not purport to include the information required for a prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document under the Corporations Act.

Any offer in Australia of the common units may only be made to persons (the “Exempt Investors”), who are:

- (a) “sophisticated investors” (within the meaning of section 708(8) of the Corporations Act), “professional investors” (within the meaning of section 708(11) of the Corporations Act) or otherwise pursuant to one or more exemptions contained in section 708 of the Corporations Act; and
- (b) “wholesale clients” (within the meaning of section 761G of the Corporations Act), so that it is lawful to offer the common units without disclosure to investors under Chapters 6D and 7 of the Corporations Act.

The common units applied for by Exempt Investors in Australia must not be offered for sale in Australia in the period of 12 months after the date of allotment under the offering, except in circumstances where disclosure to investors under Chapters 6D and 7 of the Corporations Act would not be required pursuant to an exemption under both section 708 and Subdivision B of Division 2 of Part 7.9 of the Corporations Act or otherwise or where the offer is pursuant to a disclosure document which complies with Chapters 6D and 7 of the Corporations Act.

Any person acquiring common units must observe such Australian on-sale restrictions. This prospectus contains general information only and does not take account of the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. It does not contain any securities recommendations or financial product advice. Before making an investment decision, investors need to consider whether the information in this prospectus is appropriate to their needs, objectives and circumstances, and, if necessary, seek expert advice on those matters.



**LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the common units offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Andrews Kurth LLP, Houston, Texas. Certain legal matters in connection with the common units offered hereby will be passed upon for the underwriters by Baker Botts L.L.P., Houston, Texas.

**EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2012 and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012 incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement have been so incorporated in reliance on the reports of BDO USA, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated herein by reference, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The balance sheets of SemCrude Pipeline, L.L.C. as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the related statements of operations, changes in member's equity and cash flows for the two years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 and for the one month ended December 31, 2009 (Successor), and for the eleven months ended November 30, 2009 (Predecessor) incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of BDO USA, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated herein by reference, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The balance sheet of White Cliffs Pipeline, L.L.C. as of December 31, 2011 and the related statements of operations, changes in members' equity and cash flows for the year then ended incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of BDO USA, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated herein by reference, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

**INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

The SEC allows us to “incorporate by reference” the information we have filed with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you without actually including the specific information in this prospectus supplement by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. These other documents contain important information about us, our financial condition and results of operations. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and may replace information in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and information previously filed with the SEC.

We are incorporating by reference into this prospectus supplement the documents listed below and any subsequent filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (File no. 001-35365) (excluding information deemed to be furnished and not filed with the SEC) until all the common units are sold:

We incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement the documents listed below:

- Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012;
- Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the periods ended March 31, 2013 and June 30, 2013;
- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 14, 2013, February 5, 2013, August 9, 2013 (excluding any information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02) and August 9, 2013 (excluding any information furnished pursuant to Item 7.01); and
- The description of our common units contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed on December 6, 2011.

You may obtain any of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus from the SEC through the SEC’s website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You also may request a copy of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus (including exhibits to those documents specifically incorporated by reference in this document), at no cost, by visiting our internet website at [www.rrmidstream.com](http://www.rrmidstream.com), or by writing or calling us at the address set forth below. Information on our website or on the SEC’s website is not incorporated into this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or our other securities filings and is not a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

Rose Rock Midstream, L.P.  
Two Warren Place  
6120 S. Yale Avenue, Suite 700  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136-4216  
Attention: Investor Relations  
(918) 524-7700

Our principal executive office is located at Two Warren Place, 6120 S. Yale Avenue, Suite 700, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136, and our telephone number is (918) 524-7700.

**CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents we incorporate by reference herein may contain various “forward-looking statements” and information that are based on our beliefs and those of our general partner, as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to us. These forward-looking statements are identified as any statement that does not directly or exclusively relate to historical or current facts. You can typically identify forward-looking statements by the use of forward-looking words, such as “may,” “will,” “could,” “should,” “project,” “believe,” “anticipate,” “expect,” “estimate,” “potential,” “plan,” “forecast” and other similar words. All statements that are not statements of historical facts, including statements regarding our future financial position, business strategy, budgets, projected costs and plans and objectives of management for future operations, are forward-looking statements.

These forward-looking statements reflect our intentions, plans, expectations, assumptions and beliefs about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside our control. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements include known and unknown risks. These risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, include, but are not limited to, the risks set forth under “Risk Factors” and described in the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus as well as the following risks and uncertainties:

- insufficient cash from operations following the establishment of cash reserves and payment of fees and expenses to pay the minimum quarterly distribution;
- any sustained reduction in demand for crude oil in markets served by our midstream assets;
- our ability to obtain new sources of supply of crude oil;
- the amount of collateral required to be posted from time to time in our transactions;
- competition from other midstream energy companies;
- our ability to comply with the covenants contained in, and maintain certain financial ratios required by, our credit facility;
- our ability to access the debt and equity markets, which will depend on general market conditions and the credit ratings for our debt obligations;
- our ability to renew or replace expiring storage contracts;
- the loss of, or a material nonpayment or nonperformance by, any of our key customers;
- the overall forward market for crude oil;
- the possibility that our hedging activities may result in losses or may have a negative impact on our financial results;
- weather and other natural phenomena;
- hazards or operating risks incidental to the gathering, transporting or storing of crude oil;
- changes in laws and regulations and our failure to comply with new or existing laws or regulations, particularly with regard to taxes, safety and protection of the environment;
- the possibility that the construction or acquisition of new assets may not result in the corresponding anticipated revenue increases;  
and
- general economic, market and business conditions.

Although we believe that the assumptions underlying our forward-looking statements are reasonable as of the time they are made, any of the assumptions could be inaccurate, and therefore, we cannot assure you that the

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## **Table of Contents**

forward-looking statements included in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus will prove to be accurate. Some of these and other risks and uncertainties could cause actual results to differ materially from such forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements set forth in this section and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and speak only as of the date originally made. Except as may be required by applicable law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or advise of any change in any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.



# ROSE ROCK MIDSTREAM, L.P. ROSE ROCK FINANCE CORPORATION

## Common Units Representing Limited Partner Interests Debt Securities Guarantees

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

- common units representing limited partner interests in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P.; and
- debt securities, which may be either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities.

The debt securities may be issued solely by Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. or Rose Rock Finance Corporation may act as co-issuer of the debt securities, and one or more other direct or indirect subsidiaries of Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. may guarantee the debt securities.

The securities we may offer and sell under this prospectus:

- will have a maximum aggregate offering price of \$500,000,000;
- will be offered at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more accompanying prospectus supplements; and
- may be offered separately or together, or in separate series.

In addition, the selling unitholders named in this prospectus may from time to time, in one or more offerings, offer and sell up to 12,529,418 common units representing limited partner interests in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P., which include (i) 8,389,709 common units that may be issued upon conversion of 8,389,709 subordinated units representing limited partner interests in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. and (ii) 1,250,000 common units that may be issued upon conversion of 1,250,000 Class A units representing limited partner interests in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of these common units by the selling unitholders. For a more detailed discussion of the selling unitholders, please read "Selling Unitholders."

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

We or the selling unitholders may offer and sell these securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents in amounts, at prices and at terms to be determined by market conditions and other factors at the time of the offering.

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

**Investing in our securities involves risks. Limited partnerships are inherently different from corporations. You should carefully consider the risks related to investing in our securities and each of the risk factors described under "Risk Factors" beginning on page 3 of this prospectus and in the applicable prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated herein and therein before you make an investment in our securities.**

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

The date of this prospectus is May 29, 2013

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## Table of Contents

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

About This Prospectus	1
About Rose Rock Midstream, L.P.	2
Risk Factors	3
Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements	4
Use of Proceeds	6
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	7
Description of the Common Units	8
Description of Debt Securities	10
Description of Guarantees of Debt Securities	21
Provisions of Our Partnership Agreement Relating to Cash Distributions	22
The Partnership Agreement	33
Material Federal Income Tax Consequences	46
Investment in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. by Employee Benefit Plans	62
Selling Unitholders	64
Plan of Distribution	66
Legal Matters	68
Experts	68
Where You Can Find More Information	68

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**You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with additional or different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus and any prospectus supplement are not an offer to sell, nor a solicitation of an offer to buy, these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of this prospectus, or that the information contained in any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or any sale of a security.**

**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a “shelf” registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer and sell, in one or more offerings, up to \$500,000,000 in total aggregate offering price of the securities described in this prospectus. In addition, the selling unitholders may offer and sell, in one or more offerings, up to 12,529,418 common units representing limited partner interests in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P., which include (i) 8,389,709 common units that may be issued upon conversion of 8,389,709 subordinated units representing limited partner interests in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. and (ii) 1,250,000 common units that may be issued upon conversion of 1,250,000 Class A units representing limited partner interests in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. This prospectus provides you with a general description of us and the securities offered under this prospectus.

Each time we sell securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering and the securities being offered. Each time the selling unitholders sell any common units offered by this prospectus, the selling unitholders are required to provide you with this prospectus and the related prospectus supplement containing specific information about the selling unitholders and the terms of the common units being offered, in the manner required by the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The prospectus supplement may include additional risk factors or other special considerations applicable to the securities being offered and may also add to, update or change information in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement.

Additional information, including our financial statements and the notes thereto, is incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our reports filed with the SEC. You should read carefully this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the additional information described below under the heading “Where You Can Find More Information,” before investing in our common units or debt securities.

As used in this prospectus, and unless the context indicates otherwise, the terms (i) “Rose Rock,” “we,” “our,” “us” or like terms, refer to Rose Rock Midstream, L.P., its subsidiaries and its predecessor; (ii) “SemGroup” refers to SemGroup Corporation (NYSE: SEMG) and its subsidiaries and affiliates, other than our general partner and us and our subsidiaries; (iii) our “general partner” refers to Rose Rock Midstream GP, LLC; and (iv) “Rose Rock Finance” refers to Rose Rock Finance Corporation. For a description of the entities comprising our “predecessor,” please see Note 1 to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.



**ABOUT ROSE ROCK MIDSTREAM, L.P.**

We are a growth-oriented Delaware limited partnership formed by SemGroup in 2011 to own, operate, develop and acquire a diversified portfolio of midstream energy assets. We are engaged in the business of crude oil gathering, transportation, storage, distribution and marketing in Colorado, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Texas. We serve areas that are experiencing strong production growth and drilling activity through our exposure to the Bakken Shale in North Dakota and Montana, the Denver-Julesburg (DJ) Basin and the Niobrara Shale in the Rocky Mountain region, and the Granite Wash and the Mississippian oil trend in the Mid-Continent region. The majority of our assets are strategically located in, or connected to, the Cushing, Oklahoma crude oil marketing hub. Cushing is the designated point of delivery specified in all NYMEX crude oil futures contracts and is one of the largest crude oil marketing hubs in the United States. We believe that our connectivity in Cushing and our numerous interconnections with third-party pipelines, refineries and storage terminals provide our customers with the flexibility to access multiple points for the receipt and delivery of crude oil.

We are managed and operated by our general partner. SemGroup owns all of the ownership interest in our general partner. Our operations are conducted through, and our operating assets are owned by, our wholly-owned subsidiary, Rose Rock Midstream Operating, LLC, and its subsidiaries. Rose Rock Midstream Operating, LLC and its subsidiaries have no employees. The employees who conduct our business are employed by an affiliate of our general partner.

Rose Rock Finance, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Rose Rock, was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware on May 6, 2013. Rose Rock Finance was organized for the purpose of co-issuing our debt securities and has no material assets or any liabilities. Its activities will be limited to co-issuing our debt securities and engaging in other activities incidental thereto.

One or more of our subsidiaries may unconditionally guarantee any series of debt securities offered by this prospectus, as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Our principal executive offices are located at Two Warren Place, 6120 S. Yale Avenue, Suite 700, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136-4216, and our telephone number is (918) 524-7700. Our website is located at [www.rrmidstream.com](http://www.rrmidstream.com). We make our periodic reports and other information filed with or furnished to the SEC available, free of charge, through our website, as soon as reasonably practicable after those reports and other information are electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC. Information on our website or any other website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus and does not constitute a part of this prospectus.

**RISK FACTORS**

Limited partner interests are inherently different from capital stock of a corporation, although many of the business risks to which we are subject are similar to those that would be faced by a corporation engaged in a similar business. Before you invest in our securities, you should carefully consider the risk factors discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and our current reports on Form 8-K, together with all of the other information included in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated by reference herein and therein in evaluating an investment in our securities.

The risks described in the foregoing documents could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operation. If any of the described risks actually were to occur, we may not be able to pay quarterly distributions to our unitholders or make principal or interest payments on any debt securities, the trading price of our common units or any debt securities could decline and you could lose part or all of your investment.

**CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus and any prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference herein may contain various “forward-looking statements” and information that are based on our beliefs and those of our general partner, as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to us. These forward-looking statements are identified as any statement that does not directly or exclusively relate to historical or current facts. You can typically identify forward-looking statements by the use of forward-looking words, such as “may,” “will,” “could,” “should,” “project,” “believe,” “anticipate,” “expect,” “estimate,” “potential,” “plan,” “forecast” and other similar words. All statements that are not statements of historical facts, including statements regarding our future financial position, business strategy, budgets, projected costs and plans and objectives of management for future operations, are forward-looking statements.

These forward-looking statements reflect our intentions, plans, expectations, assumptions and beliefs about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside our control. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements include known and unknown risks. These risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, include, but are not limited to, the risks set forth under “Risk Factors” and described in the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any prospectus supplement as well as the following risks and uncertainties:

- insufficient cash from operations following the establishment of cash reserves and payment of fees and expenses to pay the minimum quarterly distribution;
- any sustained reduction in demand for crude oil in markets served by our midstream assets;
- our ability to obtain new sources of supply of crude oil;
- the amount of collateral required to be posted from time to time in our transactions;
- competition from other midstream energy companies;
- our ability to comply with the covenants contained in, and maintain certain financial ratios required by, our credit facility;
- our ability to access the debt and equity markets, which will depend on general market conditions and the credit ratings for our debt obligations;
- our ability to renew or replace expiring storage contracts;
- the loss of, or a material nonpayment or nonperformance by, any of our key customers;
- the overall forward market for crude oil;
- the possibility that our hedging activities may result in losses or may have a negative impact on our financial results;
- weather and other natural phenomena;
- hazards or operating risks incidental to the gathering, transporting or storing of crude oil;
- changes in laws and regulations and our failure to comply with new or existing laws or regulations, particularly with regard to taxes, safety and protection of the environment;
- the possibility that the construction or acquisition of new assets may not result in the corresponding anticipated revenue increases;  
and
- general economic, market and business conditions.

Although we believe that the assumptions underlying our forward-looking statements are reasonable as of the time they are made, any of the assumptions could be inaccurate, and therefore, we cannot assure you that the

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## **Table of Contents**

forward-looking statements included in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement will prove to be accurate. Some of these and other risks and uncertainties could cause actual results to differ materially from such forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements set forth in this section and elsewhere in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, and speak only as of the date originally made. Except as may be required by applicable law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or advise of any change in any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless we specify otherwise in any prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds we receive from the sale of the securities covered by this prospectus for general partnership purposes, which may include, among other things:

- paying or refinancing all or a portion of our indebtedness outstanding at the time; and
- funding working capital, capital expenditures or acquisitions.

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

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

**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

The following table sets forth the ratio of earnings to fixed charges for us and the entities comprising our predecessor on a consolidated historical basis for each of the periods indicated. For purposes of computing the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, “earnings” consists of pre-tax income from continuing operations before adjustment for minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries or income (or loss) from equity investees plus fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest), amortization of capitalized interest and distributed income of equity investees. “Fixed charges” represents interest incurred (whether expensed or capitalized) and the portion of rental expense deemed to be the equivalent of interest. All dollar amounts are reported in thousands.

			Subsequent to Emergence(2)			Predecessor(1)		Prior to Emergence(2)	
	Three months ended	Year ended	Period from	Eleven months ended	Year ended	Period from	Eleven months	Year ended	
	March 31,	December 31,	December 1, 2011 to	November 30,	December 31,	December 1, 2009 to	ended	December 31,	
	2013	2012	December 31, 2011	2011	2010	December 31, 2009	November 30, 2009	2008	
<b>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</b>	6.7x	11.4x	8.8x	11.7x	33.6x	20.7x	69.6x	—(3)	

- (1) Represents data from the entities comprising our predecessor. For a description of the entities comprising our predecessor, please see Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.
- (2) On July 22, 2008, the predecessor entity to SemGroup and certain of its subsidiaries, including the entities comprising our predecessor, filed petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy code. SemGroup and the entities comprising our predecessor emerged from bankruptcy on November 30, 2009. For further discussion, please see “Item 6. Selected Financial Data” of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.
- (3) During the year ended December 31, 2008, our coverage ratio was less than 1:1. The deficiency for such period was approximately \$1,088 million.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON UNITS**

**The Units**

The common units represent limited partner interests in us. The holders of common units, along with the holders of subordinated units, are entitled to participate in partnership distributions and are entitled to exercise the rights and privileges available to limited partners under our partnership agreement. For a description of the relative rights and preferences of holders of common units and subordinated units in and to partnership distributions, please read this section and “Provisions of our Partnership Agreement Relating to Cash Distributions.” For a description of the rights and privileges of limited partners under our partnership agreement, including voting rights, please read “The Partnership Agreement.”

**Transfer Agent and Registrar**

*Duties*

Mellon Investor Services, LLC serves as the registrar and transfer agent for the common units. We will pay all fees charged by the transfer agent for transfers of common units except the following that must be paid by our unitholders:

- surety bond premiums to replace lost or stolen certificates, or to cover taxes and other governmental charges in connection therewith;
- special charges for services requested by a holder of a common unit; and
- other similar fees or charges.

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

*Resignation or Removal*

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

**Transfer of Common Units**

By transfer of common units in accordance with our partnership agreement, each transferee of common units shall be admitted as a limited partner with respect to the common units transferred when such transfer and admission are reflected in our books and records and such limited partner becomes the record holder of the common units so transferred.

Each transferee:

- automatically agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of, and is deemed to have executed, our partnership agreement;
- represents and warrants that the transferee has the capacity, power and authority to enter into our partnership agreement; and
- gives the consents, acknowledgements and waivers contained in our partnership agreement.

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## **Table of Contents**

We may, at our discretion, treat the nominee holder of a common unit as the absolute owner. In that case, the beneficial holder's rights are limited solely to those that it has against the nominee holder as a result of any agreement between the beneficial owner and the nominee holder.

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



**DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES**

Rose Rock may issue debt securities in one or more series, as to any of which Rose Rock Finance may be a co-issuer on a joint and several basis with Rose Rock. Rose Rock Finance was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware on May 6, 2013 and is wholly owned by Rose Rock. Rose Rock Finance was organized for the purpose of co-issuing our debt securities and has no material assets or any liabilities. As used in this description, the words “we,” “us” and “our” refer to Rose Rock Midstream, L.P., and not to any of its subsidiaries or affiliates.

Any debt securities that we offer under a prospectus supplement will be direct, unsecured general obligations. The debt securities will be either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities. The debt securities will be issued under one or more separate indentures among us, Wilmington Trust, National Association or any successor trustee under such indenture, as trustee, and Citibank, N.A. or any successor securities administrator under such indenture, as securities administrator. Senior debt securities will be issued under a senior indenture and subordinated debt securities will be issued under a subordinated indenture. Together, the senior indenture and the subordinated indenture are called “indentures.” The indentures will be supplemented by supplemental indentures, the material provisions of which will be described in a prospectus supplement.

We have summarized some of the material provisions of the indentures below. This summary does not restate those agreements in their entirety. A form of senior indenture and a form of subordinated indenture have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. We urge you to read each of the indentures because each one, and not this description, defines the rights of holders of debt securities.

Capitalized terms defined in the indentures have the same meanings when used in this prospectus.

**General**

The debt securities issued under the indentures will be our direct, unsecured general obligations. The senior debt securities will rank equally with all of our other senior and unsubordinated debt. The subordinated debt securities will have a junior position to all of our senior debt.

The following description sets forth the general terms and provisions that could apply to debt securities that we may offer to sell. A prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities being offered will include specific terms relating to the offering. These terms will include some or all of the following, among others:

- the title and type of the debt securities;
- whether Rose Rock Finance will be a co-issuer of the debt securities;
- the total principal amount of the debt securities;
- the percentage of the principal amount at which the debt securities will be issued and any payments due if the maturity of the debt securities is accelerated;
- the dates on which the principal of the debt securities will be payable;
- the interest rate which the debt securities will bear and the interest payment dates for the debt securities;
- any agents for the debt securities, including applicable trustees, securities administrators, depositories, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents or registrars;
- any conversion or exchange features;
- any optional redemption periods;
- any sinking fund or other provisions that would obligate us to repurchase or otherwise redeem some or all of the debt securities;

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## Table of Contents

- any provisions granting special rights to holders when a specified event occurs;
- any changes to or additional events of default or covenants;
- any special tax implications of the debt securities, including provisions for original issue discount securities, if offered; and
- any other terms of the debt securities.

Neither of the indentures will limit the amount of debt securities that may be issued. Each indenture will allow debt securities to be issued up to the principal amount that may be authorized by us and may be in any currency or currency unit designated by us.

Debt securities of a series may be issued in registered or global form.

### Subsidiary Guarantees

In the event that one or more of Rose Rock Midstream Operating, LLC, Rose Rock Midstream Energy GP, LLC and Rose Rock Midstream Crude, L.P., each a 100 percent-owned subsidiary of Rose Rock, guarantee the debt securities described in this prospectus, such guarantees will be full and unconditional and will constitute the joint and several obligations of such subsidiaries. Rose Rock Midstream Operating, LLC, Rose Rock Midstream Energy GP, LLC and Rose Rock Midstream Crude, L.P. are our sole subsidiaries, other than Rose Rock Finance. We have no assets or operations independent of our subsidiaries, and there are no significant restrictions upon the ability of us or any of our subsidiaries to obtain funds from its respective subsidiaries by dividend or loan. None of the assets of our subsidiaries represent restricted net assets pursuant to Rule 4-08(e)(3) of Regulation S-X under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

If the applicable prospectus supplement relating to a series of our senior debt securities provides that those senior debt securities will have the benefit of a guarantee by any or all of our subsidiaries, payment of the principal, premium, if any, and interest on those senior debt securities will be unconditionally guaranteed on an unsecured, unsubordinated basis by such subsidiary or subsidiaries. The guarantee of senior debt securities will rank equally in right of payment with all of the unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of such subsidiary or subsidiaries.

If the applicable prospectus supplement relating to a series of our subordinated debt securities provides that those subordinated debt securities will have the benefit of a guarantee by any or all of our subsidiaries, payment of the principal, premium, if any, and interest on those subordinated debt securities will be unconditionally guaranteed on an unsecured, subordinated basis by such subsidiary or subsidiaries. The guarantee of the subordinated debt securities will be subordinated in right of payment to all of such subsidiary's or subsidiaries' existing and future senior indebtedness (as defined in the related prospectus supplement), including any guarantee of the senior debt securities, to the same extent and in the same manner as the subordinated debt securities are subordinated to our senior indebtedness (as defined in the related prospectus supplement). See “—Subordination” below.

The obligations of our subsidiaries under any such guarantee will be limited as necessary to prevent the guarantee from constituting a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under applicable law.

### Covenants

Under the indentures, we:

- will pay the principal of, and interest and any premium on, the debt securities when due;
- will maintain a place of payment;
- will deliver a certificate to the trustee each fiscal year reviewing our compliance with our obligations under the indentures;

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## Table of Contents

- will preserve our corporate existence; and
- will segregate or deposit with any paying agent sufficient funds for the payment of any principal, interest or premium on or before the due date of such payment.

### Mergers and Sale of Assets

Each of the indentures will provide that we may not consolidate with or merge into any other Person or sell, convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our properties and assets (on a consolidated basis) to another Person, unless:

- either: (a) we are the surviving Person; or (b) the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation, amalgamation or merger or resulting from such conversion (if other than us) or to which such sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition has been made is a corporation, limited liability company or limited partnership organized or existing under the laws of the United States, any State thereof or the District of Columbia;
- the Person formed by or surviving any such conversion, consolidation, amalgamation or merger (if other than us) or the Person to which such sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition has been made assumes all of our obligations under such indenture and the debt securities governed thereby pursuant to a supplemental indenture thereto, executed and delivered to the trustee and the securities administrator;
- we or the successor will not immediately be in default under such indenture; and
- we deliver an officer's certificate and opinion of counsel to the trustee and the securities administrator stating that such consolidation, amalgamation, merger, conveyance, sale, transfer or lease and any supplemental indenture comply with such indenture and that all conditions precedent set forth in such indenture have been complied with.

Upon the assumption of our obligations under each indenture by a successor, we will be discharged from all obligations under such indenture.

As used in the indenture and in this description, the word "Person" means any individual, corporation, company, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, joint venture, association, joint-stock company, trust, other entity, unincorporated organization or government or any agency or political subdivision thereof.

### Events of Default

"*Event of default*," when used in the indentures with respect to debt securities of any series, will mean any of the following:

(1) default in the payment of any interest upon any debt security of that series when it becomes due and payable, and continuance of such default for a period of 30 days;

(2) default in the payment of the principal of (or premium, if any, on) any debt security of that series at its maturity;

(3) default in the performance, or breach, of any covenant set forth in Article Ten of the applicable indenture (other than a covenant a default in the performance of which or the breach of which is elsewhere specifically dealt with as an event of default or which has expressly been included in such indenture solely for the benefit of one or more series of debt securities other than that series), and continuance of such default or breach for a period of 90 days after there has been given, by registered or certified mail, to us by the trustee or to us and the trustee by the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then-outstanding debt securities of that series a written notice specifying such default or breach and requiring it to be remedied and stating that such notice is a "Notice of Default" thereunder;

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## Table of Contents

(4) default in the performance, or breach, of any covenant in the applicable indenture (other than a covenant set forth in Article Ten of such indenture or any other covenant a default in the performance of which or the breach of which is elsewhere specifically dealt with as an event of default or which has expressly been included in such indenture solely for the benefit of one or more series of debt securities other than that series), and continuance of such default or breach for a period of 180 days after there has been given, by registered or certified mail, to us by the trustee or to us and the trustee by the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then-outstanding debt securities of that series a written notice specifying such default or breach and requiring it to be remedied and stating that such notice is a “Notice of Default” thereunder;

(5) we, pursuant to or within the meaning of any bankruptcy law, (i) commence a voluntary case, (ii) consent to the entry of any order for relief against us in an involuntary case, (iii) consent to the appointment of a custodian of us or for all or substantially all of our property, or (iv) make a general assignment for the benefit of our creditors;

(6) a court of competent jurisdiction enters an order or decree under any bankruptcy law that (i) is for relief against us in an involuntary case, (ii) appoints a custodian of us or for all or substantially all of our property, or (iii) orders the liquidation of us, and the order or decree remains unstayed and in effect for 60 consecutive days;

(7) default in the deposit of any sinking fund payment when due; or

(8) any other event of default provided with respect to debt securities of that series in accordance with provisions of the indenture related to the issuance of such debt securities.

An event of default for a particular series of debt securities does not necessarily constitute an event of default for any other series of debt securities issued under an indenture. The trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any default (except in the payment of principal, interest or any premium) if it considers the withholding of notice to be in the interests of the holders.

If an event of default for any series of debt securities occurs and continues, the trustee (acting at the direction of holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding securities of that series) or the holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of the series may declare the entire principal of all of the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately. If this happens, subject to certain conditions, the holders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of that series can void the declaration.

Other than its duties in case of a default, a trustee is not obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers under any indenture at the request, order or direction of any holders, unless the holders offer the trustee indemnity satisfactory to it. If they provide this indemnification, the holders of a majority in principal amount outstanding of any series of debt securities may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding or any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any power conferred upon the trustee, for any series of debt securities.

### Amendments and Waivers

Subject to certain exceptions, the indentures, the debt securities issued thereunder or the subsidiary guarantees may be amended or supplemented with the consent of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then-outstanding debt securities of each series affected by such amendment or supplemental indenture, with each such series voting as a separate class (including, without limitation, consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer or exchange offer for, debt securities) and, subject to certain exceptions, any past default or compliance with any provisions may be waived with respect to each series of debt securities with the consent of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the then-outstanding debt securities of such series voting as a separate class (including consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer or exchange offer for, debt securities).

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## Table of Contents

Without the consent of each holder of the outstanding debt securities affected, an amendment, supplement or waiver may not, among other things:

(1) change the stated maturity of the principal of, or any installment of principal of or interest on, any debt security, reduce the principal amount thereof or the rate of interest thereon or any premium payable upon the redemption thereof, reduce the amount of the principal of an original issue discount security that would be due and payable upon a declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof pursuant to the applicable indenture, change the coin or currency in which any debt security or any premium or the interest thereon is payable, or impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or after the stated maturity thereof (or, in the case of redemption, on or after the redemption date therefor);

(2) reduce the percentage in principal amount of the then-outstanding debt securities of any series, the consent of the holders of which is required for any such amendment or supplemental indenture, or the consent of the holders of which is required for any waiver of compliance with certain provisions of the applicable indenture or certain defaults thereunder and their consequences provided for in the applicable indenture;

(3) modify any of the provisions set forth in (i) the provisions of the applicable indenture related to the holder's unconditional right to receive principal, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities or (ii) the provisions of the applicable indenture related to the waiver of past defaults under such indenture;

(4) waive a redemption payment with respect to any debt security; *provided, however*, that any purchase or repurchase of debt securities shall not be deemed a redemption of the debt securities;

(5) release any guarantor from any of its obligations under its guarantee or the applicable indenture, except in accordance with the terms of such indenture (as amended or supplemented); or

(6) make any change in the foregoing amendment and waiver provisions, except to increase any percentage provided for therein or to provide that certain other provisions of the applicable indenture cannot be modified or waived without the consent of the holder of each then-outstanding debt security affected thereby.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, without the consent of any holder of debt securities, we, the guarantors, the securities administrator and the trustee may amend each of the indentures or the debt securities issued thereunder to:

(1) cure any ambiguity or defect or to correct or supplement any provision therein that may be inconsistent with any other provision therein;

(2) evidence the succession of another Person to us and the assumption by any such successor of our covenants therein and, to the extent applicable, of the debt securities;

(3) provide for uncertificated debt securities in addition to or in place of certificated debt securities; *provided* that the uncertificated debt securities are issued in registered form for purposes of Section 163(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), or in the manner such that the uncertificated debt securities are described in Section 163(f)(2)(B) of the Code;

(4) cause any corporation to become a co-issuer of any series of debt securities, and/or add a guarantee and cause any Person to become a guarantor, and/or to evidence the succession of another Person to a guarantor and the assumption by any such successor of the guarantee of such guarantor therein and, to the extent applicable, endorsed upon any debt securities of any series;

(5) secure the debt securities of any series;

(6) add to the covenants such further covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions as we shall consider to be appropriate for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities (and if such covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions are to be for the benefit of less than all series of debt securities, stating that

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## Table of Contents

such covenants are expressly being included solely for the benefit of such series), to make the occurrence, or the occurrence and continuance, of a default in any such additional covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions an event of default permitting the enforcement of all or any of the several remedies provided in the applicable indenture as set forth therein, or to surrender any right or power therein conferred upon us; provided, that in respect of any such additional covenant, restriction, condition or provision, such amendment or supplemental indenture may provide for a particular period of grace after default (which period may be shorter or longer than that allowed in the case of other defaults) or may provide for an immediate enforcement upon such an event of default or may limit the remedies available to the trustee upon such an event of default or may limit the right of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of such series to waive such an event of default;

(7) make any change to any provision of the applicable indenture that does not adversely affect the rights or interests of any holder of debt securities issued thereunder;

(8) provide for the issuance of additional debt securities in accordance with the provisions set forth in the applicable indenture;

(9) add any additional defaults or events of default in respect of all or any series of debt securities;

(10) add to, change or eliminate any of the provisions of the applicable indenture to such extent as shall be necessary to permit or facilitate the issuance of debt securities in bearer form, registrable or not registrable as to principal, and with or without interest coupons;

(11) change or eliminate any of the provisions of the applicable indenture; *provided* that any such change or elimination shall become effective only when there is no debt security outstanding of any series created prior to the execution of such amendment or supplemental indenture that is entitled to the benefit of such provision;

(12) establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series as permitted thereunder, including to reopen any series of any debt securities as permitted thereunder;

(13) evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment thereunder by a successor trustee or securities administrator with respect to the debt securities of one or more series and to add to or change any of the provisions of the applicable indenture as shall be necessary to provide for or facilitate the administration of the trusts thereunder by more than one trustee or securities administrator, pursuant to the requirements of such indenture;

(14) conform the text of the applicable indenture (and/or any supplemental indenture) or any debt securities issued thereunder to any provision of a description of such debt securities appearing in a prospectus or prospectus supplement or an offering memorandum or offering circular to the extent that such provision appears on its face to have been intended to be a verbatim recitation of a provision of such indenture (and/or any supplemental indenture) or any debt securities issued thereunder; or

(15) modify, eliminate or add to the provisions of the applicable indenture to such extent as shall be necessary to effect the qualification of such indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the "Trust Indenture Act"), or under any similar federal statute subsequently enacted, and to add to such indenture such other provisions as may be expressly required under the Trust Indenture Act.

The consent of the holders is not necessary under either indenture to approve the particular form of any proposed amendment. It is sufficient if such consent approves the substance of the proposed amendment. After an amendment with the consent of the holders under an indenture becomes effective, we are required to mail to the holders of debt securities thereunder a notice briefly describing such amendment. However, the failure to give such notice to all such holders, or any defect therein, will not impair or affect the validity of the amendment.

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## Table of Contents

### Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance

Each indenture provides that we may, at our option and at any time, elect to have all of our obligations discharged with respect to the debt securities outstanding thereunder and all obligations of any guarantors of such debt securities discharged with respect to their guarantors (“Legal Defeasance”), except for:

- (1) the rights of holders of outstanding debt securities to receive payments in respect of the principal of, or interest or premium, if any, on, such debt securities when such payments are due from the trust referred to below;
- (2) our obligations with respect to the debt securities concerning temporary debt securities, registration of debt securities, mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen debt securities, the maintenance of an office or agency for payment and money for security payments held in trust;
- (3) the rights, powers, trusts, duties and immunities of the trustee and the securities administrator, and our and each guarantor’s obligations in connection therewith; and
- (4) the Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance (as defined below) provisions of the applicable indenture.

In addition, we may, at our option and at any time, elect to have our obligations released with respect to certain provisions of each indenture, including certain provisions described in any prospectus supplement (such release and termination being referred to as “Covenant Defeasance”), and thereafter any failure to comply with such obligations or provisions will not constitute a default or event of default. In addition, in the event Covenant Defeasance occurs in accordance with the applicable indenture, any defeasible event of default will no longer constitute an event of default.

In order to exercise either Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance:

- (1) we must irrevocably deposit with the securities administrator, in trust, for the benefit of the holders of the debt securities, cash in U.S. dollars, non-callable government securities, or a combination of cash in U.S. dollars and non-callable U.S. government securities, in amounts as will be sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized investment bank, appraisal firm or firm of independent public accountants, to pay the principal of, and interest and premium, if any, on, the outstanding debt securities on the stated date for payment thereof or on the applicable redemption date, as the case may be, and we must specify whether the debt securities are being defeased to such stated date for payment or to a particular redemption date;
- (2) in the case of Legal Defeasance, we must deliver to the trustee and the securities administrator an opinion of counsel reasonably acceptable to the trustee and the securities administrator confirming that (a) we have received from, or there has been published by, the Internal Revenue Service a ruling or (b) since the issue date of the debt securities, there has been a change in the applicable federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that, and based thereon such opinion of counsel will confirm that, the holders of the outstanding debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Legal Defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same time as would have been the case if such Legal Defeasance had not occurred;
- (3) in the case of Covenant Defeasance, we must deliver to the trustee and the securities administrator an opinion of counsel reasonably acceptable to the trustee and the securities administrator confirming that the holders of the outstanding debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Covenant Defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such Covenant Defeasance had not occurred;
- (4) no default or event of default shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such deposit (other than a default or event of default resulting from the borrowing of funds to be applied to such deposit);
- (5) the deposit must not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, any other instrument to which we are, or any guarantor is, a party or by which we are, or any guarantor is, bound;

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## Table of Contents

(6) such Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance must not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, any material agreement or instrument (other than the applicable indenture) to which we are, or any of our subsidiaries is, a party or by which we are, or any of our subsidiaries is, bound;

(7) we must deliver to the trustee and the securities administrator an officer's certificate stating that the deposit was not made by us with the intent of preferring the holders of debt securities over our other creditors with the intent of defeating, hindering, delaying or defrauding our creditors or the creditors of others;

(8) we must deliver to the trustee and the securities administrator an officer's certificate stating that all conditions precedent set forth in clauses (1) through (6) of this paragraph have been complied with; and

(9) we must deliver to the trustee and the securities administrator an opinion of counsel (which opinion of counsel may be subject to customary assumptions, qualifications, and exclusions) stating that all conditions precedent set forth in clauses (2), (3) and (6) of this paragraph have been complied with.

### Satisfaction and Discharge

Each of the indentures will be discharged and will cease to be of further effect (except as to surviving rights of registration of transfer or exchange of debt securities and certain rights of the trustee and the securities administrator, as expressly provided for in such indenture) as to all outstanding debt securities issued thereunder and the guarantees issued thereunder when:

(1) either (a) all of the debt securities theretofore authenticated and delivered under such indenture (except lost, stolen or destroyed debt securities that have been replaced or paid and debt securities for the payment of which money has theretofore been deposited in trust or segregated and held in trust by us and thereafter repaid to us or discharged from such trust) have been delivered to the securities administrator for cancellation or (b) all debt securities not theretofore delivered to the securities administrator for cancellation have become due and payable, will become due and payable at their stated maturity within one year, or are to be called for redemption within one year under arrangements satisfactory to the securities administrator for the giving of notice of redemption by the securities administrator in the name, and at the expense, of us, and we have irrevocably deposited or caused to be deposited with the securities administrator funds, in an amount sufficient to pay and discharge the entire indebtedness on the debt securities not theretofore delivered to the securities administrator for cancellation, for principal of and premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities to the date of deposit (in the case of debt securities that have become due and payable) or to the stated maturity or redemption date, as the case may be, together with instructions from us irrevocably directing the securities administrator to apply such funds to the payment thereof at maturity or redemption, as the case may be;

(2) we have paid all other sums then due and payable under such indenture by us; and

(3) we have delivered to the trustee and the securities administrator an officer's certificate and an opinion of counsel, each stating that all conditions precedent under such indenture relating to the satisfaction and discharge of such indenture have been complied with.

### No Personal Liability of Directors, Managers, Officers, Employees, Partners, Members and Equityholders

No director, manager, officer, employee, incorporator, partner, member or equityholder of us or any guarantor, as such, shall have any liability for any of our obligations or those of the guarantors under the debt securities, the indentures, the guarantees or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each holder of debt securities, upon our issuance of the debt securities and execution of the indentures, waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for issuance of the debt securities. Such waiver may not be effective to waive liabilities under the federal securities laws and it is the view of the SEC that such a waiver is against public policy.



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## Table of Contents

### Denominations

Unless stated otherwise in the prospectus supplement for each issuance of debt securities, the debt securities will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 each or integral multiples of \$1,000.

### Paying Agent and Registrar

Citibank, N.A., as securities administrator, will initially act as paying agent and registrar for the debt securities. We may change the paying agent or registrar without prior notice to the holders of the debt securities, and we may act as paying agent or registrar.

### Transfer and Exchange

A holder may transfer or exchange debt securities in accordance with the applicable indenture. The registrar or we may require a holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents, and we may require a holder to pay any taxes and fees required by law or permitted by the applicable indenture. Neither we nor the registrar are required to transfer or exchange any debt security selected for redemption. In addition, neither we nor the registrar are required to transfer or exchange any debt security for a period of 15 days before a selection of debt securities to be redeemed.

### Subordination

The payment of the principal of and premium, if any, and interest on subordinated debt securities and any of our other payment obligations in respect of subordinated debt securities (including any obligation to repurchase subordinated debt securities) is subordinated in certain circumstances in right of payment, as set forth in the subordinated indenture, to the prior payment in full in cash of all senior debt.

We also may not make any payment, whether by redemption, purchase, retirement, defeasance or otherwise, upon or in respect of subordinated debt securities, except from a trust described under “—Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance,” if:

- a default in the payment of all or any portion of the obligations on any designated senior debt (“payment default”) occurs that has not been cured or waived, or
- any other default occurs and is continuing with respect to designated senior debt pursuant to which the maturity thereof may be accelerated (“nonpayment default”) and, solely with respect to this clause, the trustee and the securities administrator for the subordinated debt securities receives a notice of the default (a “payment blockage notice”) from the trustee or other representative for the holders of such designated senior debt.

Cash payments on subordinated debt securities will be resumed (a) in the case of a payment default, upon the date on which such default is cured or waived, and (b) in case of a nonpayment default, the earliest of the date on which such nonpayment default is cured or waived, the termination of the payment blockage period by written notice to the trustee and the securities administrator for the subordinated debt securities from the trustee or other representative for the holders of such designated senior debt, the payment in full of such designated senior debt or 179 days after the date on which the applicable payment blockage notice is received. No new payment blockage period may be commenced unless and until 360 days have elapsed since the date of commencement of the payment blockage period resulting from the immediately prior payment blockage notice. No nonpayment default in respect of designated senior debt that existed or was continuing on the date of delivery of any payment blockage notice to the trustee and the securities administrator for the subordinated debt securities will be, or be made, the basis for a subsequent payment blockage notice unless such default shall have been cured or waived for a period of no less than 90 consecutive days.

Upon any payment or distribution of our assets or securities (other than with the money, securities or proceeds held under any defeasance trust established in accordance with the subordinated indenture) in

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## Table of Contents

connection with any dissolution or winding up or total or partial liquidation or reorganization of us, whether voluntary or involuntary, or in bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or other proceedings or other marshalling of assets for the benefit of creditors, all amounts due or to become due upon all senior debt shall first be paid in full, in cash or cash equivalents, before the holders of the subordinated debt securities or the trustee or the securities administrator on their behalf shall be entitled to receive any payment by or on behalf of us on account of the subordinated debt securities, or any payment to acquire any of the subordinated debt securities for cash, property or securities, or any distribution with respect to the subordinated debt securities of any cash, property or securities. Before any payment may be made by, or on behalf of, us on any subordinated debt security (other than with the money, securities or proceeds held under any defeasance trust established in accordance with the subordinated indenture) in connection with any such dissolution, winding up, liquidation or reorganization, any payment or distribution of our assets or securities, to which the holders of subordinated debt securities or the trustee or the securities administrator on their behalf would be entitled, shall be made by us or by any receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, liquidating trustee, agent or other similar Person making such payment or distribution, or by the holders or the trustee or the securities administrator if received by them or it, directly to the holders of senior debt or their representatives or to any trustee or trustees under any indenture pursuant to which any such senior debt may have been issued, as their respective interests appear, to the extent necessary to pay all such senior debt in full, in cash or cash equivalents, after giving effect to any concurrent payment, distribution or provision therefor to or for the holders of such senior debt.

As a result of these subordination provisions, in the event of our liquidation, bankruptcy, reorganization, insolvency, receivership or similar proceeding or an assignment for the benefit of our creditors or a marshalling of our assets or liabilities, holders of subordinated debt securities may receive ratably less than other creditors.

### Payment and Transfer

Principal, interest and any premium on fully registered debt securities will be paid at designated places. Payment will be made by check mailed to the persons in whose names the debt securities are registered on days specified in the indentures or any prospectus supplement. Debt securities payments in other forms will be paid at a place designated by us and specified in a prospectus supplement.

Fully registered debt securities may be transferred or exchanged at the office of the securities administrator or at any other office or agency maintained by us for such purposes, without the payment of any service charge except for any tax or governmental charge.

### Global Securities

The debt securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global certificates that we will deposit with a depository identified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for the individual debt securities that it represents, a global security may not be transferred except as a whole:

- by the applicable depository for such series to a nominee of the depository;
- by any nominee to the depository itself or another nominee; or
- by the depository or any nominee to a successor depository or any nominee of the successor.

We will describe the specific terms of the depository arrangement with respect to a series of debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement. We anticipate that the following provisions will generally apply to depository arrangements.

When we issue a global security in registered form, the depository for the global security or its nominee will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the respective principal amounts of the individual debt securities represented by that global security to the accounts of persons that have accounts with the depository (“participants”). Those accounts will be designated by the dealers, underwriters or agents with respect to the

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## Table of Contents

underlying debt securities or by us if those debt securities are offered and sold directly by us. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be limited to participants or persons that may hold interests through participants. For interests of participants, ownership of beneficial interests in the global security will be shown on records maintained by the applicable depository or its nominee. For interests of persons other than participants, that ownership information will be shown on the records of participants. Transfer of that ownership will be effected only through those records. The laws of some states require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. These limits and laws may impair our ability to transfer beneficial interests in a global security.

As long as the depository for a global security, or its nominee, is the registered owner of that global security, the depository or nominee will be considered the sole owner or holder of the debt securities represented by the global security for all purposes under the applicable indenture. Except as provided below, owners of beneficial interests in a global security:

- will not be entitled to have any of the underlying debt securities registered in their names;
- will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of any of the underlying debt securities in definitive form; and
- will not be considered the owners or holders under the indenture relating to those debt securities.

Payments of the principal of, any premium on and any interest on individual debt securities represented by a global security registered in the name of a depository or its nominee will be made to the depository or its nominee as the registered owner of the global security representing such debt securities. Neither we, the guarantors, the trustee for the debt securities, the securities administrator for the debt securities, any paying agent nor the registrar for the debt securities will be responsible for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made by the depository or any participants on account of beneficial interests in the global security.

We expect that the depository or its nominee, upon receipt of any payment of principal, any premium or interest relating to a global security representing any series of debt securities, immediately will credit participants' accounts with the payments. Those payments will be credited in amounts proportional to the respective beneficial interests of the participants in the principal amount of the global security as shown on the records of the depository or its nominee. We also expect that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in the global security held through those participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices. This is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers registered in "street name." Those payments will be the sole responsibility of those participants.

If the depository for a series of debt securities is at any time unwilling, unable or ineligible to continue as depository and we do not appoint a successor depository within 90 days, we will issue individual debt securities of that series in exchange for the global security or securities representing that series. In addition, we may at any time in our sole discretion determine not to have any debt securities of a series represented by one or more global securities. In that event, we will issue individual debt securities of that series in exchange for the global security or securities. Furthermore, if we specify, an owner of a beneficial interest in a global security may, on terms acceptable to us, the securities administrator and the applicable depository, receive individual debt securities of that series in exchange for those beneficial interests. The foregoing is subject to any limitations described in the applicable prospectus supplement. In any such instance, the owner of the beneficial interest will be entitled to physical delivery of individual debt securities equal in principal amount to the beneficial interest and to have the debt securities registered in its name. Those individual debt securities will be issued in any authorized denominations.

## Governing Law

Each indenture and the debt securities will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

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## Table of Contents

### Information Concerning the Trustee and Securities Administrator

Wilmington Trust, National Association will be the trustee under the indentures. A successor trustee may be appointed in accordance with the terms of the indentures.

Citibank, N.A. will be the securities administrator under the indentures. A successor securities administrator may be appointed in accordance with the terms of the indentures.

The indentures and the provisions of the Trust Indenture Act incorporated by reference therein will contain certain limitations on the rights of the trustee, should it become a creditor of us, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. The trustee will be permitted to engage in other transactions; however, if it acquires any conflicting interest (within the meaning of the Trust Indenture Act), it must eliminate such conflicting interest or resign.

A single banking or financial institution may act as trustee with respect to both the subordinated indenture and the senior indenture. If this occurs, and should a default occur with respect to either the subordinated debt securities or the senior debt securities, such banking or financial institution would be required to resign as trustee under one of the indentures within 90 days of such default, pursuant to the Trust Indenture Act, unless such default were cured, duly waived or otherwise eliminated.

### DESCRIPTION OF GUARANTEES OF DEBT SECURITIES

Certain of our subsidiaries may issue unconditional guarantees on an unsecured, unsubordinated basis with respect to senior debt securities that we offer in any prospectus supplement and may issue unconditional guarantees on an unsecured, subordinated basis with respect to subordinated debt securities that we offer in any prospectus supplement. The guarantee of senior debt securities will rank equally in right of payment with all of the unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of such subsidiary or subsidiaries. The guarantee of the subordinated debt securities will be subordinated in right of payment to all such subsidiary's or subsidiaries' existing and future senior indebtedness (as defined in the related prospectus supplement), including any guarantee of senior debt securities, to the same extent and in the same manner as the subordinated debt securities are subordinated to our senior indebtedness (as defined in the related prospectus supplement). Each guarantee will be issued under a supplement to an indenture. The prospectus supplement relating to a particular issue of guarantees will describe the terms of those guarantees, including the following:

- the series of debt securities to which the guarantees apply;
- whether the guarantees are secured or unsecured;
- whether the guarantees are senior or subordinate to other guarantees or debt;
- the terms under which the guarantees may be amended, modified, waived, released or otherwise terminated, if different from the provisions applicable to the guaranteed debt securities; and
- any additional terms of the guarantees.

The obligations of our subsidiaries under any such guarantee will be limited as necessary to prevent the guarantee from constituting a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under applicable law.

In the event that one or more of Rose Rock Midstream Operating, LLC, Rose Rock Midstream Energy GP, LLC and Rose Rock Midstream Crude, L.P., each a 100 percent-owned subsidiary of Rose Rock, guarantee the debt securities described in this prospectus, such guarantees will be full and unconditional and will constitute the joint and several obligations of such subsidiaries. Rose Rock Midstream Operating, LLC, Rose Rock Midstream Energy GP, LLC and Rose Rock Midstream Crude, L.P. are our sole subsidiaries, other than Rose Rock Finance. We have no assets or operations independent of our subsidiaries, and there are no significant restrictions upon the ability of us or any of our subsidiaries to obtain funds from its respective subsidiaries by dividend or loan. None of the assets of our subsidiaries represent restricted net assets pursuant to Rule 4-08(e)(3) of Regulation S-X under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

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## Table of Contents

### PROVISIONS OF OUR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT RELATING TO CASH DISTRIBUTIONS

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

#### Distributions of Available Cash

##### *General*

Our partnership agreement requires that, within 45 days after the end of each quarter, we distribute all of our available cash to unitholders of record on the applicable record date, except that holders of Class A units are not entitled to receive any distributions of available cash, other than upon liquidation, until such time as the Class A units convert to common units, as described below.

##### *Class A Units*

The Class A units will convert into common units, on a one-for-one basis (subject to appropriate adjustments in the event of any split-up, combination or similar event), on the first day of the month immediately following the first month for which the average daily throughput volumes on the White Cliffs pipeline for such month are 125,000 barrels per day or greater. We hold an indirect interest in the entity that owns the White Cliffs pipeline, which is a 527-mile pipeline system that transports crude oil from Platteville, Colorado in the Denver-Julesburg Basin to Cushing, Oklahoma. For purposes of this summary of certain provisions of our partnership agreement under the heading “Provisions of Partnership Agreement Relating to Cash Distributions,” references to “unitholders” do not include holders of Class A units, in their capacity as such, and references to “common units” and “units” do not include Class A units, except under the subheading “Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation.”

##### *Definition of Available Cash*

Available cash generally means, for any quarter, all cash and cash equivalents on hand at the end of that quarter:

- *less* the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner at the date of determination of available cash for that quarter to:
  - provide for the proper conduct of our business (including cash reserves for our future capital expenditures and anticipated future credit needs);
  - comply with applicable law, any of our debt instruments or other agreements or obligations; and
  - provide funds for distributions to our unitholders and to our general partner for any one or more of the next four quarters (provided that, with respect to this purpose, our general partner may not establish cash reserves for common and subordinated units unless it determines that the establishment of reserves will not prevent us from distributing the minimum quarterly distribution on all common units and any cumulative arrearages on such common units for the current quarter);
- *plus*, if our general partner so determines, all or any portion of the cash and cash equivalents on hand on the date of determination of available cash for the quarter resulting from working capital borrowings made subsequent to the end of such quarter.

The purpose and effect of the last bullet point above is to allow our general partner, if it so decides, to use cash from working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter but on or before the date of determination of available cash for that quarter to pay distributions to unitholders. Under our partnership agreement, working capital borrowings are generally borrowings that are made under a credit facility,

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## Table of Contents

commercial paper facility or similar financing arrangement with the intent to repay such borrowings within 12 months with funds other than from additional working capital borrowings, and that in all cases are used solely for working capital purposes or to pay distributions to unitholders. The proceeds of working capital borrowings increase operating surplus, and repayments of working capital borrowings are generally operating expenditures (as described below) and thus reduce operating surplus when repayments are made. However, if working capital borrowings, which increase operating surplus, are not repaid during the 12-month period following the borrowing, they will be deemed repaid at the end of such period, thus decreasing operating surplus at such time. When such working capital borrowings are in fact repaid, they will not be treated as a further reduction in operating surplus because operating surplus will have been previously reduced by the deemed repayment.

### ***Intent to Distribute the Minimum Quarterly Distribution***

We intend to distribute to the holders of our common and subordinated units on a quarterly basis at least the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.3625 per unit, or \$1.45 on an annualized basis, to the extent we have sufficient cash from our operations after the establishment of cash reserves and the payment of costs and expenses, including reimbursements of expenses to our general partner. However, there is no guarantee that we will pay the minimum quarterly distribution on our units in any quarter. Even if our cash distribution policy is not modified or revoked, the amount of distributions paid under our policy and the decision to make any distribution is determined by our general partner, taking into consideration the terms of our partnership agreement.

## **Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus**

### ***General***

All cash distributed to unitholders is characterized as either being paid from “operating surplus” or “capital surplus.” We treat distributions of available cash from operating surplus differently than distributions of available cash from capital surplus.

### ***Operating Surplus***

We define operating surplus as:

- \$25 million (as described below); *plus*
- all of our cash receipts after the closing of our initial public offering, excluding cash from interim capital transactions (as defined below); *plus*
- working capital borrowings made after the end of a quarter but on or before the date of determination of operating surplus for that quarter; *plus*
- cash distributions paid on equity issued to finance all or a portion of the construction, acquisition or development of a capital improvement or maintenance capital project in respect of the period beginning on the date that we enter into a binding obligation to commence the construction, acquisition or development of a capital improvement or maintenance capital project and ending on the earlier to occur of the date the capital improvement or maintenance capital project commences commercial service and the date that it is abandoned or disposed of; *plus*
- cash distributions paid on equity issued to pay the construction-, acquisition- or development-period interest on debt incurred, or to pay construction-, acquisition- or development-period distributions on equity issued, to finance the construction, acquisition or development of a capital improvement or maintenance capital project referred to above; *less*
- all of our operating expenditures (as defined below) after the closing of our initial public offering; *less*
- the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner to provide funds for future operating expenditures; *less*

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## Table of Contents

- all working capital borrowings incurred at or after the closing of our initial public offering and not repaid within 12 months after having been incurred; *less*
- any cash loss realized on the disposition of an investment capital expenditure.

As described above, operating surplus does not reflect actual cash on hand that is available for distribution to our unitholders and is not limited to cash generated by operations. For example, the definition of operating surplus includes a provision that will enable us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to \$25 million of cash we receive in the future from non-operating sources such as asset sales, issuances of securities and long-term borrowings that would otherwise be distributed as capital surplus.

We define interim capital transactions as (i) borrowings, refinancings or refundings of indebtedness (other than working capital borrowings and items purchased on open account or for a deferred purchase price in the ordinary course of business) and sales of debt securities, (ii) sales or issuances of equity securities, (iii) sales or other dispositions of assets, other than sales or other dispositions of inventory, accounts receivable and other assets in the ordinary course of business and sales or other dispositions of assets as part of normal asset retirements or replacements and (iv) capital contributions received by us.

We define operating expenditures as all of our cash expenditures, including, but not limited to, taxes, compensation of officers, directors and employees of our general partner, reimbursements of expenses to our general partner and its affiliates, interest payments, payments made in the ordinary course of business under interest rate hedge contracts and commodity hedge contracts (provided that payments made in connection with the termination of any interest rate hedge contract or commodity hedge contract prior to the settlement or termination date specified therein will be included in operating expenditures in equal quarterly installments over the remaining scheduled life of the contract), maintenance capital expenditures (as discussed in further detail below) and repayment of working capital borrowings; *provided, however*, that operating expenditures will not include:

- repayments of working capital borrowings deducted from operating surplus (as described above) when actually repaid;
- payments (including prepayments and prepayment penalties) of principal of and premium on indebtedness other than working capital borrowings;
- expansion capital expenditures;
- investment capital expenditures;
- payment of transaction expenses (including, but not limited to, taxes) relating to interim capital transactions;
- distributions to our unitholders or general partner; or
- repurchases of any class of our units (other than repurchases to satisfy obligations under employee benefit plans) or reimbursement of our general partner for such purchases.

### *Capital Surplus*

Capital surplus is defined in our partnership agreement as any distribution of available cash in excess of our cumulative operating surplus. Accordingly, except as described above, capital surplus would generally be generated by:

- borrowings other than working capital borrowings;
- sales of our equity and debt securities; and
- sales or other dispositions of assets, other than inventory, accounts receivable and other assets sold in the ordinary course of business or as part of ordinary course retirement or replacement of assets.

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## Table of Contents

### *Characterization of Cash Distributions*

Our partnership agreement requires that we treat all available cash distributed as coming from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed since the closing of our initial public offering equals the operating surplus from the closing of our initial public offering through the end of the quarter immediately preceding that distribution. Our partnership agreement requires that we treat any amount distributed in excess of operating surplus, regardless of its source, as capital surplus. We do not anticipate that we will make any distributions from capital surplus.

### **Capital Expenditures**

Maintenance capital expenditures are cash expenditures (including expenditures for the addition to or improvement or replacement of our capital assets or for the acquisition of existing, or the construction of new, capital assets) made to maintain our long-term operating income or operating capacity. We expect that a primary component of maintenance capital expenditures will include expenditures for routine equipment and facility maintenance or replacement due to obsolescence.

Maintenance capital expenditures reduce operating surplus, but expansion capital expenditures and investment capital expenditures do not. Capital expenditures that are made in part for maintenance capital purposes and in part for other purposes will be allocated between maintenance capital expenditures and expenditures made for other purposes by our general partner.

Expansion capital expenditures are cash expenditures (including expenditures for the addition to or improvement or replacement of our capital assets or for the acquisition of existing, or the construction of new, capital assets) made to increase our long-term operating income or operating capacity. Expansion capital expenditures will include interest payments (and related fees) on debt incurred to finance the construction, acquisition or development of a capital improvement and paid in respect of the period beginning on the date that we enter into a binding obligation to commence construction, acquisition or development of the capital improvement and ending on the earlier to occur of the date that such capital improvement commences commercial service and the date that such capital improvement is abandoned or disposed of. Examples of expansion capital expenditures include the acquisition of equipment, or the construction, development or acquisition of additional gathering systems, pipelines, storage facilities and related or similar midstream assets.

Capital expenditures that are made in part for expansion capital purposes and in part for other purposes will be allocated between expansion capital expenditures and expenditures for other purposes by our general partner.

Investment capital expenditures are those capital expenditures that are neither maintenance capital expenditures nor expansion capital expenditures. Investment capital expenditures largely will consist of capital expenditures made for investment purposes. Examples of investment capital expenditures include traditional capital expenditures for investment purposes, such as purchases of securities, as well as other capital expenditures that might be made in lieu of such traditional investment capital expenditures, such as the acquisition of a capital asset for investment purposes or development of facilities that are in excess of those needed for maintenance of our existing operating capacity or operating income, but that are not expected to expand, for more than the short term, our operating capacity or operating income.

### **Subordination Period**

#### *General*

Our partnership agreement provides that, during the subordination period (which we define below), the common units will have the right to receive distributions of available cash from operating surplus each quarter in an amount equal to \$0.3625 per common unit, which amount is defined in our partnership agreement as the minimum quarterly distribution, plus any arrearages in the payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the



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## Table of Contents

common units from prior quarters, before any distributions of available cash from operating surplus may be made on the subordinated units. These units are deemed “subordinated” because for a period of time, referred to as the subordination period, the subordinated units will not be entitled to receive any distributions until the common units have received the minimum quarterly distribution plus any arrearages from prior quarters. Furthermore, no arrearages will be paid on the subordinated units. The practical effect of the subordinated units is to increase the likelihood that during the subordination period there will be available cash to be distributed on the common units.

### *Subordination Period*

Except as described below, the subordination period began on the closing date of our initial public offering and will extend until the first business day following the distribution of available cash in respect of any quarter beginning with the quarter ending December 31, 2014, that each of the following tests are met:

- distributions of available cash from operating surplus on each of the outstanding common units, subordinated units and general partner units equaled or exceeded the annualized minimum quarterly distribution for each of the three consecutive, non-overlapping four-quarter periods immediately preceding that date;
- the adjusted operating surplus (as defined below) generated during each of the three consecutive, non-overlapping four-quarter periods immediately preceding that date equaled or exceeded the sum of the minimum quarterly distributions on all of the outstanding common units, subordinated units and general partner units during those periods on a fully diluted basis; and
- there are no arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units.

### *Early Termination of Subordination Period*

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the subordination period will automatically terminate on the first business day following the distribution of available cash in respect of any quarter beginning with the quarter ending December 31, 2012, that each of the following tests are met:

- distributions of available cash from operating surplus on each of the outstanding common units, subordinated units and general partner units equaled or exceeded \$2.175 (150% of the annualized minimum quarterly distribution) for the four-quarter period immediately preceding that date;
- the adjusted operating surplus (as defined below) generated during the four-quarter period immediately preceding that date equaled or exceeded the sum of (i) \$2.175 (150% of the annualized minimum quarterly distribution) on all of the outstanding common units, subordinated units and general partner units during that period on a fully diluted basis and (ii) the distributions made on the incentive distribution rights; and
- there are no arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distributions on the common units.

In addition, if the unitholders remove our general partner other than for cause and no units held by our general partner and its affiliates are voted in favor of such removal:

- the subordination period will end and each subordinated unit will immediately and automatically convert into one common unit;
- any existing arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units will be extinguished; and
- our general partner will have the right to convert its general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights into common units or to receive cash in exchange for those interests.

### *Expiration of the Subordination Period*

When the subordination period ends, each outstanding subordinated unit will convert into one common unit and will thereafter participate pro rata with the other common units in distributions of available cash.

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## Table of Contents

### *Adjusted Operating Surplus*

Adjusted operating surplus is intended to reflect the cash generated from operations during a particular period and therefore excludes net drawdowns of reserves of cash established in prior periods. Adjusted operating surplus for a period consists of:

- operating surplus generated with respect to that period (excluding any amounts attributable to the item described in the first bullet point under the caption “—Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus—Operating Surplus” above); *less*
- any net increase in working capital borrowings with respect to that period; *less*
- any net decrease in cash reserves for operating expenditures with respect to that period not relating to an operating expenditure made with respect to that period; *plus*
- any net decrease in working capital borrowings with respect to that period; *plus*
- any net decrease made in subsequent periods to cash reserves for operating expenditures initially established with respect to that period to the extent such decrease results in a reduction in adjusted operating surplus in subsequent periods; *plus*
- any net increase in cash reserves for operating expenditures with respect to that period required by any debt instrument for the repayment of principal, interest or premium.

### **Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus During the Subordination Period**

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

- *first*, 98.0% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding common unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter;
- *second*, 98.0% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding common unit an amount equal to any arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units for any prior quarters during the subordination period;
- *third*, 98.0% to the subordinated unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding subordinated unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter; and
- *thereafter*, in the manner described in “—General Partner Interest and Incentive Distribution Rights” below.

The preceding discussion is based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2.0% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

### **Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus After the Subordination Period**

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

- *first*, 98.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter; and
- *thereafter*, in the manner described in “—General Partner Interest and Incentive Distribution Rights” below.

The preceding discussion is based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2.0% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

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## Table of Contents

### General Partner Interest and Incentive Distribution Rights

Our partnership agreement provides that our general partner initially is entitled to 2.0% of all distributions that we make prior to our liquidation. Our general partner has the right, but not the obligation, to contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us in order to maintain its 2.0% general partner interest if we issue additional units. Our general partner's 2.0% interest, and the percentage of our cash distributions to which it is entitled from such 2.0% interest, will be proportionately reduced if we issue additional units in the future and our general partner does not contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us in order to maintain its 2.0% general partner interest (other than in connection with the issuance of common units upon the conversion of outstanding subordinated units or the issuance of common units in connection with a reset of the incentive distribution target levels). Our partnership agreement does not require that our general partner fund its capital contribution with cash. It may instead fund its capital contribution by the contribution to us of common units or other property.

Incentive distribution rights represent the right to receive an increasing percentage (13.0%, 23.0% and 48.0%) of quarterly distributions of available cash from operating surplus after the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels have been achieved. Our general partner currently holds the incentive distribution rights, but may transfer these rights separately from its general partner interest.

The following discussion assumes that our general partner maintains its 2.0% general partner interest, that there are no arrearages on common units and that our general partner continues to own the incentive distribution rights.

If for any quarter:

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

then, we will distribute any additional available cash from operating surplus for that quarter among the unitholders and our general partner in the following manner (assuming our general partner has maintained its 2.0% general partner interest):

- *first*, 98.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.416875 per unit for that quarter (the "first target distribution");
- *second*, 85.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15.0% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.453125 per unit for that quarter (the "second target distribution");
- *third*, 75.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25.0% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.54375 per unit for that quarter (the "third target distribution"); and
- *thereafter*, 50.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50.0% to our general partner.

## Table of Contents

### Percentage Allocations of Available Cash from Operating Surplus

The following table illustrates the percentage allocations of available cash from operating surplus between our unitholders and our general partner based on the specified target distribution levels. The amounts set forth under “Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions” are the percentage interests of our general partner and our unitholders in any available cash from operating surplus we distribute up to and including the corresponding amount in the column “Total Quarterly Distribution Per Unit Target Amount.” The percentage interests shown for our unitholders and our general partner for the minimum quarterly distribution are also applicable to quarterly distribution amounts that are less than the minimum quarterly distribution. The percentage interests set forth below for our general partner include its 2.0% general partner interest and assume that our general partner has contributed any additional capital necessary to maintain its 2.0% general partner interest, our general partner has not transferred its incentive distribution rights and that there are no arrearages on common units.

	Total Quarterly Distribution Per Unit Target Amount	Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions	
		Unitholders	General Partner
Minimum Quarterly Distribution	\$0.3625	98.0%	2.0%
First Target Distribution	above \$0.3625 up to \$0.416875	98.0%	2.0%
Second Target Distribution	above \$0.416875 up to \$0.453125	85.0%	15.0%
Third Target Distribution	above \$0.453125 up to \$0.54375	75.0%	25.0%
Thereafter	above \$0.54375	50.0%	50.0%

### Distributions from Capital Surplus

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

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

- *first*, 98.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until we distribute for each common unit that was issued in our initial public offering, an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to the initial public offering price of our common units;
- *second*, 98.0% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding common unit, an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units; and
- *thereafter*, as if they were from operating surplus.

The preceding discussion is based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2.0% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

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

Our partnership agreement treats a distribution of capital surplus as the repayment of the initial unit price from our initial public offering, which is a return of capital. The initial public offering price less any distributions of capital surplus per unit is referred to as the “unrecovered initial unit price.” Each time a distribution of capital surplus is made, the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels will be reduced in the same proportion as the corresponding reduction in the unrecovered initial unit price. Because distributions of capital surplus will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution after any of these distributions are made, it may be easier for our general partner to receive incentive distributions and for the subordinated units to convert into common units. However, any distribution of capital surplus before the unrecovered initial unit price is reduced to zero cannot be applied to the payment of the minimum quarterly distribution or any arrearages.

Once we distribute capital surplus on a unit issued in our initial public offering in an amount equal to the initial unit price, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels to zero. We

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## Table of Contents

will then make all future distributions from operating surplus, with 50.0% being paid to the unitholders, pro rata, and 50.0% to our general partner. The percentage interests shown for our general partner include its 2.0% general partner interest and assume that our general partner has not transferred the incentive distribution rights.

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

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

- the minimum quarterly distribution;
- the number of common units into which a subordinated unit is convertible;
- the target distribution levels;
- the unrecovered initial unit price;
- the number of general partner units comprising the general partner interest; and
- the arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units.

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

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

### Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation

#### *General*

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

The allocations of gain and loss upon liquidation are intended, to the extent possible, to entitle the holders of outstanding common units to a preference over the holders of outstanding subordinated units upon our liquidation, to the extent required to permit common unitholders to receive their unrecovered initial unit price plus the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which liquidation occurs plus any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units. The Class A units will participate with the common units in the allocations of gain or loss upon liquidation, and for purposes of this summary of certain provisions of our partnership agreement under the subheading "Distributions of Cash Upon

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## Table of Contents

Liquidation,” references to “unitholders” and “common unitholders” include holders of Class A units and references to “common units” and “units” include Class A units. There may not be sufficient gain upon our liquidation to enable the holders of common units to fully recover all of these amounts, even though there may be cash available for distribution to the holders of subordinated units. Any further net gain recognized upon liquidation will be allocated in a manner that takes into account the incentive distribution rights of our general partner.

### *Manner of Adjustments for Gain*

The manner of the adjustment for gain is set forth in our partnership agreement. If our liquidation occurs before the end of the subordination period, we will allocate any gain to our partners in the following manner:

- *first* , to our general partner to the extent of and in proportion to the negative balance in our general partner’s capital account;
- *second* , 98.0% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until the capital account for each common unit is equal to the sum of: (1) the unrecovered initial unit price; (2) the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs; and (3) any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution;
- *third* , 98.0% to the subordinated unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until the capital account for each subordinated unit is equal to the sum of: (1) the unrecovered initial unit price; and (2) the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs;
- *fourth* , 98.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per common unit equal to: (1) the sum of the excess of the first target distribution per unit over the minimum quarterly distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the minimum quarterly distribution per unit that we distributed 98.0% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, for each quarter of our existence;
- *fifth* , 85.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15.0% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per common unit equal to: (1) the sum of the excess of the second target distribution per unit over the first target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the first target distribution per unit that we distributed 85.0% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 15.0% to our general partner for each quarter of our existence;
- *sixth* , 75.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25.0% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per common unit equal to: (1) the sum of the excess of the third target distribution per unit over the second target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the second target distribution per unit that we distributed 75.0% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 25.0% to our general partner for each quarter of our existence;
- *thereafter* , 50.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50.0% to our general partner.

The percentages set forth above are based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2.0% general partner interest and does not transfer its incentive distribution rights and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

If the liquidation occurs after the end of the subordination period, the distinction between common units and subordinated units will disappear, so that clause (3) of the second bullet point above and all of the third bullet point above will no longer be applicable.

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## Table of Contents

### *Manner of Adjustments for Losses*

If our liquidation occurs before the end of the subordination period, after making allocations of loss to the general partner and the unitholders in a manner intended to offset in reverse order the allocations of gains that have previously been allocated, we will generally allocate any loss to our general partner and unitholders in the following manner:

- *first* , 98.0% to the holders of subordinated units, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until the capital accounts of the subordinated unitholders have been reduced to zero;
- *second* , 98.0% to the holders of common units, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, until the capital accounts of the common unitholders have been reduced to zero;
- *third* , 98.0% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2.0% to our general partner, provided that no allocation will be made pursuant to this third bullet if and to the extent that such allocation would cause any unitholder to have a deficit balance in its capital account (or increase any existing deficit); and
- *thereafter* , 100.0% to our general partner.

The percentages set forth above are based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2.0% general partner interest and does not transfer its incentive distribution rights and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

If the liquidation occurs after the end of the subordination period, the distinction between common units and subordinated units will disappear, so that all of the first bullet point above will no longer be applicable.

### *Adjustments to Capital Accounts*

Our partnership agreement requires that we make adjustments to capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units. In this regard, our partnership agreement specifies that we allocate any unrealized and, for tax purposes, unrecognized gain resulting from the adjustments to the unitholders and the general partner in the same manner as we allocate gain upon liquidation. In the event that we make positive adjustments to the capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units, our partnership agreement requires that we generally allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional units or upon our liquidation in a manner which results, to the extent possible, in the partners' capital account balances equaling the amount which they would have been if no earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts had been made. In contrast to the allocations of gain, and except as provided above, we generally will allocate any unrealized and unrecognized loss resulting from the adjustments to capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units to the unitholders and our general partner based on their respective percentage ownership of us. In this manner, prior to the end of the subordination period, we generally will allocate any such loss equally with respect to our common and subordinated units. If we make negative adjustments to the capital accounts as a result of such loss, future positive adjustments resulting from the issuance of additional units will be allocated in a manner designed to reverse the prior negative adjustments, and special allocations will be made upon liquidation in a manner that results, to the extent possible, in our unitholders' capital account balances equaling the amounts they would have been if no earlier adjustments for loss had been made.

## **THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

The following is a summary of the material provisions of our partnership agreement. Our partnership agreement is incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. We will provide prospective investors with a copy of our partnership agreement upon request at no charge.

We summarize the following provisions of our partnership agreement elsewhere in this prospectus:

- with regard to distributions of available cash, please read “Provisions of our Partnership Agreement Relating to Cash Distributions”;
- with regard to the transfer of common units, please read “Description of the Common Units—Transfer of Common Units”; and
- with regard to allocations of taxable income and taxable loss, please read “Material Federal Income Tax Consequences.”

### **Organization and Duration**

We were organized in August 2011 and have a perpetual existence.

### **Purpose**

Our purpose under our partnership agreement is limited to any business activities that are approved by our general partner and in any event that lawfully may be conducted by a limited partnership organized under Delaware law; provided that our general partner may not cause us to engage, directly or indirectly, in any business activity that our general partner determines would be reasonably likely to cause us to be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxable as an entity for federal income tax purposes.

Although our general partner has the power to cause us, our operating company and its subsidiaries to engage in activities other than the business of crude oil gathering, transportation, storage and marketing, our general partner has no current plans to do so and may decline to do so free of any fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or the limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us or the limited partners. Our general partner is generally authorized to perform all acts it determines to be necessary or appropriate to carry out our purposes and to conduct our business.

### **Cash Distributions**

Our partnership agreement specifies the manner in which we will make cash distributions to holders of our common units and other partnership securities as well as to our general partner in respect of its general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights. For a description of these cash distribution provisions, please read “Provisions of Our Partnership Agreement Relating to Cash Distributions.”

### **Capital Contributions**

Unitholders are not obligated to make additional capital contributions, except as described below under “—Limited Liability.”

For a discussion of our general partner’s right to contribute capital to maintain its 2.0% general partner interest if we issue additional units, please read “—Issuance of Additional Securities.”



## Table of Contents

### Voting Rights

The following is a summary of the unitholder vote required for approval of the matters specified below. Matters that require the approval of a “unit majority” require:

- during the subordination period, the approval of a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding those common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, and a majority of the outstanding subordinated units, voting as separate classes; and
- after the subordination period, the approval of a majority of the outstanding common units.

By virtue of the exclusion of those common units held by our general partner and its affiliates from the required vote, and their ownership of all of the subordinated units, during the subordination period our general partner and its affiliates do not have the ability to ensure approval of, but do have the ability to ensure defeat of, any matter that requires the approval of a unit majority.

In voting their common and subordinated units, our general partner and its affiliates will have no fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or our limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us and our limited partners.

Issuance of additional units	No approval right.
Amendment of our partnership agreement	Certain amendments may be made by our general partner without the approval of the unitholders. Other amendments generally require the approval of a unit majority. Please read “—Amendment of Our Partnership Agreement.”
Merger of our partnership or the sale of all or substantially all of our assets	Unit majority in certain circumstances. Please read “—Merger, Sale or Other Disposition of Assets.”
Dissolution of our partnership	Unit majority in certain circumstances. Please read “—Termination and Dissolution.”
Continuation of our business upon dissolution	Unit majority. Please read “—Termination and Dissolution.”
Withdrawal of our general partner	Under most circumstances, the approval of a majority of the common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, is required for the withdrawal of our general partner prior to December 31, 2021 in a manner that would cause a dissolution of our partnership. Please read “—Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner.”
Removal of our general partner	Not less than 66 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub> % of the outstanding units, voting as a single class, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates. Please read “—Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner.”
Transfer of our general partner interest	Our general partner may transfer all, but not less than all, of its general partner interest in us without a vote of our unitholders to an affiliate or another person in connection with its merger or consolidation with or into, or sale of all or substantially all of its assets to, such person. The approval of a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, is required in other circumstances for a transfer of the general partner interest to a third party prior to December 31, 2021. Please read “—Transfer of General Partner Interest.”
Transfer of incentive distribution rights	No approval required at any time. Please read “—Transfer of Incentive Distribution Rights.”
Transfer of ownership interests in our general partner	No approval required at any time. Please read “—Transfer of Ownership Interests in Our General Partner.”

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## Table of Contents

Prior to conversion, the Class A units are entitled to vote with the common units as a single class on any matter on which unitholders are entitled to vote, except that the Class A units are entitled to vote as a separate class on any matter that adversely affects the rights or preferences of the Class A units in relation to other classes of equity interests or as required by law. Each Class A unit is entitled to the number of votes equal to the number of common units into which a Class A unit is convertible at the time of the record date of the applicable vote or written consent. For purposes of the foregoing description of voting rights, references to “common units” include Class A units for all matters, except those that Class A units are entitled to vote on as a separate class, and references to “unitholders” include holders of Class A units.

### Limited Liability

Assuming that a limited partner does not participate in the control of our business within the meaning of the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act, or the Delaware Act, and that it otherwise acts in conformity with the provisions of our partnership agreement, its liability under the Delaware Act will be limited, subject to possible exceptions, to the amount of capital it is obligated to contribute to us for its common units plus its share of any undistributed profits and assets. If it were determined, however, that the right of, or exercise of the right by, the limited partners as a group:

- to remove or replace our general partner;
- to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement; or
- to take other action under our partnership agreement;

constituted “participation in the control” of our business for the purposes of the Delaware Act, then the limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under the laws of Delaware, to the same extent as our general partner. This liability would extend to persons who transact business with us who reasonably believe that a limited partner is a general partner. Neither our partnership agreement nor the Delaware Act specifically provides for legal recourse against our general partner if a limited partner were to lose limited liability through any fault of our general partner. While this does not mean that a limited partner could not seek legal recourse, we know of no precedent for such a claim in Delaware case law.

Under the Delaware Act, a limited partnership may not make a distribution to a partner if, after the distribution, all liabilities of the limited partnership, other than liabilities to partners on account of their partnership interests and liabilities for which the recourse of creditors is limited to specific property of the partnership, would exceed the fair value of the assets of the limited partnership. For the purpose of determining the fair value of the assets of a limited partnership, the Delaware Act provides that the fair value of property subject to liability for which recourse of creditors is limited shall be included in the assets of the limited partnership only to the extent that the fair value of that property exceeds the nonrecourse liability. The Delaware Act provides that a limited partner who receives a distribution and knew at the time of the distribution that the distribution was in violation of the Delaware Act shall be liable to the limited partnership for the amount of the distribution for three years. Under the Delaware Act, a substituted limited partner of a limited partnership is liable for the obligations of its assignor to make contributions to the partnership, except that such person is not obligated for liabilities unknown to it at the time it became a limited partner and that could not be ascertained from the partnership agreement.

Our subsidiaries conduct business in six states, and we may have subsidiaries that conduct business in other states in the future. Maintenance of our limited liability as a member of our operating company may require compliance with legal requirements in the jurisdictions in which our operating company conducts business, including qualifying our subsidiaries to do business there.

Limitations on the liability of members or limited partners for the obligations of a limited liability company or limited partnership have not been clearly established in many jurisdictions. If, by virtue of our ownership interest in our operating company or otherwise, it were determined that we were conducting business in any state without compliance with the applicable limited partnership or limited liability company statute, or that the right

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## Table of Contents

or exercise of the right by the limited partners as a group to remove or replace our general partner, to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement, or to take other action under our partnership agreement constituted “participation in the control” of our business for purposes of the statutes of any relevant jurisdiction, then the limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under the law of that jurisdiction to the same extent as our general partner under the circumstances. We will operate in a manner that our general partner considers reasonable and necessary or appropriate to preserve the limited liability of the limited partners.

### Issuance of Additional Securities

Our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of additional partnership securities for the consideration and on the terms and conditions determined by our general partner without the approval of our limited partners.

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

In accordance with Delaware law and the provisions of our partnership agreement, we may also issue additional partnership securities that, as determined by our general partner, may have rights to distributions or special voting rights to which the common units are not entitled. In addition, our partnership agreement does not prohibit our subsidiaries from issuing equity securities, which may effectively rank senior to the common units.

Upon issuance of additional partnership securities (other than in connection with the issuance of common units upon the conversion of outstanding subordinated or Class A units or the issuance of common units in connection with a reset of the incentive distribution target levels), our general partner will be entitled, but not required, to make additional capital contributions to the extent necessary to maintain its 2.0% general partner interest in us. Our general partner’s 2.0% general partner interest in us will be reduced if we complete any such issuance of partnership securities in the future and our general partner does not contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its 2.0% general partner interest. Moreover, our general partner will have the right, which it may from time to time assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates, to purchase common units, subordinated units or other partnership securities whenever, and on the same terms that, we issue those securities to persons other than our general partner and its affiliates, to the extent necessary to maintain the percentage interest of the general partner and its affiliates, including such interest represented by common and subordinated units, that existed immediately prior to each issuance. The holders of common units will not have preemptive rights under our partnership agreement to acquire additional common units or other partnership securities.

### Amendment of Our Partnership Agreement

#### *General*

Amendments to our partnership agreement may be proposed only by our general partner. However, our general partner will have no duty or obligation to propose any amendment and may decline to do so free of any fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or our limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us or our limited partners. In order to adopt a proposed amendment, other than the amendments discussed below, our general partner must seek written approval of the holders of the number of units required to approve the amendment or call a meeting of the limited partners to consider and vote upon the proposed amendment. Except as described below, an amendment must be approved by a unit majority.

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## Table of Contents

### *Prohibited Amendments*

No amendment may be made that would:

- enlarge the obligations of any limited partner without its consent, unless approved by at least a majority of the type or class of limited partner interests so affected; or
- enlarge the obligations of, restrict, change or modify in any way any action by or rights of, or reduce in any way the amounts distributable, reimbursable or otherwise payable by us to our general partner or any of its affiliates without the consent of our general partner or such affiliate, which consent may be given or withheld at its option.

The provision of our partnership agreement preventing the amendments having the effects described in the clauses above can be amended upon the approval of the holders of at least 90.0% of the outstanding units, voting as a single class (including units owned by our general partner and its affiliates). As of May 1, 2013, affiliates of our general partner own approximately 58.2% of the outstanding common, subordinated and Class A units.

### *No Unitholder Approval*

Our general partner may generally make amendments to our partnership agreement without the approval of any limited partner to reflect:

- a change in our name, the location of our principal place of business, our registered agent or our registered office;
- the admission, substitution, withdrawal or removal of partners in accordance with our partnership agreement;
- a change that our general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate for us to qualify or continue our qualification as a limited partnership or a partnership in which the limited partners have limited liability under the laws of any state or to ensure that neither we nor our subsidiaries will be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for federal income tax purposes;
- a change in our fiscal year or taxable year and related changes;
- an amendment that is necessary, in the opinion of our counsel, to prevent us, our general partner or its directors, officers, agents, or trustees from in any manner being subjected to the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 or “plan asset” regulations adopted under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, or ERISA, whether or not substantially similar to plan asset regulations currently applied or proposed by the U.S. Department of Labor;
- an amendment that our general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate in connection with the creation, authorization or issuance of additional partnership securities or rights to acquire partnership securities;
- any amendment expressly permitted in our partnership agreement to be made by our general partner acting alone;
- an amendment effected, necessitated or contemplated by a merger agreement that has been approved under the terms of our partnership agreement;
- any amendment that our general partner determines to be necessary or appropriate to reflect and account for the formation by us of, or our investment in, any corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company or other entity, as otherwise permitted by our partnership agreement;
- mergers with, conveyances to or conversions into another limited liability entity that is newly formed and has no assets, liabilities or operations at the time of the merger, conveyance or conversion other than those it receives by way of the merger, conveyance or conversion, subject in each case to certain restrictions; or
- any other amendments substantially similar to any of the matters described above.

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## Table of Contents

In addition, our general partner may make amendments to our partnership agreement without the approval of any limited partner if our general partner determines that those amendments:

- do not adversely affect in any material respect the limited partners considered as a whole or any particular class of partnership interests as compared to other classes of partnership interests;
- are necessary or appropriate to satisfy any requirements, conditions, or guidelines contained in any opinion, directive, order, ruling, or regulation of any federal or state agency or judicial authority or contained in any federal or state statute;
- are necessary or appropriate to facilitate the trading of units or to comply with any rule, regulation, guideline, or requirement of any securities exchange on which any class of our securities is or will be listed for trading;
- are necessary or appropriate for any action taken by our general partner relating to splits or combinations of units under the provisions of our partnership agreement; or
- are required to effect the intent of the provisions of our partnership agreement or are otherwise contemplated by our partnership agreement.

### *Opinion of Counsel and Limited Partner Approval*

Our general partner will not be required to obtain an opinion of counsel that an amendment will not result in a loss of limited liability to the limited partners or result in our being treated as an entity for federal income tax purposes in connection with any of the amendments described above under “—No Unitholder Approval.” No other amendments to our partnership agreement will become effective without the approval of holders of at least 90.0% of the outstanding units voting as a single class unless we first obtain an opinion of counsel to the effect that the amendment will not affect the limited liability under applicable law of any of our limited partners.

In addition to the above restrictions, any amendment that would have a material adverse effect on the rights or preferences of any type or class of outstanding units in relation to other classes of units will require the approval of at least a majority of the type or class of units so affected. Any amendment that reduces the voting percentage required to take any action must be approved by the affirmative vote of partners holding aggregate partnership interests constituting not less than the voting requirement sought to be reduced.

### **Merger, Sale or Other Disposition of Assets**

A merger or consolidation of us requires the prior consent of our general partner. However, our general partner will have no duty or obligation to consent to any merger or consolidation and may decline to do so free of any fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or the limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interest of us or our limited partners.

In addition, our partnership agreement generally prohibits our general partner, without the prior approval of the holders of a unit majority, from causing us to, among other things, sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our and our subsidiaries’ assets in a single transaction or a series of related transactions, including by way of merger, consolidation, other combination or sale of ownership interests of our subsidiaries. Our general partner may, however, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate, or grant a security interest in all or substantially all of our and our subsidiaries’ assets without such approval. Our general partner may also sell all or substantially all of our and our subsidiaries’ assets under a foreclosure or other realization upon those encumbrances without such approval. Finally, our general partner may consummate any merger without the prior approval of our unitholders if we are the surviving entity in the transaction, our general partner has received an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters, the transaction would not result in an amendment to the partnership agreement (other than an amendment that the general partner could adopt without the consent of the limited partners), each of our units will be an identical unit of our partnership following the transaction and the partnership securities to be issued in such merger do not exceed 20.0% of our outstanding partnership securities immediately prior to the effective date of the merger.

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## Table of Contents

In addition, if the conditions specified in our partnership agreement are satisfied, our general partner may convert us or any of our subsidiaries into a new limited liability entity or merge us or any of our subsidiaries into, or convey all of our assets to, a newly formed limited liability entity that has no assets, liabilities or operations at the time of such conversion, merger or conveyance, if the sole purpose of that conversion, merger or conveyance is to effect a mere change in our legal form into another limited liability entity, our general partner has received an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters and the governing instruments of the new entity provide the limited partners and our general partner with substantially the same rights and obligations as those contained in our partnership agreement. Our unitholders are not entitled to dissenters' rights of appraisal under our partnership agreement or applicable Delaware law in the event of a conversion, merger or consolidation, a sale of substantially all of our assets or any other similar transaction or event.

### Termination and Dissolution

We will continue as a limited partnership until dissolved under our partnership agreement. We will dissolve upon:

- the withdrawal or removal of our general partner or any other event that results in its ceasing to be our general partner, other than by reason of a transfer of its general partner interest in accordance with our partnership agreement, unless a successor general partner is admitted pursuant to our partnership agreement;
- the election of our general partner to dissolve us, if approved by the holders of a unit majority;
- the entry of a decree of judicial dissolution of our partnership pursuant to the Delaware Act; or
- there being no limited partners, unless we are continued without dissolution in accordance with the Delaware Act.

Upon a dissolution under the first clause above, the holders of a unit majority may elect, within specific time limitations, to continue our business on the same terms and conditions described in our partnership agreement and appoint as a successor general partner an entity approved by the holders of a unit majority, subject to our receipt of an opinion of counsel to the effect that:

- the action would not result in the loss of limited liability of any limited partner; and
- neither we nor any of our subsidiaries would be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise be taxable as an entity for federal income tax purposes upon the exercise of that right to continue (to the extent not already so treated or taxed).

### Liquidation and Distribution of Proceeds

Upon our dissolution, unless we are continued as a limited partnership, the liquidator authorized to wind up our affairs will, acting with all of the powers of our general partner that are necessary or appropriate, liquidate our assets and apply the proceeds of the liquidation as described in "Provisions of Our Partnership Agreement Relating to Cash Distributions—Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation." The liquidator may defer liquidation or distribution of our assets for a reasonable period of time if it determines that an immediate sale or distribution would be impractical or would cause undue loss to our partners. The liquidator may distribute our assets, in whole or in part, in kind if it determines that a sale would be impractical or would cause undue loss to the partners.

### Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner

Except as described below, our general partner has agreed not to withdraw voluntarily as our general partner prior to December 31, 2021 without obtaining the approval of the holders of at least a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding common units held by the general partner and its affiliates, and furnishing an opinion

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## Table of Contents

of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. On or after December 31, 2021, our general partner may withdraw as general partner without first obtaining approval of any unitholder by giving at least 90 days' advance notice. Notwithstanding the information above, our general partner may withdraw without unitholder approval upon 90 days' notice to the limited partners if at least 50.0% of the outstanding units are held or controlled by one person and its affiliates, other than our general partner and its affiliates. In addition, subject to the restrictions set forth in our partnership agreement, on or after December 31, 2021, our general partner may sell or otherwise transfer all of its general partner interest without the approval of the unitholders. Please read “—Transfer of General Partner Interest” and “—Transfer of Incentive Distribution Rights.”

Upon withdrawal of our general partner under any circumstances, other than as a result of a transfer by our general partner of all or a part of its general partner interest in us, the holders of a unit majority may elect a successor to that withdrawing general partner. If a successor is not elected, or is elected but an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters cannot be obtained, we will be dissolved, wound up and liquidated, unless within a specified period of time after that withdrawal, the holders of a unit majority agree in writing to continue our business and to appoint a successor general partner. Please read “—Termination and Dissolution.”

Our general partner may not be removed unless that removal is approved by the vote of the holders of not less than  $66\frac{2}{3}\%$  of all outstanding units, voting together as a single class, including units held by our general partner and its affiliates, and we receive an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters. Any removal of our general partner is also subject to the approval of a successor general partner by the vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding common units, voting as a separate class, and a majority of the outstanding subordinated units, voting as a separate class. The ownership of more than  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  of the outstanding units by our general partner and its affiliates gives them the ability to prevent our general partner's removal. As of May 1, 2013, affiliates of our general partner own approximately 58.2% of the outstanding common, subordinated and Class A units.

Our partnership agreement also provides that if our general partner is removed as our general partner under circumstances where cause does not exist and units held by our general partner and its affiliates are not voted in favor of that removal:

- the subordination period will end and all outstanding subordinated units will immediately and automatically convert into common units on a one-for-one basis;
- any existing arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units will be extinguished; and
- our general partner will have the right to convert its general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights into common units or to receive cash in exchange for those interests based on the fair market value of the interests at the time.

In the event of removal of our general partner under circumstances where cause exists or withdrawal of our general partner where that withdrawal violates our partnership agreement, a successor general partner will have the option to purchase the general partner interest and incentive distribution rights of the departing general partner for a cash payment equal to the fair market value of those interests. Under all other circumstances where our general partner withdraws or is removed by the limited partners, the departing general partner will have the option to require the successor general partner to purchase the general partner interest and incentive distribution rights of the departing general partner for a cash payment equal to the fair market value of those interests. In each case, this fair market value will be determined by agreement between the departing general partner and the successor general partner. If no agreement is reached within the period provided under our partnership agreement, an independent investment banking firm or other independent expert selected by the departing general partner and the successor general partner will determine the fair market value. If the departing general partner and the successor general partner cannot agree upon an expert, then an expert chosen by agreement of the experts selected by each of them will determine the fair market value.

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## Table of Contents

If the option described above is not exercised by either the departing general partner or the successor general partner, the departing general partner's general partner interest and incentive distribution rights will automatically convert into common units pursuant to a valuation of those interests as determined by an investment banking firm or other independent expert selected in the manner described in the preceding paragraph. Any successor general partner will be required to indemnify the departing general partner for all of our debts and liabilities arising on or after the date on which the departing general partner becomes a limited partner.

### **Transfer of General Partner Interest**

Except for transfer by our general partner of all, but not less than all, of its general partner interest to:

- an affiliate of our general partner (other than an individual); or
- another entity as part of the merger or consolidation of our general partner with or into another entity or the transfer by our general partner of all or substantially all of its assets to another entity,

our general partner may not transfer all or any part of its general partner interest to another person prior to December 31, 2021 without the approval of the holders of at least a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding common units held by our general partner and its affiliates. No such transfer will be permitted unless the transferee assumes the rights and duties of our general partner and agrees to be bound by the provisions of our partnership agreement, we receive an opinion of counsel regarding limited liability and tax matters and the transferee purchases all (or the appropriate portion thereof, if applicable) of the partnership or limited liability company membership interests held by our general partner as the general partner or managing member, if any, of each of our subsidiaries.

In addition, to the extent the general partner interest is pledged as collateral under a debt instrument with respect to which the general partner is an obligor or guarantor, the general partner interest may be transferred pursuant to bona fide foreclosure by the lenders under such debt instrument.

Our general partner and its affiliates may, at any time, transfer their common, subordinated or Class A units or incentive distribution rights to one or more persons, without unitholder approval, except that they may not transfer subordinated units to us.

### **Transfer of Ownership Interests in Our General Partner**

At any time, the owners of our general partner may sell or transfer all or part of their ownership interests in our general partner to an affiliate or a third party without the approval of our unitholders.

### **Transfer of Incentive Distribution Rights**

At any time, our general partner may transfer all or a portion of its incentive distribution rights to an affiliate or a third party without the approval of our unitholders.

### **Change of Management Provisions**

Our partnership agreement contains specific provisions that are intended to discourage a person or group from attempting to remove our general partner or otherwise change our management. If any person or group, other than our general partner and its affiliates, acquires beneficial ownership of 20.0% or more of any class of partnership interests, that person or group loses voting rights with respect to all of such partnership interests. This loss of voting rights does not apply to any person or group that acquires partnership interests directly from our general partner or its affiliates or any transferee of that person or group that is approved by our general partner or to any person or group who acquires partnership interests with the prior approval of the board of directors of our general partner.



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## Table of Contents

Our partnership agreement also provides that if our general partner is removed as our general partner under circumstances where cause does not exist and units held by our general partner and its affiliates are not voted in favor of that removal:

- the subordination period will end and all outstanding subordinated units will immediately and automatically convert into common units on a one-for-one basis;
- any existing arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units will be extinguished; and
- our general partner will have the right to convert its general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights into common units or to receive cash in exchange for those interests based on the fair market value of the interests at the time.

### Limited Call Right

If at any time our general partner and its affiliates own more than 80.0% of the then-issued and outstanding limited partner interests of any class, our general partner will have the right, which it may assign in whole or in part to any of its affiliates or to us, to acquire all, but not less than all, of the remaining limited partner interests of the class held by unaffiliated persons as of a record date to be selected by our general partner, on at least 10, but not more than 60, days notice. The purchase price in the event of this purchase is the greater of:

- the highest price paid by our general partner or any of its affiliates for any limited partner interests of such class purchased within the 90 days preceding the date on which our general partner first mails notice of its election to purchase such limited partner interests; and
- the average of the daily closing prices of the limited partner interests of such class for the 20 consecutive trading days preceding the date three days before the date the notice is mailed.

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

### Meetings; Voting

Except as described below regarding a person or group owning 20.0% or more of any class of partnership interests then outstanding, record holders of limited partner interests on the record date will be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, meetings of our limited partners and to act upon matters for which approvals may be solicited.

Our general partner does not anticipate that any meeting of unitholders will be called in the foreseeable future. Any action that is required or permitted to be taken by the unitholders may be taken either at a meeting of the unitholders or without a meeting if consents in writing describing the action so taken are signed by holders of the number of units necessary to authorize or take that action at a meeting. Meetings of the unitholders may be called by our general partner or by unitholders owning at least 20.0% of the outstanding units of the class for which a meeting is proposed. Unitholders may vote either in person or by proxy at meetings. The holders of a majority of the outstanding units of the class or classes for which a meeting has been called, represented in person or by proxy, will constitute a quorum unless any action by the unitholders requires approval by holders of a greater percentage of the units, in which case the quorum will be the greater percentage. The units representing the general partner interest are units for distribution and allocation purposes, but will not be entitled to vote on any action required or permitted to be taken by the unitholders and will not be considered when calculating required votes or determining the presence of a quorum, or for similar purposes.

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## Table of Contents

Each record holder of a unit has a vote according to its percentage interest in us, although additional limited partner interests having special voting rights could be issued. Please read “—Issuance of Additional Securities.” However, if at any time any person or group, other than our general partner and its affiliates, or a direct or subsequently approved transferee of our general partner or its affiliates, acquires, in the aggregate, beneficial ownership of 20.0% or more of any class of partnership interests then outstanding, that person or group will lose voting rights with respect to all of such partnership interests, and such partnership interests may not be voted on any matter and will not be considered when sending notices of a meeting of unitholders, calculating required votes or determining the presence of a quorum, or for other similar purposes. Common units held in nominee or street name account will be voted by the broker or other nominee in accordance with the instruction of the beneficial owner unless the arrangement between the beneficial owner and its nominee provides otherwise. Except as our partnership agreement otherwise provides, subordinated units will vote together with common units as a single class.

Any notice, demand, request, report or proxy material required or permitted to be given or made to record holders of common units under our partnership agreement will be delivered to the record holder by us or by the transfer agent.

As described above under “—Voting Rights,” prior to conversion, the Class A units are entitled to vote with the common units as a single class on any matter on which unitholders are entitled to vote, except that the Class A units are entitled to vote as a separate class on any matter that adversely affects the rights or preferences of the Class A units in relation to other classes of equity interests or as required by law.

### Status as Limited Partner

Upon a transfer of common units in accordance with our partnership agreement, a transferee of common units will be admitted as a limited partner with respect to the common units transferred when such transfer and admission are reflected in our books and records and such limited partner becomes the record holder of the common units so transferred. Except as described above under “—Limited Liability,” the common units will be fully paid, and unitholders will not be required to make additional contributions.

### Ineligible Holders; Redemption

Under our partnership agreement, an “Eligible Holder” is a limited partner whose (a) federal income tax status is not reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the rates that can be charged by us on assets that are subject to regulation by FERC or an analogous regulatory body and (b) nationality, citizenship or other related status would not create a substantial risk of cancellation or forfeiture of any property in which we have an interest, in each case as determined by our general partner with the advice of counsel.

If at any time our general partner determines, with the advice of counsel, that one or more limited partners are not Eligible Holders (any such limited partner, an “Ineligible Holder”), then our general partner may request any limited partner to furnish to the general partner an executed certification or other information about his federal income tax status and/or nationality, citizenship or related status. If a limited partner fails to furnish such certification or other requested information within 30 days (or such other period as the general partner may determine) after a request for such certification or other information, or our general partner determines after receipt of the information that the limited partner is not an Eligible Holder, the limited partner may be treated as an Ineligible Holder. An Ineligible Holder does not have the right to direct the voting of his units and may not receive distributions in kind upon our liquidation.

Furthermore, we have the right to redeem all of the common and subordinated units of any holder that our general partner concludes is an Ineligible Holder or fails to furnish the information requested by our general partner. The redemption price in the event of such redemption for each unit held by such unitholder will be the current market price of such unit (the date of determination of which shall be the date fixed for redemption). The

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## Table of Contents

redemption price will be paid, as determined by our general partner, in cash or by delivery of a promissory note. Any such promissory note will bear interest at the rate of 5% annually and be payable in three equal annual installments of principal and accrued interest, commencing one year after the redemption date.

### Indemnification

Under our partnership agreement, we will indemnify the following persons, in most circumstances, to the fullest extent permitted by law, from and against all losses, claims, damages or similar events:

- our general partner;
- any departing general partner;
- any person who is or was an affiliate of our general partner or any departing general partner;
- any person who is or was a manager, managing member, general partner, director, officer, employee, agent, fiduciary or trustee of us, any of our subsidiaries, our general partner, any departing general partner or any of our or their affiliates;
- any person who is or was serving at the request of our general partner, any departing general partner or any of their affiliates as an officer, director, managing member, manager, general partner, employee, agent, fiduciary or trustee of another person owing a fiduciary duty to us or any of our subsidiaries;
- any person who controls our general partner or any departing general partner; and
- any person designated by our general partner.

Any indemnification under these provisions will only be out of our assets. Unless it otherwise agrees, our general partner will not be personally liable for, or have any obligation to contribute or loan funds or assets to us to enable us to effectuate, indemnification. We may purchase insurance against liabilities asserted against and expenses incurred by persons for our activities, regardless of whether we would have the power to indemnify the person against liabilities under our partnership agreement.

### Reimbursement of Expenses

Our partnership agreement requires us to reimburse our general partner for all direct and indirect expenses it incurs or payments it makes on our behalf and all other expenses allocable to us or otherwise incurred by our general partner in connection with operating our business. These expenses include salary, bonus, incentive compensation and other amounts paid to persons who perform services for us or on our behalf and expenses allocated to our general partner by its affiliates. Our general partner is entitled to determine in good faith the expenses that are allocable to us.

### Books and Reports

Our general partner is required to keep or cause to be kept appropriate books and records of our business at our principal offices. The books will be maintained for both tax and financial reporting purposes on an accrual basis in accordance with GAAP. For fiscal and tax reporting purposes, we use the calendar year.

As soon as practicable, but in no event later than 105 days after the close of each fiscal year, our general partner will mail or make available to each record holder of a partnership interest an annual report containing audited financial statements and a report on those financial statements by our independent public accountants, including a balance sheet and statements of operations, and our equity and cash flows.

As soon as practicable, but in no event later than 50 days after the close of each quarter except the last quarter of each fiscal year, our general partner will mail or make available to each record holder of a partnership interest a report containing our unaudited financial statements and such other information as may be required by applicable law, regulation or rule.

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## Table of Contents

Our general partner will be deemed to have made a report available if it has either filed such report with the SEC and such report is publicly available or made such report available on any publicly available website maintained by us.

The tax information reasonably required for federal, state and local income tax reporting purposes will be furnished within 90 days of the close of the calendar year in which our taxable period ends.

### Right to Inspect Our Books and Records

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

- a current list of the name and last known business, residence or mailing address of each partner;
- true and full information regarding the status of our business and financial condition;
- copies of our partnership agreement, our certificate of limited partnership, related amendments, and the powers of attorney under which they have been executed; and
- any other information regarding our affairs as our general partner determines is just and reasonable.

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

### Registration Rights

Under our partnership agreement, we have agreed to register for resale under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and applicable state securities laws any common units, subordinated units, Class A units or other partnership securities proposed to be sold by our general partner or any of its affiliates, other than certain individuals, or their assignees if an exemption from the registration requirements is not otherwise available. These registration rights continue for two years following the withdrawal or removal of our general partner and for so long thereafter as is required for the holder to sell the partnership securities with respect to which it has requested registration during such two-year period. We are obligated to pay all expenses incidental to the registration, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions.

## **MATERIAL FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES**

This section is a summary of the material tax considerations that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the U.S. All statements contained in this section as to matters of U.S. federal income tax law and legal conclusions with respect thereto, unless otherwise noted, are the opinion of Andrews Kurth LLP, counsel to our general partner and us, and are based on the accuracy of representations made by us to them for this purpose. To the extent this section discusses federal income taxes, that discussion is based upon current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”), existing and proposed Treasury regulations promulgated under the Internal Revenue Code (the “Treasury Regulations”) and current administrative rulings and court decisions, all of which are subject to change. Later changes in these authorities may cause the tax consequences to vary substantially from the consequences described below. Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this section to “us” or “we” are references to Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. and our operating subsidiaries.

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

No ruling has been or will be requested from the IRS regarding any matter affecting us or prospective unitholders. Instead, we will rely on opinions of Andrews Kurth LLP. Unlike a ruling, an opinion of counsel represents only that counsel’s best legal judgment and does not bind the IRS or the courts. Accordingly, the opinions and statements made herein may not be sustained by a court if contested by the IRS. Any contest of this sort with the IRS may materially and adversely impact the market for the common units and the prices at which common units trade. In addition, our costs of any contest with the IRS, principally legal, accounting and related fees, will reduce our cash available for distribution and thus will be borne indirectly by our unitholders and our general partner. Furthermore, our tax treatment, or the tax treatment of an investment in us, may be significantly modified by future legislative or administrative changes or court decisions, which might be applied retroactively.

Andrews Kurth LLP has not rendered an opinion on the state, local or foreign tax consequences of an investment in us, and, for the reasons described below, has not rendered an opinion with respect to the following specific federal income tax issues discussed in these sections: (i) the treatment of a unitholder whose common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units (please read “—Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership—Treatment of Short Sales”); (ii) whether our monthly convention for allocating taxable income and losses is permitted by existing Treasury Regulations (please read “—Disposition of Common Units—Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees”); and (iii) whether our method for depreciating Section 743 adjustments is sustainable in certain cases (please read “—Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership—Section 754 Election” and “—Uniformity of Units”).

### **Partnership Status**

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

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## Table of Contents

Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code provides that publicly traded partnerships will, as a general rule, be taxed as corporations. However, an exception, referred to as the “Qualifying Income Exception,” exists with respect to publicly traded partnerships of which 90% or more of the gross income for every taxable year consists of “qualifying income.” Qualifying income includes income and gains derived from the transportation, storage, processing and marketing of crude oil, natural gas and other products thereof. Other types of qualifying income include interest (other than from a financial business), dividends, gains from the sale of real property and gains from the sale or other disposition of capital assets held for the production of income that otherwise constitutes qualifying income. We estimate that less than 5% of our current gross income is not qualifying income; however, this estimate could change from time to time. Based upon and subject to this estimate, the factual representations made by us and our general partner and a review of the applicable legal authorities, Andrews Kurth LLP is of the opinion that at least 90% of our current gross income constitutes qualifying income. The portion of our income that is qualifying income may change from time to time.

No ruling has been or will be sought from the IRS and the IRS has made no determination as to our status or the status of our operating subsidiaries for federal income tax purposes or whether our operations generate “qualifying income” under Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code. Instead, we will rely on the opinion of Andrews Kurth LLP on such matters. It is the opinion of Andrews Kurth LLP that, based upon the Internal Revenue Code, its regulations, published revenue rulings and court decisions and the representations described below that:

- We will be classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes; and
- Each of our operating subsidiaries will be disregarded as an entity separate from us or will be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

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

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

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

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

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

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## Table of Contents

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

**The discussion below is based on Andrews Kurth LLP's opinion that we will be classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.**

### Limited Partner Status

Unitholders who are admitted as limited partners of Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. will be treated as partners of Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. for federal income tax purposes. Also, unitholders whose common units are held in street name or by a nominee and who have the right to direct the nominee in the exercise of all substantive rights attendant to the ownership of their common units will be treated as partners of Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. for federal income tax purposes.

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

Income, gain, deductions or losses would not appear to be reportable by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes, and any cash distributions received by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes would therefore appear to be fully taxable as ordinary income. These holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors with respect to their tax consequences of holding common units in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. The references to “unitholders” in the discussion that follows are to persons who are treated as partners in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. for federal income tax purposes.

### Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership

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

*Treatment of Distributions.* Distributions by us to a unitholder generally will not be taxable to the unitholder for federal income tax purposes, except to the extent the amount of any such cash distribution exceeds his tax basis in his common units immediately before the distribution. Cash distributions made by us to a unitholder in an amount in excess of a unitholder's tax basis generally will be considered to be gain from the sale or exchange of the common units, taxable in accordance with the rules described under “—Disposition of Common Units” below. Any reduction in a unitholder's share of our liabilities for which no partner, including the general partner, bears the economic risk of loss, known as “nonrecourse liabilities,” will be treated as a distribution by us of cash to that unitholder. To the extent our distributions cause a unitholder's “at-risk” amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year, he must recapture any losses deducted in previous years. Please read “—Limitations on Deductibility of Losses.”

A decrease in a unitholder's percentage interest in us because of our issuance of additional common units will decrease his share of our nonrecourse liabilities, and thus will result in a corresponding deemed distribution of cash. This deemed distribution may constitute a non-pro rata distribution. A non-pro rata distribution of money or property may result in ordinary income to a unitholder, regardless of his tax basis in his common units, if the distribution reduces the unitholder's share of our “unrealized receivables,” including depreciation recapture, depletion recapture and/or substantially appreciated “inventory items,” each as defined in the Internal Revenue

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## Table of Contents

Code, and collectively, “Section 751 Assets.” To that extent, the unitholder will be treated as having been distributed his proportionate share of the Section 751 Assets and then having exchanged those assets with us in return for the non-pro rata portion of the actual distribution made to him. This latter deemed exchange will generally result in the unitholder’s realization of ordinary income, which will equal the excess of (i) the non-pro rata portion of that distribution over (ii) the unitholder’s tax basis (generally zero) for the share of Section 751 Assets deemed relinquished in the exchange.

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

*Limitations on Deductibility of Losses* . The deduction by a unitholder of his share of our losses will be limited to the tax basis in his units and, in the case of an individual unitholder, estate, trust, or corporate unitholder (if more than 50% of the value of the corporate unitholder’s stock is owned directly or indirectly by or for five or fewer individuals or some tax-exempt organizations) to the amount for which the unitholder is considered to be “at risk” with respect to our activities, if that is less than his tax basis. A common unitholder subject to these limitations must recapture losses deducted in previous years to the extent that distributions cause his at-risk amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year. Losses disallowed to a unitholder or recaptured as a result of these limitations will carry forward and will be allowable as a deduction to the extent that his at-risk amount is subsequently increased, provided such losses do not exceed such common unitholder’s tax basis in his common units. Upon the taxable disposition of a unit, any gain recognized by a unitholder can be offset by losses that were previously suspended by the at-risk limitation but may not be offset by losses suspended by the basis limitation. Any loss previously suspended by the at-risk limitation in excess of that gain would no longer be utilizable.

In general, a unitholder will be at risk to the extent of the tax basis of his units, excluding any portion of that basis attributable to his share of our nonrecourse liabilities, reduced by (i) any portion of that basis representing amounts otherwise protected against loss because of a guarantee, stop loss agreement or other similar arrangement and (ii) any amount of money he borrows to acquire or hold his units, if the lender of those borrowed funds owns an interest in us, is related to the unitholder or can look only to the units for repayment. A unitholder’s at-risk amount will increase or decrease as the tax basis of the unitholder’s units increases or decreases, other than tax basis increases or decreases attributable to increases or decreases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities.

In addition to the basis and at-risk limitations on the deductibility of losses, the passive loss limitations generally provide that individuals, estates, trusts and some closely-held corporations and personal service corporations can deduct losses from passive activities, which are generally defined as trade or business activities in which the taxpayer does not materially participate, only to the extent of the taxpayer’s income from those passive activities. The passive loss limitations are applied separately with respect to each publicly traded partnership. Consequently, any passive losses we generate will only be available to offset our passive income generated in the future and will not be available to offset income from other passive activities or investments, including our investments or a unitholder’s investments in other publicly traded partnerships, or salary or active business income. Passive losses that are not deductible because they exceed a unitholder’s share of income we generate may be deducted in full when he disposes of his entire investment in us in a fully taxable transaction with an unrelated party. The passive loss limitations are applied after other applicable limitations on deductions, including the at-risk rules and the basis limitation.



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## Table of Contents

A unitholder's share of our net income may be offset by any of our suspended passive losses, but it may not be offset by any other current or carryover losses from other passive activities, including those attributable to other publicly traded partnerships.

*Limitations on Interest Deductions* . The deductibility of a non-corporate taxpayer's "investment interest expense" is generally limited to the amount of that taxpayer's "net investment income." Investment interest expense includes:

- interest on indebtedness properly allocable to property held for investment;
- our interest expense attributed to portfolio income; and
- portion of interest expense incurred to purchase or carry an interest in a passive activity to the extent attributable to portfolio income.

The computation of a unitholder's investment interest expense will take into account interest on any margin account borrowing or other loan incurred to purchase or carry a unit. Net investment income includes gross income from property held for investment and amounts treated as portfolio income under the passive loss rules, less deductible expenses, other than interest, directly connected with the production of investment income, but generally does not include gains attributable to the disposition of property held for investment or qualified dividend income (if applicable). The IRS has indicated that the net passive income earned by a publicly traded partnership will be treated as investment income to its unitholders. In addition, the unitholder's share of our portfolio income will be treated as investment income.

*Entity-Level Collections* . If we are required or elect under applicable law to pay any federal, state, local or foreign income tax on behalf of any unitholder or our general partner or any former unitholder, we are authorized to pay those taxes from our funds. That payment, if made, will be treated as a distribution of cash to the unitholder on whose behalf the payment was made. If the payment is made on behalf of a person whose identity cannot be determined, we are authorized to treat the payment as a distribution to all current unitholders. We are authorized to amend our partnership agreement in the manner necessary to maintain uniformity of intrinsic tax characteristics of units and to adjust later distributions, so that after giving effect to these distributions, the priority and characterization of distributions otherwise applicable under our partnership agreement is maintained as nearly as is practicable. Payments by us as described above could give rise to an overpayment of tax on behalf of an individual unitholder in which event the unitholder would be required to file a claim in order to obtain a credit or refund.

*Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction* . In general, if we have a net profit, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated among our general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us. At any time that distributions are made to the common units in excess of distributions to the subordinated units, or incentive distributions are made to our general partner, gross income will be allocated to the recipients to the extent of these distributions. If we have a net loss, that loss will be allocated first to our general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us to the extent of their positive capital accounts and, second, to our general partner.

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

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## Table of Contents

maintaining capital accounts and the fair market value of all property held by us at the time of such issuance or future transaction. In addition, items of recapture income will be allocated to the extent possible to the unitholder who was allocated the deduction giving rise to the treatment of that gain as recapture income in order to minimize the recognition of ordinary income by some unitholders. Finally, although we do not expect that our operations will result in the creation of negative capital accounts, if negative capital accounts nevertheless result, items of our income and gain will be allocated in an amount and manner sufficient to eliminate the negative balance as quickly as possible.

An allocation of items of our income, gain, loss or deduction, other than an allocation required by the Internal Revenue Code to eliminate the difference between a partner's "book" capital account, credited with the fair market value of Contributed Property, and "tax" capital account, credited with the tax basis of Contributed Property, referred to in this discussion as the "Book-Tax Disparity," will generally be given effect for federal income tax purposes in determining a partner's share of an item of income, gain, loss or deduction only if the allocation has "substantial economic effect." In any other case, a partner's share of an item will be determined on the basis of his interest in us, which will be determined by taking into account all the facts and circumstances, including:

- his relative contributions to us;
- the interests of all the partners in profits and losses;
- the interest of all the partners in cash flow; and
- the rights of all the partners to distributions of capital upon liquidation.

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

*Treatment of Short Sales* . A unitholder whose units are loaned to a "short seller" to cover a short sale of units may be considered as having disposed of those units. If so, he would no longer be treated for tax purposes as a partner with respect to those units during the period of the loan and may recognize gain or loss from the disposition. As a result, during this period:

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

Because there is no direct or indirect controlling authority on the issue relating to partnership interests, Andrews Kurth LLP has not rendered an opinion regarding the tax treatment of a unitholder whose common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units; therefore, unitholders desiring to assure their status as partners and avoid the risk of gain recognition from a loan to a short seller are urged to consult a tax advisor to discuss whether it is advisable to modify any applicable brokerage account agreements to prohibit their brokers from borrowing and loaning their units. The IRS has previously announced that it is studying issues relating to the tax treatment of short sales of partnership interests. Please also read "—Disposition of Common Units—Recognition of Gain or Loss."

*Alternative Minimum Tax* . Each unitholder will be required to take into account his distributive share of any items of our income, gain, loss or deduction for purposes of the alternative minimum tax. The current minimum tax rate for noncorporate taxpayers is 26% on the first \$179,500 of alternative minimum taxable income in excess of the exemption amount and 28% on any additional alternative minimum taxable income. Prospective unitholders are urged to consult with their tax advisors as to the impact of an investment in units on their liability for the alternative minimum tax.

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## Table of Contents

*Tax Rates* . Under current law, the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income of individuals is 39.6% and the highest marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to long-term capital gains (generally, capital gains on certain assets held for more than twelve months) of individuals is 20%. These rates are subject to change by new legislation at any time.

A 3.8% Medicare tax, or NIIT, on certain net investment income earned by individuals, estates and trusts applies for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012. For these purposes, net investment income generally includes a unitholder's allocable share of our income and gain realized by a unitholder from a sale of units. In the case of an individual, the tax will be imposed on the lesser of (i) the unitholder's net investment income or (ii) the amount by which the unitholder's modified adjusted gross income exceeds \$250,000 (if the unitholder is married and filing jointly or a surviving spouse), \$125,000 (if the unitholder is married and filing separately) or \$200,000 (in any other case). In the case of an estate or trust, the tax will be imposed on the lesser of (i) undistributed net investment income, or (ii) the excess adjusted gross income over the dollar amount at which the highest income tax bracket applicable to an estate or trust begins. Prospective unitholders are urged to consult with their tax advisors as to the impact of the NIIT on an investment in our common units.

*Section 754 Election* . We have made the election permitted by Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code. That election is irrevocable without the consent of the IRS unless there is a constructive termination of the partnership. Please read “—Disposition of Common Units—Constructive Termination.” The election generally permits us to adjust a common unit purchaser's tax basis in our assets, or inside basis, under Section 743(b) of the Internal Revenue Code to reflect his purchase price. This election does not apply with respect to a person who purchases common units directly from us. The Section 743(b) adjustment belongs to the purchaser and not to other unitholders. For purposes of this discussion, the inside basis in our assets with respect to a unitholder will be considered to have two components: (i) his share of our tax basis in our assets, or common basis, and (ii) his Section 743(b) adjustment to that basis.

We have adopted the remedial allocation method as to all our properties. Where the remedial allocation method is adopted, the Treasury Regulations under Section 743 of the Internal Revenue Code require a portion of the Section 743(b) adjustment that is attributable to recovery property that is subject to depreciation under Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code and whose book basis is in excess of its tax basis to be depreciated over the remaining cost recovery period for the property's unamortized Book-Tax Disparity. Under Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to property subject to depreciation under Section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code, rather than cost recovery deductions under Section 168, is generally required to be depreciated using either the straight-line method or the 150% declining balance method. Under our partnership agreement, our general partner is authorized to take a position to preserve the uniformity of units even if that position is not consistent with these and any other Treasury Regulations. Please read “—Uniformity of Units.”

We depreciate the portion of a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the value of Contributed Property, to the extent of any unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, using a rate of depreciation or amortization derived from the depreciation or amortization method and useful life applied to the property's unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, or treat that portion as non-amortizable to the extent attributable to property which is not amortizable. This method is consistent with the methods employed by other publicly traded partnerships but is arguably inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), which is not expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets. To the extent this Section 743(b) adjustment is attributable to appreciation in value in excess of the unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, we will apply the rules described in the Treasury Regulations and legislative history. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may take a depreciation or amortization position under which all purchasers acquiring units in the same month would receive depreciation or amortization, whether attributable to common basis or a Section 743(b) adjustment, based upon the same applicable rate as if they had purchased a direct interest in our assets. This kind of aggregate approach may result in lower annual depreciation or amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to some unitholders. Please read “—Uniformity of Units.” A unitholder's tax basis

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## Table of Contents

for his common units is reduced by his share of our deductions (whether or not such deductions were claimed on an individual's income tax return) so that any position we take that understates deductions will overstate the common unitholder's basis in his common units, which may cause the unitholder to understate gain or overstate loss on any sale of such units. Please read "—Disposition of Common Units—Recognition of Gain or Loss." Andrews Kurth LLP has not rendered an opinion as to whether our method for depreciating Section 743 adjustments is sustainable for property subject to depreciation under Section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code or if we use an aggregate approach as described above, as there is no direct or indirect controlling authority addressing the validity of these positions. Moreover, the IRS may challenge our position with respect to depreciating or amortizing the Section 743(b) adjustment we take to preserve the uniformity of the units. If such a challenge were sustained, the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions.

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

The calculations involved in the Section 754 election are complex and will be made on the basis of assumptions as to the value of our assets and other matters. For example, the allocation of the Section 743(b) adjustment among our assets must be made in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS could seek to reallocate some or all of any Section 743(b) adjustment allocated by us to our tangible assets to goodwill instead. Goodwill, as an intangible asset, is generally nonamortizable or amortizable over a longer period of time or under a less accelerated method than our tangible assets. We cannot assure you that the determinations we make will not be successfully challenged by the IRS and that the deductions resulting from them will not be reduced or disallowed altogether. Should the IRS require a different basis adjustment to be made, and should, in our opinion, the expense of compliance exceed the benefit of the election, we may seek permission from the IRS to revoke our Section 754 election. If permission is granted, a subsequent purchaser of units may be allocated more income than he would have been allocated had the election not been revoked.

## Tax Treatment of Operations

*Accounting Method and Taxable Year* . We use the year ending December 31 as our taxable year and the accrual method of accounting for federal income tax purposes. Each unitholder will be required to include in income his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our taxable year ending within or with his taxable year. In addition, a unitholder who has a taxable year ending on a date other than December 31 and who disposes of all of his units following the close of our taxable year but before the close of his taxable year must include his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction in income for his taxable year, with the result that he will be required to include in income for his taxable year his share of more than twelve months of our income, gain, loss and deduction. Please read "—Disposition of Common Units—Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees."

*Initial Tax Basis, Depreciation and Amortization* . The tax basis of our assets is used for purposes of computing depreciation and cost recovery deductions and, ultimately, gain or loss on the disposition of these assets. The federal income tax burden associated with the difference between the fair market value of our assets and their tax basis immediately prior to the time we issue common units in an offering will be borne by our partners holding interests in us prior to such offering. Please read "—Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership—Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction."

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## Table of Contents

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

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

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

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

### Disposition of Common Units

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

Prior distributions from us that in the aggregate were in excess of cumulative net taxable income for a common unit and, therefore, decreased a unitholder’s tax basis in that common unit will, in effect, become taxable income if the common unit is sold at a price greater than the unitholder’s tax basis in that common unit, even if the price received is less than his original cost.

Except as noted below, gain or loss recognized by a unitholder, other than a “dealer” in units, on the sale or exchange of a unit will generally be taxable as capital gain or loss. Capital gain recognized by an individual on the sale of common units held for more than twelve months will generally be taxed at the federal income tax rate applicable to long-term capital gains. However, a portion of this gain or loss, which will likely be substantial, will be separately computed and taxed as ordinary income or loss under Section 751 of the Internal Revenue Code to the extent attributable to assets giving rise to depreciation recapture or other “unrealized receivables” or to “inventory items” we own. The term “unrealized receivables” includes potential recapture items, including depreciation recapture. Ordinary income attributable to unrealized receivables, inventory items and depreciation recapture may exceed net taxable gain realized upon the sale of a unit and may be recognized even if there is a net taxable loss realized on the sale of a unit. Thus, a unitholder may recognize both ordinary income and a

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## Table of Contents

capital loss upon a sale of units. Capital losses may offset capital gains and no more than \$3,000 of ordinary income each year, in the case of individuals, and may only be used to offset capital gains in the case of corporations. Both ordinary income and capital gain recognized on the sale or exchange of units may be subject to the NIIT in certain circumstances. Please read “—Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership—Tax Rates.”

The IRS has ruled that a partner who acquires interests in a partnership in separate transactions must combine those interests and maintain a single adjusted tax basis for all those interests. Upon a sale or other disposition of less than all of those interests, a portion of that tax basis must be allocated to the interests sold using an “equitable apportionment” method, which generally means that the tax basis allocated to the interest sold equals an amount that bears the same relation to the partner’s tax basis in his entire interest in the partnership as the value of the interest sold bears to the value of the partner’s entire interest in the partnership. Treasury Regulations under Section 1223 of the Internal Revenue Code allow a selling unitholder who can identify common units transferred with an ascertainable holding period to elect to use the actual holding period of the common units transferred. Thus, according to the ruling discussed above, a common unitholder will be unable to select high or low basis common units to sell as would be the case with corporate stock, but, according to the Treasury Regulations, he may designate specific common units sold for purposes of determining the holding period of units transferred. A unitholder electing to use the actual holding period of common units transferred must consistently use that identification method for all subsequent sales or exchanges of common units. A unitholder considering the purchase of additional units or a sale of common units purchased in separate transactions is urged to consult his tax advisor as to the possible consequences of this ruling and application of the Treasury Regulations.

Specific provisions of the Internal Revenue Code affect the taxation of some financial products and securities, including partnership interests, by treating a taxpayer as having sold an “appreciated” partnership interest, one in which gain would be recognized if it were sold, assigned or terminated at its fair market value, if the taxpayer or related persons enter(s) into:

- a short sale;
- an offsetting notional principal contract; or
- a futures or forward contract;

in each case, with respect to the partnership interest or substantially identical property.

Moreover, if a taxpayer has previously entered into a short sale, an offsetting notional principal contract or a futures or forward contract with respect to the partnership interest, the taxpayer will be treated as having sold that position if the taxpayer or a related person then acquires the partnership interest or substantially identical property. The Secretary of the Treasury is also authorized to issue regulations that treat a taxpayer that enters into transactions or positions that have substantially the same effect as the preceding transactions as having constructively sold the financial position.

*Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees* . In general, our taxable income and losses are determined annually, are prorated on a monthly basis and are subsequently apportioned among the unitholders in proportion to the number of units owned by each of them as of the opening of the applicable exchange on the first business day of the month, which we refer to in this prospectus as the “Allocation Date.” However, gain or loss realized on a sale or other disposition of our assets other than in the ordinary course of business is allocated among the unitholders on the Allocation Date in the month in which that gain or loss is recognized. As a result, a unitholder transferring units may be allocated income, gain, loss and deduction realized after the date of transfer.

Although simplifying conventions are contemplated by the Internal Revenue Code and most publicly traded partnerships use similar simplifying conventions, the use of this method may not be permitted under existing Treasury Regulations as there is no direct or indirect controlling authority on this issue. The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the IRS have issued proposed Treasury Regulations that provide a safe harbor pursuant to which

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## Table of Contents

a publicly traded partnership may use a similar monthly simplifying convention to allocate tax items among transferor and transferee unitholders, although such tax items must be prorated on a daily basis. Nonetheless, the proposed regulations do not specifically authorize the use of the proration method we have adopted. Existing publicly traded partnerships are entitled to rely on these proposed Treasury Regulations; however, they are not binding on the IRS and are subject to change until final Treasury Regulations are issued. Accordingly, Andrews Kurth LLP has not rendered an opinion on the validity of this method of allocating income and deductions between transferor and transferee unitholders because the issue has not been finally resolved by the IRS or the courts. If this method is not allowed under the Treasury Regulations, or only applies to transfers of less than all of the unitholder's interest, our taxable income or losses might be reallocated among the unitholders. We are authorized to revise our method of allocation between transferor and transferee unitholders, as well as unitholders whose interests vary during a taxable year, to conform to a method permitted under future Treasury Regulations.

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

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

*Constructive Termination* . We will be considered to have terminated our tax partnership for federal income tax purposes upon the sale or exchange of our interests that, in the aggregate, constitute 50% or more of the total interests in our capital and profits within a twelve-month period. For purposes of measuring whether the 50% threshold is reached, multiple sales of the same interest are counted only once. A constructive termination results in the closing of our taxable year for all unitholders. In the case of a unitholder reporting on a taxable year other than a fiscal year ending December 31, the closing of our taxable year may result in more than twelve months of our taxable income or loss being includable in his taxable income for the year of termination. A constructive termination occurring on a date other than December 31 will result in us filing two tax returns (and unitholders could receive two Schedules K-1 if the relief discussed below is not available) for one fiscal year and the cost of the preparation of these returns will be borne by all common unitholders. We would be required to make new tax elections after a termination, including a new election under Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code, and a termination would result in a deferral of our deductions for depreciation. A termination could also result in penalties if we were unable to determine that the termination had occurred. Moreover, a termination might either accelerate the application of, or subject us to, any tax legislation enacted before the termination. The IRS has recently announced a relief procedure whereby if a publicly traded partnership that has technically terminated requests publicly traded partnership technical termination relief and the IRS grants such relief, among other things, the partnership will only have to provide one Schedule K-1 to unitholders for the year notwithstanding two partnership tax years.

## Uniformity of Units

Because we cannot match transferors and transferees of units, we must maintain uniformity of the economic and tax characteristics of the units to a purchaser of these units. In the absence of uniformity, we may be unable to completely comply with a number of federal income tax requirements, both statutory and regulatory. A lack of uniformity can result from a literal application of Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1 (a)(6). Any non-uniformity could have a negative impact on the value of the units. Please read “—Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership—Section 754 Election.”

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## Table of Contents

We depreciate the portion of a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the value of Contributed Property, to the extent of any unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, using a rate of depreciation or amortization derived from the depreciation or amortization method and useful life applied to the property's unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, or treat that portion as nonamortizable, to the extent attributable to property the common basis of which is not amortizable, consistent with the regulations under Section 743 of the Internal Revenue Code, even though that position may be inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), which is not expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets. Please read “—Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership—Section 754 Election.” To the extent that the Section 743(b) adjustment is attributable to appreciation in value in excess of the unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, we will apply the rules described in the Treasury Regulations and legislative history. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may adopt a depreciation and amortization position under which all purchasers acquiring units in the same month would receive depreciation and amortization deductions, whether attributable to common basis or a Section 743(b) adjustment, based upon the same applicable rate as if they had purchased a direct interest in our assets. If this position is adopted, it may result in lower annual depreciation and amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to some unitholders and risk the loss of depreciation and amortization deductions not taken in the year that these deductions are otherwise allowable. This position will not be adopted if we determine that the loss of depreciation and amortization deductions will have a material adverse effect on the unitholders. If we choose not to utilize this aggregate method, we may use any other reasonable depreciation and amortization method to preserve the uniformity of the intrinsic tax characteristics of any units that would not have a material adverse effect on the unitholders. In either case, and as stated above under “—Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership—Section 754 Election,” Andrews Kurth LLP has not rendered an opinion with respect to these methods. Moreover, the IRS may challenge any method of depreciating the Section 743(b) adjustment described in this paragraph. If this challenge were sustained, the uniformity of units might be affected, and the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions. Please read “—Disposition of Common Units—Recognition of Gain or Loss.”

### **Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors**

Ownership of units by employee benefit plans, other tax-exempt organizations, non-resident aliens, foreign corporations and other foreign persons raises issues unique to those investors and, as described below to a limited extent, may have substantially adverse tax consequences to them. If you are a tax-exempt entity or a non-U.S. person, you should consult your tax advisor before investing in our common units.

Employee benefit plans and most other organizations exempt from federal income tax, including individual retirement accounts and other retirement plans, are subject to federal income tax on unrelated business taxable income. Virtually all of our income allocated to a unitholder that is a tax-exempt organization will be unrelated business taxable income and will be taxable to it.

Non-resident aliens and foreign corporations, trusts or estates that own units will be considered to be engaged in business in the U.S. because of the ownership of units. As a consequence, they will be required to file federal tax returns to report their share of our income, gain, loss or deduction and pay federal income tax at regular rates on their share of our net income or gain. Moreover, under rules applicable to publicly traded partnerships, we will withhold at the highest applicable effective tax rate from cash distributions made quarterly to foreign unitholders. Each foreign unitholder must obtain a taxpayer identification number from the IRS and submit that number to our transfer agent on a Form W-8BEN or applicable substitute form in order to obtain credit for these withholding taxes. A change in applicable law may require us to change these procedures.

In addition, because a foreign corporation that owns units will be treated as engaged in a U.S. trade or business, that corporation may be subject to the U.S. branch profits tax at a rate of 30%, in addition to regular federal income tax, on its share of our income and gain, as adjusted for changes in the foreign corporation's "U.S. net equity," which is effectively connected with the conduct of a U.S. trade or business. That tax may be reduced or eliminated by an income tax treaty between the U.S. and the country in which the foreign corporate unitholder is a "qualified resident." In addition, this type of unitholder is subject to special information reporting requirements under Section 6038C of the Internal Revenue Code.



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## Table of Contents

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

### Administrative Matters

*Information Returns and Audit Procedures.* We intend to furnish to each unitholder, within 90 days after the close of each calendar year, specific tax information, including a Schedule K-1, which describes his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our preceding taxable year. In preparing this information, which will not be reviewed by counsel, we will take various accounting and reporting positions, some of which have been mentioned earlier, to determine each unitholder’s share of income, gain, loss and deduction. We cannot assure you that those positions will yield a result that conforms to the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, Treasury Regulations or administrative interpretations of the IRS. Neither we nor Andrews Kurth LLP can assure prospective unitholders that the IRS will not successfully contend in court that those positions are impermissible. Any challenge by the IRS could negatively affect the value of the units.

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

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

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

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

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## Table of Contents

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

- the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the beneficial owner and the nominee;
- whether the beneficial owner is:
  - a person that is not a U.S. person;
  - a foreign government, an international organization or any wholly owned agency or instrumentality of either of the foregoing;  
or
  - a tax-exempt entity;
- the amount and description of units held, acquired or transferred for the beneficial owner; and
- specific information including the dates of acquisitions and transfers, means of acquisitions and transfers, and acquisition cost for purchases, as well as the amount of net proceeds from sales.

Brokers and financial institutions are required to furnish additional information, including whether they are U.S. persons and specific information on units they acquire, hold or transfer for their own account. A penalty of \$100 per failure, up to a maximum of \$1.5 million per calendar year, is imposed by the Internal Revenue Code for failure to report that information to us. The nominee is required to supply the beneficial owner of the units with the information furnished to us.

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

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

- for which there is, or was, “substantial authority”; or
- as to which there is a reasonable basis and the pertinent facts of that position are disclosed on the return.

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

A substantial valuation misstatement exists if (a) the value of any property, or the adjusted basis of any property, claimed on a tax return is 150% or more of the amount determined to be the correct amount of the valuation or adjusted basis, (b) the price for any property or services (or for the use of property) claimed on any such return with respect to any transaction between persons described in Internal Revenue Code Section 482 is 200% or more (or 50% or less) of the amount determined under Section 482 to be the correct amount of such price, or (c) the net Internal Revenue Code Section 482 transfer price adjustment for the taxable year exceeds the lesser of \$5 million or 10% of the taxpayer’s gross receipts.

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## Table of Contents

No penalty is imposed unless the portion of the underpayment attributable to a substantial valuation misstatement exceeds \$5,000 (\$10,000 for most corporations). If the valuation claimed on a return is 200% or more than the correct valuation or certain other thresholds are met, the penalty imposed increases to 40%. We do not anticipate making any valuation misstatements.

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

*Reportable Transactions*. If we were to engage in a “reportable transaction,” we (and possibly you and others) would be required to make a detailed disclosure of the transaction to the IRS. A transaction may be a reportable transaction based upon any of several factors, including the fact that it is a type of tax avoidance transaction publicly identified by the IRS as a “listed transaction” or that it produces certain kinds of losses for partnerships, individuals, S corporations, and trusts in excess of \$2 million in any single year, or \$4 million in any combination of 6 successive tax years. Our participation in a reportable transaction could increase the likelihood that our federal income tax information return (and possibly your tax return) would be audited by the IRS. Please read “—Information Returns and Audit Procedures.”

Moreover, if we were to participate in a reportable transaction with a significant purpose to avoid or evade tax, or in any listed transaction, you may be subject to the following provisions of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004:

- accuracy-related penalties with a broader scope, significantly narrower exceptions, and potentially greater amounts than described above at “—Accuracy-Related Penalties”;
- for those persons otherwise entitled to deduct interest on federal tax deficiencies, nondeductibility of interest on any resulting tax liability; and
- in the case of a listed transaction, an extended statute of limitations.

We do not expect to engage in any “reportable transactions.”

## Recent Legislative Developments

The present federal income tax treatment of publicly traded partnerships, including us, or an investment in our common units may be modified by administrative, legislative or judicial interpretation at any time. For example, from time to time, members of Congress propose and consider substantive changes to the existing federal income tax laws that affect publicly traded partnerships. Any modification to the federal income tax laws or interpretations thereof may or may not be applied retroactively and could make it more difficult or impossible for us to be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. Please read “—Partnership Status.” We are unable to predict whether any of these changes, or other proposals, will ultimately be enacted. Any such changes could negatively impact the value of an investment in our units.

## State, Local, Foreign and Other Tax Considerations

In addition to federal income taxes, you likely will be subject to other taxes, such as state, local and foreign income taxes, unincorporated business taxes, and estate, inheritance or intangible taxes that may be imposed by the various jurisdictions in which we do business or own property or in which you are a resident. We currently do business or own property in several states, most of which impose personal income taxes on individuals. Most of these states also impose an income tax on corporations and other entities. Moreover, we may also own property or do business in other states in the future that impose income or similar taxes on nonresident individuals. Although an analysis of those various taxes is not presented here, each prospective unitholder should consider their potential impact on his investment in us. A unitholder may be required to file income tax returns and to pay

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## Table of Contents

income taxes in many of these jurisdictions in which we do business or own property and may be subject to penalties for failure to comply with those requirements. In some jurisdictions, tax losses may not produce a tax benefit in the year incurred and may not be available to offset income in subsequent taxable years. Some of the jurisdictions may require us, or we may elect, to withhold a percentage of income from amounts to be distributed to a unitholder who is not a resident of the jurisdiction. Withholding, the amount of which may be greater or less than a particular unitholder's income tax liability to the jurisdiction, generally does not relieve a nonresident unitholder from the obligation to file an income tax return. Amounts withheld will be treated as if distributed to unitholders for purposes of determining the amounts distributed by us. Please read "—Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership—Entity-Level Collections." Based on current law and our estimate of our future operations, our general partner anticipates that any amounts required to be withheld will not be material.

**It is the responsibility of each unitholder to investigate the legal and tax consequences, under the laws of pertinent jurisdictions, of his investment in us. Accordingly, each prospective unitholder is urged to consult his tax counsel or other advisor with regard to those matters. Further, it is the responsibility of each unitholder to file all state, local and foreign, as well as U.S. federal tax returns, that may be required of him. Andrews Kurth LLP has not rendered an opinion on the state, local or foreign tax consequences of an investment in us.**

### **Tax Consequences of Ownership of Debt Securities**

Because the terms and corresponding tax consequences of various debt issuances may differ significantly, descriptions of the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of debt securities will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the offering of any such debt securities.

**INVESTMENT IN ROSE ROCK MIDSTREAM, L.P. BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS**

An investment in us by an employee benefit plan is subject to additional considerations because the investments of these plans are subject to the fiduciary responsibility and prohibited transaction provisions of ERISA and the restrictions imposed by Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code and provisions under any federal, state, local, non-U.S. or other laws or regulations that are similar to such provisions of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA, collectively, “Similar Laws.” For these purposes the term “employee benefit plan” includes, but is not limited to, qualified pension, profit-sharing and stock bonus plans, Keogh plans, simplified employee pension plans and tax deferred annuities or IRAs or annuities established or maintained by an employer or employee organization, and entities whose underlying assets are considered to include “plan assets” of such plans, accounts and arrangements, collectively, “Employee Benefit Plans.” Among other things, consideration should be given to:

- whether the investment is prudent under Section 404(a)(1)(B) of ERISA and any other applicable Similar Laws;
- whether in making the investment, the plan will satisfy the diversification requirements of Section 404(a)(1)(C) of ERISA and any other applicable Similar Laws;
- whether the investment will result in recognition of unrelated business taxable income by the plan and, if so, the potential after-tax investment return. Please read “Material Federal Income Tax Consequences—Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors”; and
- whether making such an investment will comply with the delegation of control and prohibited transaction provisions of ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code and any other applicable Similar Laws.

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

Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code prohibit Employee Benefit Plans from engaging, either directly or indirectly, in specified transactions involving “plan assets” with parties that, with respect to the Employee Benefit Plan, are “parties in interest” under ERISA or “disqualified persons” under the Internal Revenue Code unless an exemption is available. A party in interest or disqualified person who engages in a non-exempt prohibited transaction may be subject to excise taxes and other penalties and liabilities under ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, the fiduciary of the Employee Benefit Plan that engaged in such a non-exempt prohibited transaction may be subject to penalties and liabilities under ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code.

In addition to considering whether the purchase of common units is a prohibited transaction, a fiduciary should consider whether the Employee Benefit Plan will, by investing in us, be deemed to own an undivided interest in our assets, with the result that our general partner would also be a fiduciary of such Employee Benefit Plan and our operations would be subject to the regulatory restrictions of ERISA, as well as the prohibited transaction rules of the Internal Revenue Code, ERISA and any other applicable Similar Laws.

The Department of Labor regulations and Section 3(42) of ERISA provide guidance with respect to whether, in certain circumstances, the assets of an entity in which Employee Benefit Plans acquire equity interests would be deemed “plan assets.” Under these rules, an entity’s assets would not be considered to be “plan assets” if, among other things:

(a) the equity interests acquired by the Employee Benefit Plan are publicly offered securities—i.e., the equity interests are widely held by 100 or more investors independent of the issuer and each other, are freely transferable and are registered under certain provisions of the federal securities laws;

(b) the entity is an “operating company,”—i.e., it is primarily engaged in the production or sale of a product or service, other than the investment of capital, either directly or through a majority-owned subsidiary or subsidiaries; or

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## **Table of Contents**

(c) there is no significant investment by “benefit plan investors,” which is defined to mean that less than 25% of the value of each class of equity interest, disregarding any such interests held by our general partner, its affiliates and some other persons, is held generally by Employee Benefit Plans.

Our assets should not be considered “plan assets” under these regulations because it is expected that the investment will satisfy the requirements in (a) and (b) above.

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

**SELLING UNITHOLDERS**

This prospectus covers the offering for resale from time to time, in one or more offerings, of up to 12,529,418 common units, including (i) 8,389,709 common units that may be issued upon conversion of 8,389,709 subordinated units and (ii) 1,250,000 common units that may be issued upon conversion of 1,250,000 Class A units, owned by the selling unitholders identified in the table below.

We were formed by SemGroup in August 2011 to own, operate, develop and acquire a diversified portfolio of midstream energy assets. Prior to our initial public offering, we were an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of SemGroup. We are managed and operated by our general partner. SemGroup owns all of the ownership interest in our general partner. Our operations are conducted through, and our operating assets are owned by, our wholly-owned subsidiary, Rose Rock Midstream Operating, LLC, and its subsidiaries. Rose Rock Midstream Operating, LLC and its subsidiaries have no employees. The employees who conduct our business are employed by an affiliate of our general partner.

As of May 1, 2013, Rose Rock Midstream Holdings, LLC (“Holdings”) owned 2,718,491 common units, 8,389,709 subordinated units and 1,250,000 Class A units, Rose Rock Midstream Corporation (“RRMC”) owned 171,218 common units, and our general partner owned 439,455 notional general partner units, representing a 2.0% general partner interest in us, as well as all of our incentive distribution rights. We issued the subordinated units and 1,389,709 common units, as applicable, to Holdings and RRMC in connection with our initial public offering. We issued the Class A units and 1,500,000 common units to Holdings in January 2013 in connection with our acquisition of 33.33% of the outstanding membership interests in SemCrude Pipeline, L.L.C from SemGroup and certain of its subsidiaries.

The following table sets forth information relating to the selling unitholders as of May 1, 2013 based on information supplied to us by the selling unitholders on or prior to that date. We have not sought to verify such information. Information concerning the selling unitholders may change over time, and if necessary, we will supplement this prospectus accordingly. The selling unitholders may hold or acquire at any time common units, subordinated units or Class A units in addition to those offered by this prospectus and may have acquired additional common units, subordinated units or Class A units since the date on which the information reflected herein was provided to us. In addition, the selling unitholders may have sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of some or all of their common units, subordinated units or Class A units since the date on which the information reflected herein was provided to us and may in the future sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of some or all of their common units, subordinated units or Class A units in private placement transactions exempt from or not subject to the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. Assuming the sale of all of the common units registered hereby on behalf of the selling unitholders, including the common units issuable upon conversion of subordinated units or Class A units, the selling unitholders will hold no common units, subordinated units or Class A units upon completion of this offering.

<u>Selling Unitholders(1)(2)</u>	<u>Common Units</u>	
	<u>Owned Prior to Offering</u>	<u>Common Units Being Offered</u>
Rose Rock Midstream Holdings, LLC	12,358,200(3)	12,358,200(3)
Rose Rock Midstream Corporation	171,218	171,218

- (1) SemGroup directly owns 100% of the outstanding membership interests of Holdings. Holdings directly owns 100% of the issued and outstanding shares of common stock of RRMC. SemGroup may therefore be deemed to beneficially own the common units owned directly by Holdings and RRMC, and Holdings may therefore be deemed to beneficially own the common units owned directly by RRMC. Each of SemGroup and Holdings disclaims beneficial ownership of the common units held by Holdings and RRMC, as applicable, in excess of its pecuniary interest in such common units.
- (2) The address for all beneficial owners in this table is Two Warren Place, 6120 S. Yale Avenue, Suite 700, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136-4216. There are no options, warrants or other rights or obligations outstanding that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days into common units.

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## Table of Contents

- (3) Includes 8,389,709 common units that may be issued upon conversion of 8,389,709 subordinated units representing limited partner interests in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. and 1,250,000 common units that may be issued upon conversion of 1,250,000 Class A units representing limited partner interests in Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. Please see “Provisions of Our Partnership Agreement Related to Cash Distributions—Subordination Period” and “Provisions of Our Partnership Agreement Related to Cash Distributions—Class A Units.”

In making offers and sales pursuant to this prospectus, each of the selling unitholders is deemed to be acting as an underwriter, and its offers and sales are deemed to be made indirectly on our behalf.



**PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

We and the selling unitholders may sell the securities being offered hereby directly to purchasers, through agents, through underwriters, brokers or dealers, through a combination of any of these methods of sale, or through any other method permitted by applicable law.

We, the selling unitholders, or agents designated by us or the selling unitholders, may directly solicit, from time to time, offers to purchase the securities. Any such agent may be deemed to be an underwriter as that term is defined in the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. We will name the agents involved in the offer or sale of the securities and describe any commissions payable by us or the selling unitholders, as the case may be, to these agents in the prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement, these agents will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of their appointment. The agents may be entitled under agreements they may enter into with us or the selling unitholders to indemnification by us or the selling unitholders, as applicable, against specified civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The agents may also be our customers or may engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

If we or the selling unitholders use any underwriters in the sale of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, we and, if applicable, the selling unitholders, will enter into an underwriting agreement with those underwriters at the time of sale to them. We will set forth the names of the underwriters and the terms of the transaction in a prospectus supplement, which will be used by the underwriters to make resales of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered to the public. We and, if applicable, the selling unitholders, may indemnify the underwriters under the underwriting agreement against specified liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The underwriters may also be our customers or may engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

Underwriters or agents could make sales in privately negotiated transactions and/or any other method permitted by law, including sales deemed to be an “at-the-market” offering as defined in Rule 415 promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, which includes sales made directly on or through the New York Stock Exchange, the existing trading market for our common units, or sales made to or through a market maker other than on an exchange.

To the extent that we or the selling unitholders make sales through one or more underwriters or agents in “at-the-market” offerings, we or the selling unitholders, as applicable, will do so pursuant to the terms of a sales agency financing agreement or other “at-the-market” offering arrangement with such underwriters or agents. If we engage in at-the-market sales pursuant to any such agreement, we or the selling unitholders will issue and sell common units through one or more underwriters or agents, which may act on an agency basis or on a principal basis. During the term of any such agreement, we or the selling unitholders, as applicable, may sell common units on a daily basis in exchange transactions or otherwise as we agree with the underwriters or agents. The agreement will provide that any common units sold will be sold at prices related to the then prevailing market prices for such securities. Therefore, exact figures regarding proceeds that will be raised or commissions to be paid cannot be determined at this time. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, we or the selling unitholders, as applicable, also may agree to sell, and the relevant underwriters or agents may agree to solicit offers to purchase, blocks of common units. The terms of each such agreement will be set forth in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus. In the event that any underwriter or agent acts as principal, or any broker-dealer acts as underwriter, it may engage in certain transactions that stabilize, maintain, or otherwise affect the price of common units. Any such activities will be described in the prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus relating to the transaction.

If we or the selling unitholders use a dealer in the sale of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, we or the selling unitholders, as applicable, will sell those securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell those securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of

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## Table of Contents

resale. We and, if applicable, the selling unitholders may indemnify the dealers against specified liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The dealers may also be our customers or may engage in transactions with, or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

We or the selling unitholders also may sell common units and debt securities directly. In this case, no underwriters or agents would be involved. We or the selling unitholders may use electronic media, including the Internet, to sell offered securities directly. Offers to purchase securities may be solicited directly by us or the selling unitholders and the sale thereof by us or the selling unitholders, as applicable, directly to institutional investors or other, who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, with respect to the resale thereof. The terms of any such sales will be described in the prospectus supplement relating thereto.

In addition, we or the selling unitholders may from time to time sell securities in compliance with Rule 144 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, if available, or pursuant to other available exemptions from the registration requirements under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, rather than pursuant to this prospectus. In such event, we and the selling unitholders, if applicable, may be required by the securities laws of certain states to offer and sell the common units only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers.

The selling unitholders may act independently of us in making decisions with respect to the timing, manner and size of each of their sales.

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

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

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

In compliance with FINRA guidelines, the maximum consideration or discount to be received by any FINRA member or independent broker dealer may not exceed 8% of the aggregate amount of the securities offered pursuant to this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement.

**LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the securities offered by this prospectus will be passed upon for us by Andrews Kurth LLP, Houston, Texas. If certain legal matters in connection with an offering of the securities made by this prospectus and a related prospectus supplement are passed on by counsel for the selling unitholders or underwriters of such offering, that counsel will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement related to that offering.

**EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of Rose Rock Midstream, L.P. as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2012 and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012 incorporated by reference in this prospectus have been so incorporated in reliance on the reports of BDO USA, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated herein by reference, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The balance sheets of SemCrude Pipeline, L.L.C. as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the related statements of operations, changes in member's equity and cash flows for the two years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 and for the one month ended December 31, 2009 (Successor), and for the eleven months ended November 30, 2009 (Predecessor) incorporated by reference in this prospectus have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of BDO USA, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated herein by reference, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The balance sheet of White Cliffs Pipeline, L.L.C. as of December 31, 2011 and the related statements of operations, changes in members' equity and cash flows for the year then ended incorporated by reference in this prospectus have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of BDO USA, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated herein by reference, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We have filed a registration statement with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, that registers the offer and sale of the securities covered by this prospectus. The registration statement, including the attached exhibits, contains additional relevant information about us.

In addition, we file annual, quarterly and other reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You also can obtain information about us at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

We also make our periodic reports and other information filed with or furnished to the SEC available, free of charge, through our website, as soon as reasonably practicable after those reports and other information are electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC. Our website is located at [www.rrmidstream.com](http://www.rrmidstream.com). Information on our website or any other website is not incorporated by reference into, and does not constitute a part of, this prospectus.

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we have filed with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you without actually including the specific information in this prospectus by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. These other documents contain important information about us, our financial condition and our results of operations. The information

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## Table of Contents

incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus. Information that we later file with the SEC will automatically update information previously filed with the SEC, and may replace information in this prospectus and information previously filed with the SEC.

We incorporate by reference in this prospectus the following documents that we have previously filed with the SEC:

- Annual Report on Form 10-K (File No. 001-35365) for the year ended December 31, 2012, filed on March 1, 2013;
- Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (File No. 001-35365) for the quarter ended March 31, 2013, filed on May 9, 2013;
- Current Reports on Form 8-K (File No. 001-35365) filed on January 14, 2013 and February 5, 2013 (Form 8-K/A); and
- The description of our common units contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A (File No. 001-35365) filed on December 6, 2011.

All documents that we file pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, after the date of this prospectus and until the offerings hereunder are completed will be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and will be a part of this prospectus from the date of filing of the document. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this prospectus shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished to, but not filed with, the SEC pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K (or corresponding information furnished under Item 9.01 or included as an exhibit).

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

Rose Rock Midstream, L.P.  
Two Warren Place  
6120 S. Yale Avenue, Suite 700  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136-4216  
Attention: Investor Relations  
(918) 524-7700

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



**Rose Rock Midstream, L.P.**

**4,750,000 Common Units  
Representing Limited Partner Interests**

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Prospectus Supplement

August 13, 2013

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**Barclays**

**UBS Investment Bank**

**Citigroup**

**Deutsche Bank Securities**

**RBC Capital Markets**

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**Stifel**

**BMO Capital Markets**

**Janney Montgomery Scott**

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**ABN AMRO**

**LCT Capital, LLC**

**RBS**