LEGACY RESERVES LP Form 10-K/A December 11, 2008

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

## Form 10-K/A Amendment No. 2

 ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007

OR

o TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 For the transition period from to

Commission file number 1-33249

Legacy Reserves LP (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware** (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

303 W. Wall Street, Suite 1400 Midland, Texas (Address of principal executive offices)

> Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (432) 689-5200

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: Units representing limited partner interests listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market LLC.

Securities registered pursuant to 12(g) of the Act:

**16-1751069** (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**79701** (*Zip Code*)

None.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The aggregate market value of units held by non-affiliates was approximately \$459,526,531 based on the average bid and ask price of the units as of June 29, 2007.

29,671,470 units representing limited partner interests in the registrant were outstanding as of March 14, 2008.

## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Parts of the definitive proxy statement for the registrant s 2008 annual meeting of unitholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this annual report on Form 10-K.

## **Explanatory Note**

Legacy Reserves LP filed an Annual Report on Form 10-K with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 14, 2008 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007 (the <u>Original Filing</u>) and an amendment to its Form 10-K on March 27, 2008. This Amendment No. 2 amends the Original Filing and the Form 10-K/A filed on March 27, 2008, and is being filed solely for the purpose of correcting a typographical error contained in Exhibit 32.1 of the Original Filing. The remainder of the Form 10-K is unchanged and is reproduced in this Amendment No. 2. This Amendment No. 2 speaks as of the file date of the Original Filing and does not reflect events occurring after the filing date of the Original Filing, or modify or update the disclosures therein in any way other than as required to reflect the amendment described above.

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## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

Bbl. One stock tank barrel or 42 U.S. gallons liquid volume.

Bcf. Billion cubic feet.

*Boe.* One barrel of oil equivalent, determined using a ratio of six Mcf of natural gas to one Bbl of crude oil, condensate or natural gas liquids.

*Boe/d.* Barrels of oil equivalent per day.

*Btu.* British thermal unit, which is the heat required to raise the temperature of a one-pound mass of water from 58.5 to 59.5 degrees Fahrenheit.

*Developed acreage.* The number of acres that are allocated or assignable to productive wells or wells capable of production.

*Development Project.* A drilling or other project which may target proven reserves, but which generally has a lower risk than that associated with exploration projects.

*Development well.* A well drilled within the proved area of an oil or natural gas reservoir to the depth of a stratigraphic horizon known to be productive.

*Dry hole or well.* A well found to be incapable of producing hydrocarbons in sufficient quantities such that proceeds from the sale of such production would exceed production expenses and taxes.

*Field.* An area consisting of a single reservoir or multiple reservoirs all grouped on or related to the same individual geological structural feature and/or stratigraphic condition.

Gross acres or gross wells. The total acres or wells, as the case may be, in which a working interest is owned.

MBbls. One thousand barrels of crude oil or other liquid hydrocarbons.

*MBoe.* One thousand barrels of crude oil equivalent, using a ratio of six Mcf of natural gas to one Bbl of crude oil, condensate or natural gas liquids.

Mcf. One thousand cubic feet.

MMBbls. One million barrels of crude oil or other liquid hydrocarbons.

*MMBoe*. One million barrels of crude oil equivalent, using a ratio of six Mcf of natural gas to one Bbl of crude oil, condensate or natural gas liquids.

MMBtu. One million British thermal units.

MMcf. One million cubic feet.

*Net acres or net wells.* The sum of the fractional working interests owned in gross acres or gross wells, as the case may be.

*NGLs.* The combination of ethane, propane, butane and natural gasolines that when removed from natural gas become liquid under various levels of higher pressure and lower temperature.

NYMEX. New York Mercantile Exchange.

Oil. Crude oil, condensate and natural gas liquids.

*Productive well.* A well that is found to be capable of producing hydrocarbons in sufficient quantities such that proceeds from the sale of such production exceed production expenses and taxes.

*Proved developed reserves.* Reserves that can be expected to be recovered through existing wells with existing equipment and operating methods. Additional oil and natural gas expected to be obtained through the application of fluid injection or other improved recovery techniques for supplementing the natural forces and mechanisms of primary recovery are included in proved developed reserves only after testing by a pilot project or

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after the operation of an installed program has confirmed through production response that increased recovery will be achieved.

*Proved developed non-producing or PDNP s.* Proved oil and natural gas reserves that are developed behind pipe, shut-in or can be recovered through improved recovery only after the necessary equipment has been installed, or when the costs to do so are relatively minor. Shut-in reserves are expected to be recovered from (1) completion intervals which are open at the time of the estimate but which have not started producing, (2) wells that were shut-in for market conditions or pipeline connections, or (3) wells not capable of production for mechanical reasons. Behind-pipe reserves are expected to be recovered from zones in existing wells that will require additional completion work or future recompletion prior to the start of production.

*Proved reserves.* Proved oil and natural gas reserves are the estimated quantities of natural gas, crude oil and natural gas liquids that geological and engineering data demonstrates with reasonable certainty to be recoverable in future years from known reservoirs under existing economic and operating conditions, i.e., prices and costs as of the date the estimate is made. Prices include consideration of changes in existing prices provided only by contractual arrangements, but not on escalations based on future conditions.

*Proved undeveloped drilling location.* A site on which a development well can be drilled consistent with spacing rules for purposes of recovering proved undeveloped reserves.

*Proved undeveloped reserves or PUDs.* Proved oil and natural gas reserves that are expected to be recovered from new wells on un-drilled acreage or from existing wells where a relatively major expenditure is required for re-completion. Reserves on un-drilled acreage are limited to those drilling units offsetting productive units that are reasonably certain of production when drilled. Proved reserves for other un-drilled units are claimed only where it can be demonstrated with certainty that there is continuity of production from the existing productive formation. Estimates for proved undeveloped reserves are not attributed to any acreage for which an application of fluid injection or other improved recovery technique is contemplated, unless such techniques have been proved effective by actual tests in the area and in the same reservoir.

*Recompletion.* The completion for production of an existing wellbore in another formation from that which the well has been previously completed.

*Reserve acquisition cost.* The total consideration paid for an oil and natural gas property or set of properties, which includes the cash purchase price and any value ascribed to units issued to a seller adjusted for any post-closing items.

R/P ratio (reserve life). The reserves as of the end of a period divided by the production volumes for the same period.

*Reserve replacement.* The replacement of oil and natural gas produced with reserve additions from acquisitions, reserve additions and reserve revisions.

*Reserve replacement cost.* An amount per BOE equal to the sum of costs incurred relating to oil and natural gas property acquisition, exploitation, development and exploration activities (as reflected in our year-end financial statements for the relevant year) divided by the sum of all additions and revisions to estimated proved reserves, including reserve purchases. The calculation of reserve additions for each year is based upon the reserve report of our independent engineers. Management uses reserve replacement cost to compare our company to others in terms of our historical ability to increase our reserve base in an economic manner. However, past performance does not necessarily reflect future reserve replacement cost performance. For example, increases in oil and natural gas prices in recent years have increased the economic life of reserves adding additional reserves with no required capital expenditures. On the other hand, increases in oil and natural gas prices have increased the cost of reserve purchases and reserves

added through development projects. The reserve replacement cost may not be indicative of the economic value added of the reserves due to differing lease operating expenses per barrel and differing timing of production.

*Reservoir.* A porous and permeable underground formation containing a natural accumulation of producible oil and/or natural gas that is confined by impermeable rock or water barriers and is individual and separate from other reserves.

*Standardized measure*. The present value of estimated future net revenues to be generated from the production of proved reserves, determined in accordance with assumptions required by the Financial Accounting Standards Board and the Securities and Exchange Commission (using prices and costs in effect as of the period end date) without giving effect to non-property related expenses such as general and administrative expenses, debt service and future income tax expenses or to depreciation, depletion and amortization and discounted using an annual discount rate of 10%. Because we are a limited partnership that allocates our taxable income to our unitholders, no provisions for federal or state income taxes have been provided for in the calculation of standardized measure. Standardized measure does not give effect to derivative transactions.

*Undeveloped acreage*. Lease acreage on which wells have not been drilled or completed to a point that would permit the production of commercial quantities of oil and natural gas regardless of whether such acreage contains proved reserves.

*Working interest.* The operating interest that gives the owner the right to drill, produce and conduct operating activities on the property and a share of production.

Workover. Operations on a producing well to restore or increase production.

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## CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This document contains forward-looking statements that are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, which may include statements about:

our business strategy;

the amount of oil and natural gas we produce;

the price at which we are able to sell our oil and natural gas production;

our ability to acquire additional oil and natural gas properties at economically attractive prices;

our drilling location and our ability to continue our development activities at economically attractive costs;

the level of our lease operating expenses, general and administrative costs and finding and development costs, including payments to our general partner;

the level of our capital expenditures;

our future operating results; and

our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions.

All of these types of statements, other than statements of historical fact included in this document, are forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as may, could, should, project, anticipate, believe. estimate. predict, potential, expect, plan, intend, pursue, target, C such terms or other comparable terminology.

The forward-looking statements contained in this document are largely based on our expectations, which reflect estimates and assumptions made by our management. These estimates and assumptions reflect our best judgment based on currently known market conditions and other factors. Although we believe such estimates and assumptions to be reasonable, they are inherently uncertain and involve a number of risks and uncertainties that are beyond our control. In addition, management s assumptions about future events may prove to be inaccurate. All readers are cautioned that the forward-looking statements contained in this document are not guarantees of future performance, and our expectations may not be realized or the forward-looking events and circumstances may not occur. Actual results may differ materially from those anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements due to factors described in Item 1A. under Risk Factors. The forward-looking statements in this document speak only as of the date of this document; we disclaim any obligation to update these statements unless required by securities law, and we caution you not to rely on them unduly.

## PART I

## **ITEM 1.** BUSINESS

References in this annual report on Form 10-K to Legacy Reserves, Legacy, we, our, us, or like terms prior to March 15, 2006 refer to the Moriah Group, Legacy Reserves LP s predecessor, including the oil and natural gas properties we acquired in exchange for units and cash from the Moriah Group, the Brothers Group, H2K Holdings, MBN Properties (our Founding Investors) and certain charitable foundations in connection with our private equity offering on March 15, 2006. When used for periods from March 15, 2006 forward, those terms refer to Legacy Reserves LP and its subsidiaries.

## Legacy Reserves LP

We are an independent oil and natural gas limited partnership headquartered in Midland, Texas, and are focused on the acquisition and development of oil and natural gas properties primarily located in the Permian Basin and Mid-continent regions of the United States. We were formed in October 2005 to own and operate the oil and natural gas properties that we acquired from our Founding Investors and three charitable foundations in connection with the closing of our private equity offering on March 15, 2006. On January 18, 2007, we completed our initial public offering.

Our primary business objective is to generate stable cash flows allowing us to make cash distributions to our unitholders and to increase quarterly cash distributions per unit over time through a combination of acquisitions of new properties and development of our existing oil and natural gas properties.

We have grown primarily through two activities: the acquisition of producing oil and natural gas properties and the development of producing properties as opposed to higher risk exploration of unproved properties.

Our oil and natural gas production and reserve data as of December 31, 2007 are as follows:

we had proved reserves of approximately 32.1 MMBoe, of which 74% were oil and natural gas liquids and 87% were classified as proved developed producing, 3% were proved developed non-producing, and 10% were proved undeveloped;

our proved reserves had a standardized measure of \$690.5 million; and

our proved reserves to production ratio was approximately 14 years based on the average daily net production of 6,453 Boe/d for the three months ended December 31, 2007.

### **Recent Developments**

On November 8, 2007 we closed a private placement of 3,642,369 Units for \$20.50 per unit for net proceeds of approximately \$73.0 million. We used the net proceeds of the private placement primarily to reduce debt outstanding under or revolving credit facility.

## **Acquisition Activities**

During the year ended December 31, 2007, we invested approximately \$200.4 million, including non-cash asset retirement obligations, in 15 acquisitions of proved oil and natural gas properties. Based on reserve data prepared internally at the time of these acquisitions, we added a total of approximately 14.25 MMBoe of proved reserves at an average reserve acquisition cost of \$13.59 per Boe, which excludes associated non-cash asset retirement obligations. The recent acquisitions discussed below are also included in the reserve acquisition cost calculation, along with immaterial acquisitions closed during 2007.

On April 16, 2007, Legacy purchased certain oil and natural gas properties and other interests in the East Binger (Marchand) Unit in Caddo County, Oklahoma from Nielson & Associates, Inc. for a net purchase price of \$44.2 million (Binger Acquisition). The purchase price was paid with the issuance of 611,247 units valued at \$15.8 million and \$28.4 million paid in cash. The effective date of this purchase was February 1, 2007. The \$44.2 million purchase price was allocated with \$14.7 million recorded as lease and well equipment, \$29.4 million

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of leasehold costs and \$0.1 million as investment in equity method investee related to the 50% interest acquired in Binger Operations, LLC. Asset retirement obligations of \$184,636 were recorded in connection with this acquisition. The operations of these Binger Acquisition properties have been included from their acquisition on April 16, 2007.

On May 1, 2007, Legacy purchased certain oil and natural gas properties located in the Permian Basin from Ameristate Exploration, LLC for a net purchase price of \$5.2 million ( Ameristate Acquisition ). The effective date of this purchase was January 1, 2007. The \$5.2 million purchase price was allocated with \$0.5 million recorded as lease and well equipment and \$4.7 million of leasehold costs. Asset retirement obligations of \$51,414 were recorded in connection with this acquisition. The operations of these Ameristate Acquisition properties have been included from their acquisition on May 1, 2007.

On May 25, 2007, Legacy purchased certain oil and natural gas properties located in the Permian Basin from Terry S. Fields for a net purchase price of \$14.7 million (TSF Acquisition). The effective date of this purchase was March 1, 2007. The \$14.7 million purchase price was allocated with \$1.8 million recorded as lease and well equipment and \$12.9 million of leasehold costs. Asset retirement obligations of \$99,094 were recorded in connection with this acquisition. The operations of these TSF Acquisition properties have been included from their acquisition on May 25, 2007.

On May 31, 2007, Legacy purchased certain oil and natural gas properties located in the Permian Basin from Raven Resources, LLC and Shenandoah Petroleum Corporation for a net purchase price of \$13.0 million (Raven Shenandoah Acquisition). The effective date of this purchase was May 1, 2007. The \$13.0 million purchase price was allocated with \$6.0 million recorded as lease and well equipment and \$7.0 million of leasehold costs. Asset retirement obligations of \$378,835 were recorded in connection with this acquisition. The operations of these Raven Shenandoah Acquisition properties have been included from their acquisition on May 31, 2007.

On August 3, 2007, Legacy purchased certain oil and natural gas properties located primarily in the Permian Basin from Raven Resources, LLC and private parties for a net purchase price of \$20.0 million (Raven OBO Acquisition). The effective date of this purchase was July 1, 2007. The \$20.0 million purchase price was allocated with \$1.6 million recorded as lease and well equipment and \$18.4 million of leasehold costs. Asset retirement obligations of \$224,329 were recorded in connection with this acquisition. The operations of these Raven OBO Acquisition properties have been included from their acquisition on August 3, 2007.

On October 1, 2007, Legacy purchased certain oil and natural gas properties located in the Texas Panhandle from The Operating Company, et al, for a net purchase price of \$60.5 million (TOC Acquisition). The effective date of this purchase was September 1, 2007. The \$60.5 million purchase price was allocated with \$23.7 million recorded as lease and well equipment and \$36.8 million of leasehold costs. Asset retirement obligations of \$1.6 million were recorded in connection with this acquisition. The operations of these TOC Acquisition properties have been included from their acquisition on October 1, 2007.

Also on October 1, 2007, Legacy purchased certain oil and natural gas properties located in the Permian Basin from Summit Petroleum Management Corporation for a net purchase price of \$13.4 million (Summit Acquisition). The effective date of this purchase was September 1, 2007. The \$13.4 million purchase price was allocated with \$2.1 million recorded as lease and well equipment and \$11.3 million of leasehold cost. Asset retirement obligations of \$128,705 were recorded in connection with this acquisition. The operations of these Summit Acquisition properties have been included from their acquisition on October 1, 2007.

During November and December, 2007, Legacy purchased certain oil and natural gas properties from multiple parties in the Permian Basin and Texas Panhandle for an aggregate \$17.8 million. The acquisitions have various effective dates. The \$17.8 million purchase price was allocated with \$4.5 million recorded as lease and well equipment and

\$13.3 million of leasehold cost. The operations of these acquired properties have been included from their acquisition dates over November and December, 2007.

## **Development Activities**

We have also added reserves and production through development projects on our existing and acquired properties. Our development projects include accessing additional productive formations in existing well-bores, formation stimulation, artificial lift equipment enhancement, infill drilling on closer well spacing, secondary (waterflood) and tertiary (miscible  $CO_2$  and nitrogen) recovery projects, drilling for deeper formations and completing unconventional and tight formations.

As of December 31, 2007, we identified 109 gross (72.8 net) proved undeveloped drilling locations and 43 gross (16 net) re-completion and re-fracture stimulation projects, over 93% of which we intend to drill and execute over the next four years. Excluding acquisitions, we expect to make capital expenditures of approximately \$18.2 million during the year ending December 31, 2008, including drilling 24 gross (17.3 net) development wells and executing 12 gross (5.8 net) re-completions and re-fracture stimulations. We believe that drilling rigs will be available to execute our 2008 development program.

## **Oil and Natural Gas Derivative Activities**

Our strategy includes entering into oil and natural gas derivative contracts which are designed to mitigate price risk for a majority of our oil, NGL and natural gas production over a three to five-year period. We have entered into these derivative contracts for approximately 73% of our expected oil and natural gas production from total proved reserves for the year ending December 31, 2008. We have also entered into these derivative contracts for approximately 54% of our expected oil and natural gas production from total proved reserves for 2009 through 2012. All of our derivative contracts are in the form of fixed price swaps for NYMEX WTI oil, Mont Belvieu OPIS natural gas liquids components, NYMEX Henry Hub natural gas, West Texas Waha natural gas and ANR-Oklahoma natural gas. In July 2006, we entered into basis swaps to receive floating NYMEX Henry Hub natural gas prices less a fixed basis differential and pay prices based on the floating Waha index, a natural gas hub in West Texas. The prices that we receive for our Permian Basin natural gas sales follow Waha more closely than NYMEX Henry Hub. The basis swaps, thereby, provide a better match between our natural gas sales and the settlement payments on our natural gas swaps. We have entered into basis swaps covering approximately 100% of our NYMEX Henry Hub natural gas basis differential risk on our NYMEX Henry Hub natural gas swaps.

### **Business Strategy**

The key elements of our business strategy are to:

Make accretive acquisitions of producing properties generally characterized by long-lived reserves with stable production and reserve development potential;

Add proved reserves and maximize cash flow and production through development projects and operational efficiencies;

Maintain financial flexibility; and

Reduce commodity price risk through derivative transactions.

## **Marketing and Major Purchasers**

For the years ended December 31, 2005, 2006 and 2007, Legacy sold oil and natural gas production representing 10% or more of total revenues to purchasers as detailed in the table below:

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		2005	2006	2007
Conoco Phillips		10%	4%	3%
Navajo Crude Oil Marketing		16%	12%	11%
Plains Marketing, LP		18%	14%	13%
Teppco Crude Oil, LP		5%	5%	13%
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Our oil sales prices are based on formula pricing and calculated either using a discount to NYMEX WTI oil or using the appropriate buyer s posted price, plus Platt s P-Plus monthly average, plus the Midland-Cushing differential less a transportation fee.

If we were to lose any one of our oil or natural gas purchasers, the loss could temporarily cause a loss or deferral of production and sale of our oil and natural gas in that particular purchaser s service area. If we were to lose a purchaser, we believe we could identify a substitute purchaser. However, if one or more of our larger purchasers ceased purchasing oil or natural gas altogether, the loss of such purchasers could have a detrimental effect on our production volumes in general and on our ability to find substitute purchasers for our production volumes in a timely manner.

## Competition

We operate in a highly competitive environment for acquiring properties, marketing oil and natural gas and securing trained personnel. Many of our competitors possess and employ financial, technical and personnel resources substantially greater than ours. As a result, our competitors may be able to pay more for productive oil and natural gas properties and exploratory prospects and to evaluate, bid for and purchase a greater number of properties and prospects than our financial or personnel resources permit. Our ability to acquire additional prospects and to find and develop reserves in the future will depend on our ability to evaluate and select suitable properties and to consummate transactions in a highly competitive environment. Also, there is substantial competition for capital available for investment in the oil and natural gas industry.

We are also affected by competition for drilling rigs, completion rigs and the availability of related equipment. In the past, the oil and natural gas industry has experienced shortages of drilling and completion rigs, equipment, pipe and personnel, which has delayed development drilling and other development projects and has caused significant increases in the prices for this equipment and personnel. We are unable to predict when, or if, such shortages may occur or how they would affect our development program.

## **Seasonal Nature of Business**

Generally, but not always, the demand for natural gas decreases during the summer months and increases during the winter months thereby affecting the price we receive for natural gas. Seasonal anomalies such as mild winters or hotter than normal summers sometimes lessen this fluctuation.

## **Environmental Matters and Regulation**

*General.* Our operations are subject to stringent and complex federal, state and local laws and regulations governing environmental protection as well as the discharge of materials into the environment. These laws and regulations may, among other things:

require the acquisition of various permits before drilling commences;

restrict the types, quantities and concentration of various substances that can be released into the environment in connection with oil and natural gas drilling and production activities;

limit or prohibit drilling activities on certain lands lying within wilderness, wetlands and other protected areas; and

require remedial measures to mitigate pollution from former and ongoing operations, such as requirements to close pits and plug abandoned wells.

These laws, rules and regulations may also restrict the rate of oil and natural gas production below the rate that would otherwise be possible. The regulatory burden on the oil and natural gas industry increases the cost of doing business in the industry and consequently affects profitability. Additionally, Congress and federal and state agencies frequently revise environmental laws and regulations, and any changes that result in more stringent and costly waste handling, disposal and cleanup requirements for the oil and natural gas industry could have a significant impact on our operating costs.

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The following is a summary of some of the existing laws, rules and regulations to which our operations are subject.

*Waste Handling*. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, or RCRA, and comparable state statutes, regulate the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, disposal and cleanup of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. Under the auspices of the federal Environmental Protection Agency, or EPA, the individual states administer some or all of the provisions of RCRA, sometimes in conjunction with their own, more stringent requirements. Drilling fluids, produced waters, and most of the other wastes associated with the exploration, development, and production of crude oil or natural gas are currently regulated under RCRA s non-hazardous waste provisions. However, it is possible that certain oil and natural gas exploration and production wastes now classified as non-hazardous could be classified as hazardous wastes in the future. Any such change could result in an increase in our costs to manage and dispose of wastes, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial position.

*Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.* The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, or CERCLA, also known as the Superfund law, imposes joint and several liability, without regard to fault or legality of conduct, on classes of persons who are considered to be responsible for the release of a hazardous substance into the environment. These persons include the owner or operator of the site where the release occurred, and anyone who disposed or arranged for the disposal of a hazardous substance released at the site. Under CERCLA, such persons may be subject to joint and several liability for the costs of cleaning up the hazardous substances that have been released into the environment, for damages to natural resources and for the costs of certain health studies. In addition, it is not uncommon for neighboring landowners and other third-parties to file claims for personal injury and property damage allegedly caused by the hazardous substances released into the environment.

We currently own, lease, or operate numerous properties that have been used for oil and natural gas development and production for many years. Although we believe that we have utilized operating and waste disposal practices that were standard in the industry at the time, hazardous substances, wastes, or hydrocarbons may have been released on or under the properties owned or leased by us, or on or under other locations, including off-site locations, where such substances have been taken for disposal. In addition, some of our properties have been operated by third parties or by previous owners or operators whose treatment and disposal of hazardous substances, wastes, or hydrocarbons was not under our control. These properties and the substances disposed or released on them may be subject to CERCLA, RCRA, and analogous state laws. Under such laws, we could be required to remove previously disposed substances and wastes, remediate contaminated property, or perform remedial plugging or pit closure operations to prevent future contamination.

*Water Discharges.* The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, or the Clean Water Act, and analogous state laws, impose restrictions and strict controls with respect to the discharge of pollutants, including spills and leaks of oil and other substances, into waters of the United States. The discharge of pollutants into regulated waters is prohibited, except in accordance with the terms of a permit issued by EPA or an analogous state agency. Federal and state regulatory agencies can impose administrative, civil and criminal penalties for non-compliance with discharge permits or other requirements of the Clean Water Act and analogous state laws and regulations.

*Air Emissions*. The Federal Clean Air Act, and comparable state laws, regulate emissions of various air pollutants through air emissions permitting programs and the imposition of other requirements. In addition, EPA has developed, and continues to develop, stringent regulations governing emissions of toxic air pollutants at specified sources. Federal and state regulatory agencies can impose administrative, civil and criminal penalties for non-compliance with air permits or other requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act and associated state laws and regulations.

*National Environmental Policy Act.* Oil and natural gas exploration and production activities on federal lands are subject to the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA. NEPA requires federal agencies, including the

Department of Interior, to evaluate major agency actions having the potential to significantly impact the environment. In the course of such evaluations, an agency will prepare an Environmental Assessment that assesses the potential direct, indirect and cumulative impacts of a proposed project and, if necessary, will prepare a more detailed Environmental Impact Statement that may be made available for public review and comment. All of our current exploration and production activities, as well as proposed exploration and development plans, on federal lands require governmental permits that are subject to the requirements of NEPA. This process has the potential to delay the development of oil and natural gas projects.

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*OSHA and Other Laws and Regulation.* We are subject to the requirements of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) and comparable state statutes. The OSHA hazard communication standard, the EPA community right-to-know regulations under Title III of CERCLA and similar state statutes require that we organize and/or disclose information about hazardous materials used or produced in our operations. We believe that we are in compliance with these applicable requirements and with other OSHA and comparable requirements.

Recent studies have suggested that emissions of certain gases may be contributing to warming of the Earth s atmosphere. In response to these studies, many nations have agreed to limit emissions of greenhouse gases pursuant to the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change, also known as the Kyoto Protocol. Methane, a primary component of natural gas, and carbon dioxide, a byproduct of the burning of oil and natural gas, and refined petroleum products, are greenhouse gases regulated by the Kyoto Protocol. Although the United States is not participating in the Kyoto Protocol, several states have adopted legislation and regulations to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. For example, California adopted the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, which required the California Air Resources Board to achieve a 25% reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases from sources in California by 2020. Restrictions on emissions of methane or carbon dioxide that may be imposed in various states of the United States could adversely affect our operations and demand for our products. Additionally, the U.S. Supreme Court only recently held in a case, Massachusetts, et al. v. EPA, that greenhouse gases fall within the federal Clean Air Act s definition of air pollutant, which could result in the regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from stationary sources under certain Clean Air Act programs. New legislation or regulatory programs that restrict emissions of greenhouse gases in areas in which we conduct business could have an adverse affect on our operations and demand for our services. Currently, our operations are not adversely impacted by existing state and local climate change initiatives and, at this time, it is not possible to accurately estimate how potential future laws or regulations addressing greenhouse gas emissions would impact our business.

We believe that we are in substantial compliance with all existing environmental laws and regulations applicable to our current operations and that our continued compliance with existing requirements will not have a material adverse impact on our financial condition and results of operations. For instance, we did not incur any material capital expenditures for remediation or pollution control activities for the year ended December 31, 2007. Additionally, as of the date of this document, we are not aware of any environmental issues or claims that require material capital expenditures during 2008. However, we cannot assure you that the passage of more stringent laws or regulations in the future will not have a negative impact on our financial position or results of operation.

## Other Regulation of the Oil and Natural Gas Industry

The oil and natural gas industry is extensively regulated by numerous federal, state and local authorities. Legislation affecting the oil and natural gas industry is under constant review for amendment or expansion, frequently increasing the regulatory burden. Also, numerous departments and agencies, both federal and state, are authorized by statute to issue rules and regulations binding on the oil and gas industry and its individual members, some of which carry substantial penalties for failure to comply. Although the regulatory burden on the oil and natural gas industry increases our cost of doing business and, consequently, affects our profitability, these burdens generally do not affect us any differently or to any greater or lesser extent than they affect other companies in the oil and natural gas industry with similar types, quantities and locations of production.

Legislation continues to be introduced in Congress and development of regulations continues in the Department of Homeland Security and other agencies concerning the security of industrial facilities, including oil and natural gas facilities. Our operations may be subject to such laws and regulations. Presently, it is not possible to accurately estimate the costs we could incur to comply with any such facility security laws or regulations, but such expenditures could be substantial.

*Drilling and Production.* Our operations are subject to various types of regulation at federal, state and local levels. These types of regulation include requiring permits for the drilling of wells, drilling bonds and reports concerning operations. Most states, and some counties and municipalities, in which we operate also regulate one or more of the following:

the location of wells;

the method of drilling and casing wells;

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the surface use and restoration of properties upon which wells are drilled;

the plugging and abandoning of wells; and

notice to surface owners and other third parties.

State laws regulate the size and shape of drilling and spacing units or pro-ration units governing the pooling of oil and natural gas properties. Some states allow forced pooling or integration of tracts to facilitate exploration while other states rely on voluntary pooling of lands and leases. In some instances, forced pooling or unitization may be implemented by third parties and may reduce our interest in the unitized properties. In addition, state conservation laws establish maximum rates of production from oil and natural gas wells, generally prohibit the venting or flaring of natural gas and impose requirements regarding the ratability of production. These laws and regulations may limit the amount of oil and natural gas we can produce from our wells or limit the number of wells or the locations at which we can drill. Moreover, each state generally imposes a production or severance tax with respect to the production and sale of oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids within its jurisdiction.

*Natural gas regulation.* The availability, terms and cost of transportation significantly affect sales of natural gas. The interstate transportation and sale for resale of natural gas is subject to federal regulation, including regulation of the terms, conditions and rates for interstate transportation, storage and various other matters, primarily by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Federal and state regulations govern the price and terms for access to natural gas pipeline transportation. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission s regulations for interstate natural gas transmission in some circumstances may also affect the intrastate transportation of natural gas.

Although natural gas prices are currently unregulated, Congress historically has been active in the area of natural gas regulation. We cannot predict whether new legislation to regulate natural gas might be proposed, what proposals, if any, might actually be enacted by Congress or the various state legislatures, and what effect, if any, the proposals might have on the operations of the underlying properties. Sales of condensate and natural gas liquids are not currently regulated and are made at market prices.

*State regulation.* The various states regulate the drilling for, and the production, gathering and sale of, oil and natural gas, including imposing severance taxes and requirements for obtaining drilling permits. For example, Texas currently imposes a 4.6% severance tax on oil production and a 7.5% severance tax on natural gas production. States also regulate the method of developing new fields, the spacing and operation of wells and the prevention of waste of natural gas resources. States may regulate rates of production and may establish maximum daily production allowables from natural gas wells based on market demand or resource conservation, or both. States do not regulate wellhead prices or engage in other similar direct economic regulation, but there can be no assurance that they will not do so in the future. The effect of these regulations may be to limit the amounts of natural gas that may be produced from our wells, and to limit the number of wells or locations we can drill.

The petroleum industry is also subject to compliance with various other federal, state and local regulations and laws. Some of those laws relate to resource conservation and equal employment opportunity. We do not believe that compliance with these laws will have a material adverse effect on us.

## Employees

As of December 31, 2007, we had 58 full-time employees, including nine petroleum engineers, six accountants and two landmen, none of whom are subject to collective bargaining agreements. We also contract for the services of independent consultants involved in land, engineering, regulatory, accounting, financial and other disciplines as

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needed. We believe that we have a favorable relationship with our employees.

## Offices

We currently lease approximately 32,153 square feet of office space in Midland, Texas at 303 W. Wall Street, Suite 1400, where our principal offices are located. The lease for our Midland office expires in August 2011.

## ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

## **Risks Related to our Business**

# We may not have sufficient available cash to pay the full amount of our current quarterly distribution or any distribution at all following establishment of cash reserves and payment of fees and expenses, including payments to our general partner.

We may not have sufficient available cash each quarter to pay the full amount of our current quarterly distribution or any distribution at all. The amount of cash we distribute in any quarter to our unitholders may fluctuate significantly from quarter to quarter and may be significantly less than our current quarterly distribution. Under the terms of our partnership agreement, the amount of cash otherwise available for distribution will be reduced by our operating expenses and the amount of any cash reserves that our general partner establishes to provide for future operations, future capital expenditures, future debt service requirements and future cash distributions to our unitholders. Further, our debt agreements contain restrictions on our ability to pay distributions. The amount of cash we can distribute on our units principally depends upon the amount of cash we generate from our operations, which will fluctuate from quarter to quarter based on, among other things:

the amount of oil and natural gas we produce;

the price at which we are able to sell our oil and natural gas production;

whether we are able to acquire additional oil and natural gas properties at economically attractive prices;

whether we are able to continue our development projects at economically attractive costs;

the level of our lease operating expenses, general and administrative costs and development costs, including payments to our general partner;

the level of our interest expense, which depends on the amount of our indebtedness and the interest payable thereon; and

the level of our capital expenditures.

## If we are not able to acquire additional oil and natural gas reserves on economically acceptable terms, our reserves and production will decline, which would adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

We will be unable to sustain distributions at the current level without making accretive acquisitions or substantial capital expenditures that maintain or grow our asset base. Oil and natural gas reserves are characterized by declining production rates, and our future oil and natural gas reserves and production and, therefore, our cash flow and our ability to make distributions are highly dependent on our success in economically finding or acquiring additional recoverable reserves and efficiently developing and exploiting our current reserves. Further, the rate of estimated decline of our oil and natural gas reserves may increase if our wells do not produce as expected. We may not be able to find, acquire or develop additional reserves to replace our current and future production at acceptable costs, which would adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and our ability to make cash distributions to our unitholders.

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## Because we distribute all of our available cash to our unitholders, our future growth may be limited.

Since we will distribute all of our available cash as defined in our partnership agreement to our unitholders, our growth may not be as fast as businesses that reinvest their available cash to expand ongoing operations. We will depend on financing provided by commercial banks and other lenders and the issuance of debt and equity securities to finance any significant growth or acquisitions. If we are unable to obtain adequate financing from these sources, our ability to grow will be limited.

## If commodity prices decline significantly for a prolonged period, we may be forced to reduce our distribution or not be able to pay distributions at all.

A significant decline in oil and natural gas prices over a prolonged period would have a significant impact on the value of our reserves and on our cash flow, which would force us to reduce or suspend our distribution. Prices for oil and natural gas may fluctuate widely in response to relatively minor changes in the supply of and demand for oil and natural gas, market uncertainty and a variety of additional factors that are beyond our control, such as: