

SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY CO

Form 10-Q

April 28, 2011

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

**Form 10-Q**

(Mark One)

☒ Quarterly Report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities

Exchange Act of 1934

For the quarterly period ended **March 31, 2011**

Or

☐ 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: **1-08246**

**Southwestern Energy Company**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or  
organization)

**71-0205415**

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**2350 North Sam Houston Parkway East, Suite  
125, Houston, Texas**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**77032**

(Zip Code)

**(281) 618-4700**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes ☒ No ☐

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

Indicate by check mark 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.

Large accelerated filer ☒ Accelerated filer ☐ Non-accelerated filer ☐ Smaller reporting company ☐

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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date:

Class	Outstanding as of April 27, 2011
Common Stock, Par Value \$0.01	347,900,721

---

**SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY COMPANY**

**INDEX TO FORM 10-Q**

**FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

**PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Item 1.**

Financial Statements

3

Item 2.

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

25

Item 3.

Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

33

Item 4.

Controls and Procedures

35

**PART II OTHER INFORMATION**

Item 1.

Legal Proceedings

35

Item 1A.

Risk Factors

36

Item 2.

Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

36

Item 3.

Defaults Upon Senior Securities

36

Item 5.

Other Information

36

Item 6.

Exhibits

37

**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT ABOUT FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

All statements, other than historical fact or present financial information, may be deemed to be forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. All statements that address activities, outcomes and other matters that should or may occur in the future, including, without limitation, statements regarding the financial position, business strategy, production and reserve growth and other plans and objectives for our future operations, are forward-looking statements. Although we believe the expectations expressed in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, such statements are not guarantees of future performance. We have no obligation and make no undertaking to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, except as may be required by law.

Forward-looking statements include the items identified in the preceding paragraph, information concerning possible or assumed future results of operations and other statements in this Form 10-Q identified by words such as anticipate, project, intend, estimate, expect, believe, predict, budget, projection, goal, plan, forecast, targ

You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. They are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may affect our operations, markets, products, services and prices and cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. In addition to any assumptions and other factors referred to specifically in connection with forward-looking statements, risks, uncertainties and factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated in any forward-looking statement include, but are not limited to:

- 

the timing and extent of changes in market conditions and prices for natural gas and oil (including regional basis differentials);

- 

our ability to fund our planned capital investments;

- 

our ability to transport our production to the most favorable markets or at all;

- 

the timing and extent of our success in discovering, developing, producing and estimating reserves;

- 

the economic viability of, and our success in drilling, our large acreage position in the Fayetteville Shale play overall as well as relative to other productive shale gas plays;

- 

the impact of government regulation, including any increase in severance or similar taxes, legislation relating to hydraulic fracturing, the climate and over the counter derivatives;

- 

the costs and availability of oilfield personnel, services and drilling supplies, raw materials, and equipment, including pressure pumping equipment and crews;

1

---

- 

our ability to determine the most effective and economic fracture stimulation for the Fayetteville Shale formation;

- 

our future property acquisition or divestiture activities;

- 

the impact of the adverse outcome of any material litigation against us;

- 

the effects of weather;

- 

increased competition and regulation;

- 

the financial impact of accounting regulations and critical accounting policies;

- the comparative cost of alternative fuels;
- conditions in capital markets, changes in interest rates and the ability of our lenders to provide us with funds as agreed;
- credit risk relating to the risk of loss as a result of non-performance by our counterparties; and
- any other factors listed in the reports we have filed and may file with the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ).

We caution you that the forward-looking statements contained in this Form 10-Q are subject to all of the risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, incident to the exploration for and development, production and sale of natural gas and oil. These risks include, but are not limited to, commodity price volatility, third-party interruption of sales to market, inflation, the risk of failure of exploration programs in areas in which oil or natural gas has not previously been discovered or produced, lack of availability of goods and services, environmental risks, drilling and other operating risks, regulatory changes, the uncertainty inherent in estimating proved natural gas and oil reserves and in projecting future rates of production and timing of development expenditures and the other risks described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 (the 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K ), and all quarterly reports on Form 10-Q filed subsequently thereto, including this Form 10-Q ( Form 10-Qs ).

Should one or more of the risks or uncertainties described above or elsewhere in this Form 10-Q occur, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, our actual results and plans could differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements. We specifically disclaim all responsibility to publicly update any information contained in a forward-looking statement or any forward-looking statement in its entirety and therefore disclaim any resulting liability for potentially related damages.

All forward-looking statements attributable to us are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement.

**PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
(Unaudited)

	For the three months ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
	(in thousands, except share/per share amounts)	
<b>Operating Revenues:</b>		
Gas sales	\$ 467,444	\$ 479,411
Gas marketing	171,098	157,673
Oil sales	2,727	3,462
Gas gathering	34,581	25,373
Other	485	2,198
	676,335	668,117
<b>Operating Costs and Expenses:</b>		
Gas purchases midstream services	170,230	157,668
Operating expenses	56,798	36,566
General and administrative expenses	37,117	32,944
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	163,447	139,017
Taxes, other than income taxes	16,092	13,832
	443,684	380,027
<b>Operating Income</b>	232,651	288,090
<b>Interest Expense:</b>		
Interest on debt	15,044	13,929
Other interest charges	1,511	439
Interest capitalized	(9,119)	(7,860)
	7,436	6,508
<b>Other Income, Net</b>	374	23
<b>Income Before Income Taxes</b>	225,589	281,605
<b>Provision for Income Taxes:</b>		
Current	100	

Edgar Filing: SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY CO - Form 10-Q

Deferred	88,880	109,837
	88,980	109,837
Net income	136,609	171,768
Less: net loss attributable to noncontrolling interest		(29)
<b>Net Income Attributable to Southwestern Energy</b>	<b>\$ 136,609</b>	<b>\$ 171,797</b>

**Earnings Per Share:**

Net income attributable to Southwestern Energy stockholders - Basic	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.50
Net income attributable to Southwestern Energy stockholders - Diluted	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.49

**Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding:**

Basic	346,833,906	345,099,247
Diluted	349,697,327	349,397,997

See the accompanying notes which are an integral part of these  
unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.



Edgar Filing: SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY CO - Form 10-Q

(Unaudited)

March 31,  
2011

December 31,  
2010

**ASSETS**

(in thousands)

**Current Assets:**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	17,387	\$	16,055
Accounts receivable		339,590		351,573
Inventories		33,007		35,098
Hedging asset		128,782		130,412
Other		38,379		47,755
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>557,145</b>		<b>580,893</b>

**Property and Equipment:**

Natural gas and oil properties, using the full cost method, including \$757.6 million in 2011 and \$712.1 million in 2010 excluded from amortization		8,212,475		7,749,863
Gathering systems		863,277		817,465
Other		441,236		413,557
<b>Total property and equipment</b>		<b>9,516,988</b>		<b>8,980,885</b>
Less: Accumulated depreciation, depletion and amortization		3,861,053		3,682,688
		<b>5,655,935</b>		<b>5,298,197</b>

<b>Other Assets</b>		<b>127,668</b>		<b>138,373</b>
---------------------	--	----------------	--	----------------

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	\$	<b>6,340,748</b>	\$	<b>6,017,463</b>
---------------------	----	------------------	----	------------------

**LIABILITIES AND EQUITY**

**Current Liabilities:**

Current portion of long-term debt	\$	1,200	\$	1,200
Accounts payable		487,249		473,890
Taxes payable		36,406		50,051
Interest payable		10,141		19,954
Advances from partners		93,305		81,705
Hedging liability		7,583		7,685
Current deferred income taxes		44,093		44,089
Other		15,214		15,409
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>695,191</b>		<b>693,983</b>

<b>Long-Term Debt</b>		<b>1,202,900</b>		<b>1,093,000</b>
-----------------------	--	------------------	--	------------------

**Other Liabilities:**

Deferred income taxes		1,203,334		1,130,292
-----------------------	--	-----------	--	-----------

Long-term hedging liability	60,651	40,188
Pension and other postretirement liabilities	18,324	15,777
Other long-term liabilities	75,055	79,347
	1,357,364	1,265,604

### Commitments and Contingencies

### Equity:

Common stock, \$0.01 par value; authorized 1,250,000,000 shares; issued 348,033,281 shares in 2011 and 347,733,839 in 2010	3,480	3,477
Additional paid-in capital	870,065	862,423
Retained earnings	2,155,054	2,018,445
Accumulated other comprehensive income	59,442	83,975
Common stock in treasury, 125,077 shares in 2011 and 156,636 in 2010	(2,748)	(3,444)
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>3,085,293</b>	<b>2,964,876</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 6,340,748</b>	<b>\$ 6,017,463</b>

See the accompanying notes which are an integral part of these  
unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

Edgar Filing: SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY CO - Form 10-Q

(Unaudited)

For the three months ended  
March 31,

2011

2010

(in thousands)

**Cash Flows From Operating Activities**

Net income	\$	136,609	\$	171,768
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:				
Depreciation, depletion and amortization		164,667		139,419
Deferred income taxes		88,880		109,837
Unrealized gain on derivatives		(1,080)		(4,487)
Stock-based compensation		2,450		2,297
Other		6		(1,069)
Change in assets and liabilities:				
Accounts receivable		11,983		(6,458)
Inventories		8,625		11,230
Accounts payable		(10,347)		(8,078)
Taxes payable		(13,645)		2,006
Interest payable		(9,813)		(9,928)
Advances from partners		11,600		4,414
Other assets and liabilities		6,544		6,628
Net cash provided by operating activities		396,479		417,579

**Cash Flows From Investing Activities**

Capital investments		(526,139)		(442,122)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment		11,056		
Other		(375)		649
Net cash used in investing activities		(515,458)		(441,473)

**Cash Flows From Financing Activities**

Payments on revolving long-term debt		(782,800)		(621,600)
Borrowings under revolving long-term debt		892,700		641,900
Change in bank drafts outstanding		17,749		4,057
Revolving credit facility costs		(10,103)		
Proceeds from exercise of common stock options		2,743		253
Net cash provided by financing activities		120,289		24,610

Effect of exchange rate changes on cash		22		
Increase in cash and cash equivalents		1,332		716

Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	16,055	13,184
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 17,387	\$ 13,900

See the accompanying notes which are an integral part of these  
unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

**SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
(Unaudited)

	Southwestern Energy Stockholders						Total
	Common Stock Shares Issued	Common Stock Amount	Additional Paid-In Capital	Retained Earnings (in thousands)	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Common Stock in Treasury	
Balance at December 31, 2010	347,734	\$ 3,477	\$ 862,423	\$ 2,018,445	\$ 83,975	\$ (3,444)	\$ 2,964,876
Comprehensive income:							
Net income				136,609			136,609
Change in derivatives					(24,992)		(24,992)
Change in pension and other postretirement liabilities					197		197
Currency translation adjustment					262		262
Total comprehensive income							112,076
Stock-based compensation			4,360				4,360
Exercise of stock options	302	3	2,740				2,743
Issuance of restricted stock	5						
Cancellation of restricted stock	(8)						
Treasury stock non-qualified plan			542			696	1,238

Balance at								
March 31, 2011	348,033	\$	3,480	\$	870,065	\$	2,155,054	\$ 59,442 \$ (2,748) \$ 3,085,293

See the accompanying notes which are an integral part of these  
unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

**SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**

(Unaudited)

For the three months ended  
March 31,

2011

2010

(in thousands)

Net income	\$ 136,609	\$ 171,768
Change in derivatives:		
Reclassification to earnings (1)	(31,658)	(29,301)
Ineffectiveness (2)	(58)	(57)
Change in fair value of derivative instruments (3)	6,724	64,669
Total change in derivatives	(24,992)	35,311
Change in pension and other postretirement liabilities (4)	197	191
Change in currency translation adjustment	262	
Comprehensive income	112,076	207,270
Less: comprehensive loss attributable to the noncontrolling interest		(29)
Comprehensive income attributable to Southwestern Energy	\$ 112,076	\$ 207,299

(1) Net of (\$20.2) and (\$20.8) million in taxes for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

(2) Net of less than (\$0.1) and (\$0.1) million in taxes for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

(3) Net of \$4.3 and \$46.0 million in taxes for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

(4) Net of \$0.1 and \$0.1 million in taxes for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

See the accompanying notes which are an integral part of these  
unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

---

## **SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES**

### **NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(1)**

#### **BASIS OF PRESENTATION AND NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS**

Southwestern Energy Company (including its subsidiaries, collectively, "Southwestern" or the "Company") is an independent energy company primarily focused on the exploration and production of natural gas. The Company engages in natural gas and oil exploration and production, gas gathering and gas marketing through its subsidiaries. Southwestern's exploration, development and production ("E&P") activities are principally focused on the development of an unconventional natural gas play in Arkansas. The Company also is actively engaged in E&P activities in Texas, Pennsylvania and, to a lesser extent, in Oklahoma. In 2010, the Company commenced an exploration program in New Brunswick, Canada, its first operations outside of the United States. Southwestern's gas marketing and gas gathering businesses ("Midstream Services") are located in the core areas of its E&P operations.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements were prepared using accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") for interim financial information and in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Certain information relating to the Company's organization and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP have been appropriately condensed or omitted in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. The Company believes the disclosures made are adequate to make the information presented not misleading.

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements contained in this report include all normal and recurring material adjustments that, in the opinion of management, are necessary for a fair statement of the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods presented herein. It is recommended that these unaudited



condensed consolidated financial statements be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 ( 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K ).

The Company's significant accounting policies, which have been reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee of the Company's Board of Directors, are summarized in Note 1 in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in the Company's 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K. The Company evaluates subsequent events through the date the financial statements are issued.

On January 1, 2011, the Company implemented certain provisions of Accounting Standards Update No. 2010-06, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (Topic 820) Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements ( Update 2010-06 ). Update 2010-06 requires entities to provide a reconciliation of purchases, sales, issuance and settlements of anything valued with a Level 3 method, which is used to price the hardest to value instruments. The implementation did not have an impact on the Company's results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

(2)

## PREPAID EXPENSES

The components of prepaid expenses included in other current assets as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 consisted of the following:

	March 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
	(in thousands)	
Prepaid drilling costs	\$ 22,113	\$ 21,997
Prepaid insurance	4,955	7,690
Total	\$ 27,068	\$ 29,687

(3)

## INVENTORY

Inventory recorded in current assets includes \$5.9 million at March 31, 2011 and \$10.0 million at December 31, 2010, for natural gas in underground storage owned by the Company's E&P segment, and \$27.1 million at March 31, 2011

and \$25.1 million at December 31, 2010, for tubulars and other equipment used in the E&P segment.

The Company has one natural gas storage facility. The current portion of the gas is classified in inventory and carried at the lower of cost or market. The non-current portion of the gas is classified in property and equipment and carried at cost. The carrying value of the non-current gas is evaluated for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that it may not be recoverable. Withdrawals of current gas in underground storage are accounted for by a weighted average cost method whereby gas withdrawn from storage is relieved at the weighted average cost of current gas remaining in the facility.

Other Assets include \$16.6 million at March 31, 2011 and \$20.6 million at December 31, 2010 for inventory held by the Midstream Services segment consisting primarily of pipe that will be used to construct gathering systems for the Fayetteville Shale play.

Tubulars and other equipment are carried at the lower of cost or market and are accounted for by a moving weighted average cost method that is applied within specific classes of inventory items. Purchases of inventory are recorded at cost and inventory is relieved at the weighted average cost of items remaining within a specified class.

**(4)**

## **NATURAL GAS AND OIL PROPERTIES**

The Company utilizes the full cost method of accounting for costs related to the exploration, development and acquisition of natural gas and oil reserves. Under this method, all such costs (productive and nonproductive), including salaries, benefits and other internal costs directly attributable to these activities are capitalized on a country by country basis and amortized over the estimated lives of the properties using the units-of-production method. These capitalized costs, less accumulated amortization and related deferred income taxes, are subject to a ceiling test that limits such pooled costs to the aggregate of the present value of future net revenues attributable to proved natural gas and oil reserves discounted at 10 percent plus the lower of cost or market value of unproved properties. Any costs in

excess of the ceiling are written off as a non-cash expense. The expense may not be reversed in future periods, even though higher natural gas and oil prices may subsequently increase the ceiling. Full cost companies must use the average quoted price from the first day of each month from the previous 12 months, including the impact of derivatives qualifying as cash flow hedges, to calculate the ceiling value of their reserves.

Using the average quoted price from the first day of each month from the previous 12 months for Henry Hub natural gas of \$4.10 per MMBtu and \$80.04 per barrel for West Texas Intermediate oil, adjusted for market differentials and the impact of derivatives qualifying as cash flow hedges, the Company's net book value of its United States natural gas and oil properties did not exceed the ceiling amount and did not result in a ceiling test impairment at March 31, 2011. Cash flow hedges of natural gas production in place increased the ceiling value by approximately \$283.1 million at March 31, 2011. Decreases in market prices as well as changes in production rates, levels of reserves, evaluation of costs excluded from amortization, future development costs and production costs could result in future ceiling test impairments.

All of our costs directly associated with the acquisition and evaluation of properties in New Brunswick, Canada relating to our exploration program at March 31, 2011 were unproved and did not exceed the ceiling amount. If our exploration program in Canada is unsuccessful on all or a portion of these properties, a ceiling test impairment may result in the future.

In March 2011, the Company entered into a definitive purchase and sales agreement for the sale of certain oil and natural gas leases, wells and gathering equipment in the Shelby, San Augustine, and Sabine Counties in East Texas for approximately \$85 million. The effective date of the sale is January 1, 2011 and the standard closing adjustments will include natural gas sales proceeds and capital invested in 2011 prior to the closing. The sale includes only the producing rights to the Haynesville and Middle Bossier Shale intervals in approximately 9,700 net acres. The net production from the Haynesville and Middle Bossier Shale intervals in this acreage was approximately 7.3 MMcf per day as of April 15, 2011 and proved net reserves were approximately 25.1 Bcf at December 31, 2010. The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter of 2011.

The following table presents the computation of earnings per share for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

	For the three months ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
Net income attributable to Southwestern Energy (in thousands)	\$ 136,609	\$ 171,797
Number of common shares:		
Weighted average outstanding	346,833,906	345,099,247
Issued upon assumed exercise of outstanding stock options	2,700,902	4,014,914
Effect of issuance of nonvested restricted common stock	162,519	283,836
Weighted average and potential dilutive outstanding <sup>(1)</sup>	349,697,327	349,397,997
Earnings per share:		
Net income attributable to Southwestern Energy stockholders basic	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.50
Net income attributable to Southwestern Energy stockholders diluted	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.49

(1)

Options for 843,324 shares and 4,928 shares of restricted stock were excluded from the calculation for the three months ended March 31, 2011 because they would have had an antidilutive effect. Options for 448,933 shares and 4,698 shares of restricted stock were excluded from the calculation for the three months ended March 31, 2010 because they would have had an antidilutive effect.

(6)

## DERIVATIVES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The Company is exposed to commodity price risk which impacts the predictability of its cash flows related to the sale of natural gas and oil. The primary risk managed by the Company's use of certain derivative financial instruments is commodity price risk. These derivative financial instruments allow the Company to limit its price exposure to a portion of its projected natural gas sales. At March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, the Company's derivative financial instruments consisted of price swaps, costless-collars and basis swaps. A description of the Company's derivative financial instruments is provided below:

*Fixed price swaps*

The Company receives a fixed price for the contract and pays a floating market price to the counterparty.

*Floating price swaps*

The Company receives a floating market price from the counterparty and pays a fixed price.

*Costless-collars*

Arrangements that contain a fixed floor price (put) and a fixed ceiling price (call). If the market price exceeds the call strike price or falls below the put strike price, the Company receives the fixed price and pays the market price. If the market price is between the call and the put strike price, no payments are due from either party.

*Basis swaps*

Arrangements that guarantee a price differential for natural gas from a specified delivery point. The Company receives a payment from the counterparty if the price differential is greater than the stated terms of the contract and pays the counterparty if the price differential is less than the stated terms of the contract.

GAAP requires that all derivatives be recognized in the balance sheet as either an asset or liability and be measured at fair value. Under GAAP, certain criteria must be satisfied in order for derivative financial instruments to be classified and accounted for as either a cash flow or a fair value hedge. Accounting for qualifying hedges requires a derivative's gains and losses to be recorded either in earnings or as a component of other comprehensive income. Gains and losses on derivatives that are not elected for hedge accounting treatment or that do not meet hedge accounting requirements are recorded in earnings.

The Company utilizes counterparties for its derivative instruments that it believes are credit-worthy at the time the transactions are entered into and the Company closely monitors the credit ratings of these counterparties. Additionally, the Company performs both quantitative and qualitative assessments of these counterparties based on their credit ratings

and credit default swap rates where applicable. However, the events in the financial markets in recent years demonstrate there can be no assurance that a counterparty will be able to meet its obligations to the Company.

The balance sheet classification of the assets related to derivative financial instruments are summarized below at March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010:

Derivative Assets				
March 31, 2011		December 31, 2010		
	Balance Sheet Classification	Fair Value	Balance Sheet Classification	Fair Value
(in thousands)				
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:				
Fixed and floating price swaps	Hedging asset	\$ 80,143	Hedging asset	\$ 81,797
Costless-collars	Hedging asset	48,613	Hedging asset	48,582
Fixed and floating price swaps	Other assets	7,598	Other assets	5,086
Costless-collars	Other assets	52,415	Other assets	72,827
Total derivatives designated as hedging instruments		\$ 188,769		\$ 208,292
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:				
Basis swaps	Hedging asset	\$ 26	Hedging asset	\$ 33
Total derivatives not designated as hedging instruments		\$ 26		\$ 33
Total derivative assets		\$ 188,795		\$ 208,325

#### Derivative Liabilities

March 31, 2011		December 31, 2010	
Balance Sheet Classification	Fair Value	Balance Sheet Classification	Fair Value
(in thousands)			

Derivatives designated as  
hedging instruments:

Fixed and floating price swaps	Hedging liability	\$ 2,972	Hedging liability	\$ 1,774
Costless-collars	Hedging liability	4,129	Hedging liability	3,903
Fixed and floating price swaps	Long-term hedging liability	49,788	Long-term hedging liability	22,334
Costless-collars	Long-term hedging liability	10,251	Long-term hedging liability	17,854
Total derivatives designated as hedging instruments		\$ 67,140		\$ 45,865

Derivatives not  
designated as hedging  
instruments:

Basis swaps	Hedging liability	\$ 482	Hedging liability	\$ 2,008
Basis swaps	Long-term hedging liability	612	Long-term hedging liability	
Total derivatives not designated as hedging instruments		\$ 1,094		\$ 2,008

Total derivative liabilities	\$ 68,234	\$ 47,873
------------------------------	-----------	-----------

*Cash Flow Hedges*

The reporting of gains and losses on cash flow derivative hedging instruments depends on whether the gains or losses are effective at offsetting changes in the cash flows of the hedged item. The effective portion of the gains and losses on the derivative hedging instruments are recorded in other comprehensive income until recognized in earnings during the period that the hedged transaction takes place. The ineffective portion of the gains and losses from the derivative hedging instrument is recognized in earnings immediately.

As of March 31, 2011, the Company had cash flow hedges on the following volumes of natural gas production (in Bcf):

Year:	<u>Fixed price swaps</u>	<u>Costless-collars</u>
2011	97.4	46.8
2012	144.9	80.5
2013	99.5	

As of March 31, 2011, the Company recorded a net gain in accumulated other comprehensive income related to its hedging activities of \$71.5 million. This amount is net of a deferred income tax liability recorded as of March 31, 2011 of \$45.7 million. The amount recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income will be relieved over time and recognized in the statement of operations as the physical transactions being hedged occur. Assuming the market prices of natural gas futures as of March 31, 2011 remain unchanged, the Company would expect to transfer an aggregate after-tax net gain of approximately \$71.5 million from accumulated other comprehensive income to earnings during the next 12 months. Gains or losses from derivative instruments designated as cash flow hedges are reflected as adjustments to gas sales in the unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations. Gas sales included a realized gain from settled contracts of \$51.9 million for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 compared to a realized gain of \$50.1 million during the three-month period ended March 31, 2010. Volatility in earnings and other comprehensive income may occur in the future as a result of the Company's derivative activities.

The following tables summarize the before tax effect of all cash flow hedges on the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

Derivative Instrument	Gain Recognized in Other Comprehensive Income	
	(Effective Portion)	
	For the three months ended	
	March 31,	
	2011	2010
	(in thousands)	
Fixed price swaps	\$ 9,069	\$ 75,314
Costless-collars	\$ 1,954	\$ 35,317

Classification of Gain Reclassified from	Gain Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income into
---	---



Derivative Instrument	Accumulated Other		Earnings	
	Comprehensive Income		(Effective Portion)	
	into Earnings		For the three months ended	
	(Effective Portion)		March 31,	
			2011	2010
(in thousands)				
Fixed price swaps	Gas Sales	\$	36,801	\$ 33,673
Costless-collars	Gas Sales	\$	15,098	\$ 16,453

Derivative Instrument	Gain (Loss) Recognized in Earnings		(Ineffective Portion)	
	Classification of Gain		For the three months ended	
	(Loss)		March 31,	
	Recognized in Earnings		March 31,	
			2011	2010
(in thousands)				
Fixed price swaps	Gas Sales	\$	(2,067)	\$ 473
Costless-collars	Gas Sales	\$	2,161	\$ (375)

### *Fair Value Hedges*

For fair value hedges, the gain or loss on the derivative instrument as well as the offsetting gain or loss on the hedged item are recognized in earnings immediately. As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, the Company had no material fair value hedges.

### *Other Derivative Contracts*

Although the Company's basis swaps meet the objective of managing commodity price exposure, these trades are typically not entered into concurrent with the Company's derivative instruments that qualify as cash flow hedges and therefore do not generally qualify for hedge accounting. Basis swap derivative instruments that do not qualify as cash flow hedges are recorded on the balance sheet at their fair values under hedging assets, other assets and hedging liabilities, as applicable, and all realized and unrealized gains and losses related to these contracts are recognized immediately in the unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations as a component of gas sales.

As of March 31, 2011, the Company had basis swaps on natural gas production that did not qualify for hedge accounting treatment of 19.3 Bcf, 26.7 Bcf and 19.1 Bcf in 2011, 2012 and 2013, respectively.

The following table summarizes the before tax effect of basis swaps that did not qualify for hedge accounting on the unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

Derivative Instrument	Income Statement Classification of Unrealized Gain (Loss)	Unrealized Gain (Loss)	
		Recognized in Earnings	
		For the three months ended	
		March 31,	
		2011	2010
(in thousands)			
Basis swaps	Gas Sales	\$ 906	\$ 4,810

Derivative Instrument	Income Statement Classification of Realized Gain (Loss)	Realized Gain (Loss)	
		Recognized in Earnings	
		For the three months ended	
		March 31,	
		2011	2010
(in thousands)			
Basis swaps	Gas Sales	\$ (2,256)	\$ (4,844)

(7)

## FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The carrying amounts and estimated fair values of the Company's financial instruments as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 were as follows:

	March 31, 2011		December 31, 2010	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	(in thousands)			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 17,387	\$ 17,387	\$ 16,055	\$ 16,055
Unsecured revolving credit facility	\$ 531,100	\$ 531,100	\$ 421,200	\$ 421,200
Senior notes	\$ 673,000	\$ 764,354	\$ 673,000	\$ 761,372
Derivative instruments	\$ 120,561	\$ 120,561	\$ 160,452	\$ 160,452

The carrying values of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable, other current assets and current liabilities on the condensed consolidated balance sheets approximate fair value because of their short-term nature. For debt and derivative instruments, the following methods and assumptions were used to estimate fair value:

*Debt:* The fair values of the Company's senior notes were based on the market for the Company's publicly-traded debt as determined based on yield of the Company's 7.5% Senior Notes due 2018, which was 5.1% at March 31, 2011

---

and 5.2% at December 31, 2010. The carrying values of the borrowings under the Company's unsecured revolving credit facility at March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 approximate fair value.

*Derivative Instruments:* The fair value of all derivative instruments is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged currently between willing parties. The amounts are based on quoted market prices, best estimates obtained from counterparties and an option pricing model, when necessary, for price option contracts.

GAAP establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. As presented in the tables below, this hierarchy consists of three broad levels:

*Level 1 valuations -*

Consist of unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities and have the highest priority.

*Level 2 valuations -*

Consist of quoted market information for the calculation of fair market value.

*Level 3 valuations -*

Consist of internal estimates and have the lowest priority.

Pursuant to GAAP, the Company has classified its derivatives into these levels depending upon the data utilized to determine their fair values. The Company's Level 2 fair value measurements include fixed-price and floating-price swaps and are estimated using internal discounted cash flow calculations using the NYMEX futures index. The Company's Level 3 fair value measurements include costless-collars and basis swaps. The Company's costless-collars are valued using the Black-Scholes model, an industry standard option valuation model, and takes into account inputs such as contract terms, including maturity, and market parameters, including assumptions of the NYMEX futures index, interest rates, volatility and credit worthiness. The Company's basis swaps are estimated using internal discounted cash flow calculations based upon forward commodity price curves.

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis are summarized below (in thousands):

March 31, 2011

Fair Value Measurements Using:		
Quoted Prices in Active	Significant Other	Significant

Edgar Filing: SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY CO - Form 10-Q

	Markets (Level 1)	Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Assets (Liabilities) at Fair Value
Derivative assets	\$	\$ 87,741	\$ 101,054	\$ 188,795
Derivative liabilities		(52,760)	(15,474)	(68,234)
Total	\$	\$ 34,981	\$ 85,580	\$ 120,561

December 31, 2010

Fair Value Measurements Using:

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Assets (Liabilities) at Fair Value
Derivative assets	\$	\$ 86,883	\$ 121,442	\$ 208,325
Derivative liabilities		(24,108)	(23,765)	(47,873)
Total	\$	\$ 62,775	\$ 97,677	\$ 160,452

The table below presents reconciliations for the change in net fair value of derivative assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and March 31, 2010. The fair values of Level 3 derivative instruments are estimated using proprietary valuation models that utilize both market observable and unobservable parameters. Level 3 instruments presented in the table consist of net derivatives valued using pricing models incorporating assumptions that, in the Company's judgment, reflect the assumptions a marketplace participant would have used at March 31, 2011.

For the three months ended  
March 31,  
2011 2010  
(in thousands)

Balance at beginning of period	\$	97,677	\$	24,720
Total gains or losses (realized/unrealized):				
Included in earnings		15,910		16,044
Included in other comprehensive income		(15,306)		19,239
Purchases, issuances, and settlements:				
Purchases				
Issuances				
Settlements		(12,843)		(11,609)
Transfers into/out of Level 3		142		
Balance at end of period	\$	85,580	\$	48,394
Change in unrealized gains (losses) included in earnings relating to derivatives still held as of March 31	\$	3,067	\$	4,435

(8)

**DEBT**

The components of debt as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 consisted of the following:

	March 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
	(in thousands)	
Short-term debt:		
7.15% Senior Notes due 2018	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200
Total short-term debt	1,200	1,200
Long-term debt:		
Variable rate (2.251% at March 31, 2011 and 0.887% at December 31, 2010) unsecured revolving credit facility, expires February 2016	531,100	421,200
7.5% Senior Notes due 2018	600,000	600,000
7.35% Senior Notes due 2017	15,000	15,000
7.125% Senior Notes due 2017	25,000	25,000
7.15% Senior Notes due 2018	31,800	31,800
Total long-term debt	1,202,900	1,093,000
Total debt	\$ 1,204,100	\$ 1,094,200

*Senior Notes and Subsidiary Guarantees*

The indentures governing the Company's senior notes contain covenants that, among other things, restrict the ability of the Company and/or its subsidiaries' ability to incur liens, to engage in sale and leaseback transactions and to merge, consolidate or sell assets. All of the Company's senior notes are currently guaranteed by its subsidiaries, SEECO, Inc. ( SEECO ), Southwestern Energy Production Company ( SEPCO ) and Southwestern Energy Services Company ( SES ). These guarantees may be unconditionally released in certain circumstances. Please refer to Note 15, Condensed Consolidating Financial Information, for additional information.

*Credit Facility*

In February 2011, the Company amended and restated its unsecured revolving credit facility, increasing the borrowing capacity to \$1.5 billion and extending the maturity date to February 2016 ( Credit Facility ). The amount available under the Credit Facility may be increased to \$2.0 billion at any time upon the Company's agreement with its existing or additional lenders. The interest rate on the amended credit facility is calculated based upon our debt rating and is currently 200 basis points over the current London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) and was 200 basis points over LIBOR at March 31, 2011. The Credit Facility is guaranteed by the Company's subsidiary, SEECO. The Credit Facility requires additional subsidiary guarantors if certain guaranty coverage levels are not satisfied. The revolving credit facility contains covenants which impose certain restrictions on the Company. Under the credit agreement, the

---

Company may not issue total debt in excess of 60% of its total capital and must maintain a ratio of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) to interest expense of 3.5 or above. The terms of the Credit Facility also include covenants that restrict the ability of the Company and its material subsidiaries to merge, consolidate or sell all or substantially all of their assets, restrict the ability of the Company and its subsidiaries to incur liens and restrict the ability of the Company's subsidiaries to incur indebtedness. At March 31, 2011, the Company's capital structure consisted of 28% debt and 72% equity and it was in compliance with the covenants of its debt agreements. While the Company believes all of the lenders under the Credit Facility have the ability to provide funds, it cannot predict whether each will be able to meet its obligation under the facility.

## COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

### *Commitments*

In the first quarter of 2010, the Company was awarded exclusive licenses by the Province of New Brunswick in Canada to conduct an exploration program covering approximately 2.5 million acres in the province. The licenses require the Company to make certain capital investments in New Brunswick of approximately \$47 million Canadian dollars ( CAD ) in the aggregate over a three year period. In order to obtain the licenses, the Company provided promissory notes payable on demand to the Minister of Finance of the Province of New Brunswick with an aggregate principal amount of CAD \$44.5 million. The promissory notes secure the Company's capital expenditure obligations under the licenses and are returnable to the Company to the extent the Company performs such obligations. If the Company fails to fully perform, the Minister of Finance may retain a portion of the applicable promissory notes in an amount equal to any deficiency. The Company commenced its Canada exploration program in 2010 and, as of March 31, 2011, no liability has been recognized in connection with the promissory notes.

### *Environmental Risk*

The Company is subject to laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment. Environmental and cleanup related costs of a non-capital nature are accrued when it is both probable that a liability has been incurred and when the amount can be reasonably estimated. Management believes any future remediation or other compliance related costs will not have a material effect on the financial position or reported results of operations of the Company.

### *Litigation*

In February 2009, SEPCO was added as a defendant in a Third Amended Petition in the matter of Tovah Energy, LLC and Toby Berry-Helfand v. David Michael Grimes, et, al. In the Sixth Amended Petition, filed in July 2010, in the 273<sup>rd</sup> District Court in Shelby County, Texas (collectively, the Sixth Petition ) the plaintiffs alleged that, in 2005, they provided SEPCO with proprietary data regarding two prospects in the James Lime formation pursuant to a confidentiality agreement and that SEPCO refused to return the proprietary data to plaintiffs, subsequently acquired leases based upon such proprietary data and profited therefrom. Among other things, the plaintiffs' allegations in the Sixth Petition included various statutory and common law claims, including, but not limited to claims of misappropriation of trade secrets, violation of the Texas Theft Liability Act, breach of fiduciary duty and confidential relationships, various fraud based claims and breach of contract, including a claim of breach of a purported right of first refusal on all interests acquired by SEPCO between February 15, 2005 and February 15, 2006. In the Sixth Petition, plaintiffs sought actual damages of over \$55 million as well as other remedies, including special damages and punitive damages of four times the amount of actual damages established at trial.



Immediately before the commencement of the trial in November 2010, plaintiffs were permitted, over the Company's objections, to file a Seventh Amended Petition claiming actual damages of approximately \$46 million and also seeking the equitable remedy of disgorgement of all profits for the misappropriation of trade secrets and the breach of fiduciary duty claims. In December 2010, the jury found in favor of the plaintiffs with respect to all of the statutory and common law claims and awarded approximately \$11.4 million in compensatory damages. The jury did not, however, award plaintiffs any special, punitive or other damages. In addition, the jury separately determined that SEPCO's profits for purposes of disgorgement were \$381.5 million. This profit determination does not constitute a judgment or an award. The plaintiffs' entitlement to disgorgement of profits as an equitable remedy will be determined by the judge and it is within the judge's discretion to award none, some or all the amount of profit to the plaintiffs. On December 31, 2010, the plaintiff filed a motion to enter the judgment based on the jury's verdict. On February 11, 2011, SEPCO filed a motion for a judgment notwithstanding the verdict and a motion to disregard certain findings. On March 11, 2011, the plaintiff filed an amended motion for judgment and intervenor filed its motion for judgment.

seeking not only the monetary damages and the profits determined by the jury but also seeking, as a new remedy, a constructive trust for profits from 143 wells as well as future drilling and sales of properties in the prospect areas. A hearing on the post-verdict motions was held on March 14, 2011. At the suggestion of the judge, all parties voluntarily agreed to participate in non-binding mediation efforts. The mediation occurred on April 6, 2011 and was unsuccessful. The judge was advised of the unsuccessful outcome and the parties are now awaiting the entry of a judgment.

The Company has determined that an adverse outcome in this lawsuit is reasonably possible, but not probable, and as such, has not accrued any amounts with respect to this lawsuit and cannot reasonably estimate the amount of any potential liability based on the Company's understanding and judgment of the facts and merits of this case, including appellate remedies, and the advice of counsel. The Company's assessment may change in the future due to occurrence of certain events, such as denied appeals, and such re-assessment could lead to the determination that the potential liability could be material to the Company's results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In March 2010, the Company's subsidiary, SEECO, Inc., was served with a subpoena from a federal grand jury in Little Rock, Arkansas. Based on the documents requested under the subpoena and subsequent discussions described below, the Company believes the grand jury is investigating matters involving approximately 27 horizontal wells operated by SEECO in Arkansas, including whether appropriate leases or permits were obtained therefor and whether royalties and other production attributable to federal lands have been properly accounted for and paid. The Company believes it has fully complied with all requests related to the federal subpoena and delivered its affidavit to that effect. The Company and representatives of the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Attorney have had discussions since the production of the documents pursuant to the subpoena. In January 2011, the Company voluntarily produced

additional materials informally requested by the government arising from these discussions. Although, to the Company's knowledge, no proceeding in this matter has been initiated against SEECO, the Company cannot predict whether or when one might be initiated. The Company intends to fully comply with any further requests and to cooperate with any related investigation. No assurance can be made as to the time or resources that will need to be devoted to this inquiry or the impact of the final outcome of the discussions or any related proceeding.

The Company is subject to other litigation and claims that have arisen in the ordinary course of business. The Company accrues for such items when a liability is both probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. In the opinion of management, the results of such litigation and claims currently pending will not have a material effect on the results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

(10)

## INTEREST AND INCOME TAXES

The following table provides interest and income taxes paid for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

	For the three months ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
	(in thousands)	
Interest payments	\$ 24,857	\$ 23,857
Income tax payments	\$ 16,000	\$

(11)

## PENSION PLAN AND OTHER POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Company has defined pension and postretirement benefit plans which cover substantially all of the Company's employees. Net periodic pension and other postretirement benefit costs include the following components for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

Pension Benefits			
For the three months ended			
March 31,			
	2011		2010
	(in thousands)		
Service cost	\$	2,331	\$ 1,774
Interest cost		917	812
Expected return on plan assets		(1,099)	(876)
Amortization of prior service cost		86	86
Amortization of net loss		214	202
Net periodic benefit cost	\$	2,449	\$ 1,998

Other Postretirement Benefits			
For the three months ended			
March 31,			
	2011		2010
	(in thousands)		
Service cost	\$	338	\$ 272
Interest cost		63	49
Amortization of transition obligation		16	16
Amortization of prior service cost		4	4
Amortization of net loss		3	5
Net periodic benefit cost	\$	424	\$ 346

The Company currently expects to contribute \$12.1 million to its pension plans and \$0.1 million to its postretirement benefit plan in 2011. As of March 31, 2011, there have been no contributions to the pension plans and the postretirement benefit plan.

The Company maintains a non-qualified deferred compensation supplemental retirement savings plan ( Non-Qualified Plan ) for certain key employees who may elect to defer and contribute a portion of their compensation, as permitted by the plan. Shares of the Company's common stock purchased under the terms of the Non-Qualified Plan are

presented as treasury stock and totaled 125,077 shares at March 31, 2011 compared to 156,636 shares at December 31, 2010.

(12)

## EQUITY

On April 8, 2009, the Company's Board of Directors approved and the Company entered into, a Second Amended and Restated Rights Agreement ( Rights Agreement ), dated as of April 9, 2009, between the Company and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., which amended, restated, superseded and replaced the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement dated as of April 12, 1999, as amended. The Rights Agreement extended the term of the agreement until April 8, 2019 and amended each Right (which initially represented the right to purchase one share of the Common Stock) to represent the right to purchase, when exercisable, a unit consisting of one one-thousandth of a share ( Unit ) of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share ( Series A Preferred Stock ) at a purchase price of \$150.00 per Unit ( Purchase Price ), subject to adjustment.

On February 24, 2010, the Company's Board of Directors approved, and the Company and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as rights agent, entered into, an amendment to the Rights Agreement pursuant to which the final expiration date of the rights (each as defined in the Rights Agreement) was advanced from April 8, 2019 to February 26, 2010. As a result of the amendment, the rights are no longer outstanding or exercisable.

(13)

## STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

The Company recognized the following amounts in employee stock-based compensation costs for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

		For the three months ended	
		March 31,	
		2011	2010
		(in thousands)	
Stock-based compensation cost	general and administrative	\$ 2,450	\$ 2,297
expense			
Stock-based compensation cost	capitalized	1,910	1,708

As of March 31, 2011, there was \$36.8 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to the Company's unvested stock option and restricted stock grants. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.6 years.

The following table summarizes stock option activity for the first three months of 2011 and provides information for options outstanding as of March 31, 2011.

	Number of Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Outstanding at December 31, 2010	4,769,122	\$ 16.13
Granted	7,100	38.38
Exercised	(301,442)	9.10
Forfeited or expired	(2,910)	36.86
Outstanding at March 31, 2011	4,471,870	\$ 16.63
Exercisable at March 31, 2011	3,611,812	\$ 11.77

The following table summarizes restricted stock activity for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and provides information for unvested shares as of March 31, 2011.

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
--	---------------------	---

Unvested shares at December 31, 2010	834,058	\$	36.24
Granted	1,150		38.10
Vested	(4,537)		33.28
Forfeited	(7,150)		36.56
Unvested shares at March 31, 2011	823,521	\$	36.29

(14)

**SEGMENT INFORMATION**

The Company's reportable business segments have been identified based on the differences in products or services provided. Revenues for the E&P segment are derived from the production and sale of natural gas and crude oil. The Midstream Services segment generates revenue through the marketing of both Company and third-party produced natural gas volumes and through gathering fees associated with the transportation of natural gas to market.

Summarized financial information for the Company's reportable segments is shown in the following table. The accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in Note 1 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of the 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K. Management evaluates the performance of its segments based on operating income, defined as operating revenues less operating costs and expenses. Income before

---

income taxes, for the purpose of reconciling the operating income amount shown below to consolidated income before income taxes, is the sum of operating income, interest expense and interest and other income (loss). The Other column includes items not related to the Company's reportable segments including real estate and corporate items.

Exploration And Production	Midstream Services	Other	Total
----------------------------------	-----------------------	-------	-------

Edgar Filing: SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY CO - Form 10-Q

(in thousands)

Three months ended March 31,

2011:

Revenues from external customers	\$ 470,656	\$ 205,679	\$	\$ 676,335
Intersegment revenues	5,514	473,589	776	479,879
Operating income	178,283	53,917	451	232,651
Interest and other income <sup>(1)</sup>	343	29	2	374
Depreciation, depletion and amortization expense	154,810	8,391	246	163,447
Interest expense <sup>(1)</sup>	2,904	4,532		7,436
Provision for income taxes <sup>(1)</sup>	69,382	19,420	178	88,980
Assets	5,134,657 (2)	1,025,072	181,019 (3)	6,340,748
Capital investments <sup>(4)</sup>	468,212	45,978	16,339	530,529

Three months ended March 31,

2010:

Revenues from external customers	\$ 485,071	\$ 183,046	\$	\$ 668,117
Intersegment revenues	6,998	448,597	246	455,841
Operating income	250,431	37,624	35	288,090
Interest and other income (loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	(45)	68		23
Depreciation, depletion and amortization expense	132,707	6,161	149	139,017
Interest expense <sup>(1)</sup>	2,300	4,208		6,508
Provision for income taxes <sup>(1)</sup>	96,765	13,059	13	109,837
Assets	4,245,617 (2)	772,040	114,577 (3)	5,132,234
Capital investments <sup>(4)</sup>	411,433	49,266	12,926	473,625

(1)

Interest income, interest expense and the provision for income taxes by segment are allocated as they are incurred at the corporate level.

(2)

Includes capital investments for office, technology, drilling rigs and other ancillary equipment not directly related to natural gas and oil property acquisition, exploration and development activities.

(3)

Other assets represent corporate assets not allocated to segments and assets, including investments in cash equivalents, for non-reportable segments.

(4)

Capital investments include increases of \$1.5 million and \$27.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, relating to the change in accrued expenditures between periods.

Included in intersegment revenues of the Midstream Services segment are \$411.2 million and \$405.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, for marketing of the Company's E&P sales. Corporate assets include cash and cash equivalents, furniture and fixtures, prepaid debt and other costs. Corporate general and administrative costs, depreciation expense and taxes other than income are allocated to the segments. All of the Company's operations were located within the United States for the three months ended March 31, 2010. For the three months ended March 31, 2011, capital investments within the E&P segment include \$2.4 million related to the Company's activities in Canada and, at March 31, 2011, assets include \$13.7 million related to the Company's activities in Canada.

(15)

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Company is providing condensed consolidating financial information for SEECO, SEPCO and SES, its subsidiaries that are currently guarantors of the Company's registered public debt, and for its other subsidiaries that are not guarantors of such debt. These wholly owned subsidiary guarantors have jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally guaranteed the Company's 7.35% Senior Notes and 7.125% Senior Notes. The subsidiary guarantees (i) rank equally in right of payment with all of the existing and future senior debt of the subsidiary guarantors; (ii) rank senior to all of the existing and future subordinated debt of the subsidiary guarantors; (iii) are effectively subordinated to any future secured obligations of the subsidiary guarantors to the extent of the value of the assets securing such obligations; and (iv) are structurally subordinated to all debt and other obligations of the subsidiaries of the guarantors.

The Company has not presented separate financial and narrative information for each of the subsidiary guarantors because it believes that such financial and narrative information would not provide any additional information that

---

would be material in evaluating the sufficiency of the guarantees. The following condensed consolidating financial information summarizes the results of operations, financial position and cash flows for the Company's guarantor and



non-guarantor subsidiaries.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS  
(Unaudited)

	Parent	Guarantors	Non-Guarantors (in thousands)	Eliminations	Consolidated
<u>Three months ended</u> <u>March 31, 2011:</u>					
Operating revenues	\$	\$ 641,843	\$ 93,658	\$ (59,166)	\$ 676,335
Operating costs and expenses:					
Gas purchases					
midstream services		170,582		(352)	170,230
Operating expenses		86,852	27,984	(58,038)	56,798
General and administrative expenses		32,044	5,849	(776)	37,117
Depreciation, depletion and amortization		154,401	9,046		163,447
Taxes, other than income taxes		13,907	2,185		16,092
Total operating costs and expenses		457,786	45,064	(59,166)	443,684
Operating income		184,057	48,594		232,651
Other income, net		345	29		374
Equity in earnings of subsidiaries	136,609			(136,609)	
Interest expense		3,645	3,791		7,436
Income (loss) before income taxes	136,609	180,757	44,832	(136,609)	225,589
Provision for income taxes		71,362	17,618		88,980
Net income (loss) attributable to Southwestern Energy	\$ 136,609	\$ 109,395	\$ 27,214	\$ (136,609)	\$ 136,609

Three months ended  
March 31, 2010:

Operating revenues	\$	\$ 642,827	\$ 67,322	\$ (42,032)	\$ 668,117
--------------------	----	------------	-----------	-------------	------------

Operating costs and expenses:					
Gas purchases					
midstream services		158,016		(348)	157,668
Operating expenses		58,159	19,845	(41,438)	36,566
General and administrative expenses		28,125	5,065	(246)	32,944
Depreciation, depletion and amortization		132,375	6,642		139,017
Taxes, other than income taxes		12,589	1,243		13,832
Total operating costs and expenses		389,264	32,795	(42,032)	380,027
Operating income		253,563	34,527		288,090
Other income (loss), net		(47)	70		23
Equity in earnings of subsidiaries	171,797			(171,797)	
Interest expense		2,874	3,634		6,508
Income (loss) before income taxes	171,797	250,642	30,963	(171,797)	281,605
Provision for income taxes		97,761	12,076		109,837
Net income (loss)	171,797	152,881	18,887	(171,797)	171,768
Less: Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interest		(29)			(29)
Net income (loss) attributable to Southwestern Energy	\$ 171,797	\$ 152,910	\$ 18,887	\$ (171,797)	\$ 171,797

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEETS

(Unaudited)

	Parent	Guarantors	Non-Guarantors (in thousands)	Eliminations	Consolidated
<u>March 31, 2011:</u>					
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 14,743	\$ 1,995	\$ 649	\$	\$ 17,387
Accounts receivable	1,334	316,576	21,680		339,590
Inventories		32,212	795		33,007
Other current assets	4,630	161,405	1,126		167,161
Total current assets	20,707	512,188	24,250		557,145
Intercompany receivables	1,881,013	119	19,887	(1,901,019)	
Investments		11,103	(11,102)	(1)	
Property and equipment	140,653	8,341,763	1,034,572		9,516,988
Less: Accumulated depreciation, depletion and amortization	55,829	3,689,608	115,616		3,861,053
	84,824	4,652,155	918,956		5,655,935
Investments in subsidiaries (equity method)	2,369,789			(2,369,789)	
Other assets	29,064	77,059	21,545		127,668
Total assets	\$ 4,385,397	\$ 5,252,624	\$ 973,536	\$ (4,270,809)	\$ 6,340,748

**LIABILITIES AND EQUITY**

Accounts and notes payable	\$ 145,049	\$ 341,874	\$ 48,073	\$	\$ 534,996
Other current liabilities	3,328	154,387	2,480		160,195
Total current liabilities	148,377	496,261	50,553		695,191
Intercompany payables		1,405,551	495,469	(1,901,020)	

Long-term debt	1,202,900				1,202,900
Deferred income taxes	(98,074)	1,121,179	180,229		1,203,334
Other liabilities	46,901	104,239	2,890		154,030
Total liabilities	1,300,104	3,127,230	729,141	(1,901,020)	3,255,455
Commitments and contingencies					
Total equity	3,085,293	2,125,394	244,395	(2,369,789)	3,085,293
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 4,385,397	\$ 5,252,624	\$ 973,536	\$ (4,270,809)	\$ 6,340,748

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEETS  
(Unaudited)

	Parent	Guarantors	Non-Guarantors (in thousands)	Eliminations	Consolidated
<u>December 31, 2010:</u>					
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,381	\$ 7,631	\$ 43	\$	\$ 16,055
Accounts receivable	382	331,154	20,037		351,573
Inventories		34,263	835		35,098
Other current assets	5,015	171,060	2,092		178,167
Total current assets	13,778	544,108	23,007		580,893
Intercompany receivables	1,820,857	131	18,724	(1,839,712)	
Investments		11,103	(11,102)	(1)	
Property and equipment	124,823	7,871,279	984,783		8,980,885
	52,256	3,526,010	104,422		3,682,688

Less: Accumulated depreciation, depletion and amortization					
	72,567	4,345,269	880,361		5,298,197
Investments in subsidiaries (equity method)	2,253,871			(2,253,871)	
Other assets	18,918	92,747	26,708		138,373
Total assets	\$ 4,179,991	\$ 4,993,358	\$ 937,698	\$ (4,093,584)	\$ 6,017,463

## LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Accounts and notes payable	\$ 175,476	\$ 336,411	\$ 33,208	\$	\$ 545,095
Other current liabilities	3,288	142,839	2,761		148,888
Total current liabilities	178,764	479,250	35,969		693,983
Intercompany payables		1,317,696	522,017	(1,839,713)	
Long-term debt	1,093,000				1,093,000
Deferred income taxes	(98,206)	1,066,166	162,332		1,130,292
Other liabilities	41,557	89,986	3,769		135,312
Total liabilities	1,215,115	2,953,098	724,087	(1,839,713)	3,052,587
Commitments and contingencies					
Total equity	2,964,876	2,040,260	213,611	(2,253,871)	2,964,876
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 4,179,991	\$ 4,993,358	\$ 937,698	\$ (4,093,584)	\$ 6,017,463

## Edgar Filing: SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY CO - Form 10-Q

(Unaudited)

	Parent	Guarantors	Non-Guarantors (in thousands)	Eliminations	Consolidated
<u>Three months ended</u>					
<u>March 31, 2011:</u>					
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	\$ (26,284)	\$ 359,234	\$ 63,529	\$	\$ 396,479
Investing activities:					
Capital investments	(15,533)	(469,341)	(41,265)		(526,139)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment		11,056			11,056
Other	3,574	(6,100)	2,151		(375)
Net cash used in investing activities	(11,959)	(464,385)	(39,114)		(515,458)
Financing activities:					
Intercompany activities	(75,684)	99,515	(23,831)		
Payments on revolving long-term debt	(782,800)				(782,800)
Borrowings under revolving long-term debt	892,700				892,700
Other items	10,389				10,389
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	44,605	99,515	(23,831)		120,289
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash			22		22
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	6,362	(5,636)	606		1,332
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	8,381	7,631	43		16,055
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 14,743	\$ 1,995	\$ 649	\$	\$ 17,387

Three months ended  
March 31, 2010:

Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	\$	(51,556)	\$	388,384	\$	80,751	\$		\$	417,579
Investing activities:										
Capital investments		(9,874)		(380,221)		(52,027)				(442,122)
Other		3,292		(5,902)		3,259				649
Net cash used in investing activities		(6,582)		(386,123)		(48,768)				(441,473)
Financing activities:										
Intercompany activities		39,856		(8,010)		(31,846)				
Payments on revolving long-term debt		(621,600)								(621,600)
Borrowings under revolving long-term debt		641,900								641,900
Other items		4,310								4,310
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		64,466		(8,010)		(31,846)				24,610
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		6,328		(5,749)		137				716
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		7,378		5,776		30				13,184
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$	13,706	\$	27	\$	167	\$		\$	13,900

The following updates information as to Southwestern Energy Company's financial condition provided in our 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K and analyzes the changes in the results of operations between the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010. For definitions of commonly used natural gas and oil terms used in this Form 10-Q, please refer to the "Glossary of Certain Industry Terms" provided in our 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The following discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in forward-looking statements for many reasons, including the risks described in the "Cautionary Statement About Forward-Looking Statements" in the forepart of this Form 10-Q, in Item 1A, "Risk Factors" in Part I and elsewhere in our 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K, and Item 1A, "Risk Factors" in Part II in this Form 10-Q and any other Form 10-Q filed during the fiscal year. You should read the following discussion with our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and the related notes included in this Form 10-Q.

## OVERVIEW

### Background

Southwestern Energy Company is an independent energy company engaged in natural gas and crude oil exploration, development and production (E&P). We are also focused on creating and capturing additional value through our gas gathering and marketing businesses, which we refer to as Midstream Services. We operate principally in two segments: E&P and Midstream Services.

Our primary business is the exploration for and production of natural gas within the United States with our current operations being principally focused on the development of an unconventional gas reservoir located on the Arkansas side of the Arkoma Basin, which we refer to as the Fayetteville Shale play. We are also actively engaged in exploration and production activities in Texas, Pennsylvania and, to a lesser extent, in Oklahoma. In 2010, we commenced an exploration program in New Brunswick, Canada, which represents our first operations outside of the United States.

We are focused on providing long-term growth in the net asset value of our business, which we achieve in our E&P business through the drillbit. We derive the vast majority of our operating income and cash flow from the natural gas production of our E&P business and expect this to continue in the future. We expect that growth in our operating income and revenues will primarily depend on natural gas prices and our ability to increase our natural gas production. We expect our natural gas production volumes will continue to increase due to the ongoing development of our Fayetteville Shale play in Arkansas. The price we expect to receive for our natural gas is a critical factor in the capital investments we make in order to develop our properties and increase our production. In recent years, there has been a significant decline in natural gas prices as evidenced by New York Mercantile Exchange ( "NYMEX" ) natural gas prices ranging from a high of \$13.58 per Mcf in 2008 to a low of \$2.51 per Mcf in 2009. Natural gas prices fluctuate due to a



variety of factors we cannot control or predict. These factors, which include increased supplies of natural gas due to greater exploration and development activities, weather conditions, political and economic events and competition from other energy sources, impact supply and demand for natural gas, which in turn determines the sale prices for our production. In addition to the factors identified above, the prices we realize for our production are affected by our hedging activities as well as locational differences in market prices.

### **Recent Financial and Operating Results**

We reported net income attributable to Southwestern Energy of \$136.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011, or \$0.39 per diluted share, down from \$171.8 million, or \$0.49 per diluted share, for the comparable period in 2010.

Our natural gas and oil production increased to 115.0 Bcfe for the three months ended March 31, 2011, up 28% from 90.0 Bcfe for the three months ended March 31, 2010. The 25.0 Bcfe increase in our 2011 production was primarily due to a 25.6 Bcf increase in net production from our Fayetteville Shale play and a 2.8 Bcf increase in net production from our Appalachia properties, which more than offset a combined 3.4 Bcfe decrease in net production from our East Texas and Arkoma Basin properties. The average price realized for our natural gas production, including

---

the effects of hedges, decreased approximately 24% to \$4.12 per Mcf for the three months ended March 31, 2011, as compared to the same period in 2010.

Our E&P segment reported operating income of \$178.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011, down from \$250.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010. This decrease in operating income was due to a \$150.0 million decrease in revenues due to lower realized gas prices and a \$56.2 million increase in our operating costs and expenses, partially offset by a \$136.5 million of increased revenue resulting from higher natural gas production volumes.

Operating income for our Midstream Services segment was \$53.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011, up from \$37.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010, due to an increase of \$26.0 million in gas gathering revenues and an increase of \$2.3 million in the margin generated from our gas marketing activities, which were partially offset by a \$12.0 million increase in operating costs and expenses, exclusive of gas purchase costs.

Net cash provided by operating activities decreased 5% to \$396.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$417.6 million for the same period in 2010, due to a decrease in net income adjusted for non-cash expenses primarily resulting from decreased revenues due to lower realized gas prices, partially offset by an increase in changes in working capital. Capital investments were \$530.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011, of which \$468.2 million was invested in our E&P segment compared to \$473.6 million for the same period of 2010, of which \$411.4 million was invested in our E&P segment.

## **Recent Developments**

### *Production Guidance Update*

As a result of strong performance from our Fayetteville Shale and Marcellus Shale operating areas, we revised our expected gas and oil production range for 2011 to 483 to 491 Bcfe, up from our previous production guidance of 465 to 475 Bcfe. The revised total gas and oil production guidance for 2011 is an increase of approximately 20% over our 2010 gas and oil production (using midpoints). Of the total expected production in 2011, approximately 425 to 435 Bcf is expected to come from the Fayetteville Shale.

### *Capital Investments Update*

Due to our faster drilling times in the Fayetteville Shale than previously budgeted, we increased our capital investments program for 2011 to approximately \$2.0 billion, up from \$1.9 billion. The increase in capital will result in approximately 30 additional wells drilled in our Fayetteville Shale play.

### *Sale of Certain East Texas Properties*

In March 2011, we entered into a definitive purchase and sales agreement for the sale of certain oil and natural gas leases, wells and gathering equipment in the Shelby, San Augustine, and Sabine Counties in East Texas for approximately \$85 million. The effective date of the sale is January 1, 2011 and the standard closing adjustments will include natural gas sales proceeds and capital invested in 2011 prior to the closing. The sale includes only the producing rights to the Haynesville and Middle Bossier Shale intervals in approximately 9,700 net acres. The net

production from the Haynesville and Middle Bossier Shale intervals in this acreage was approximately 7.3 MMcf per day as of April 15, 2011 and proved net reserves were approximately 25.1 Bcf at December 31, 2010. The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter of 2011.

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion of our results of operations for our segments is presented before intersegment eliminations. We evaluate our segments as if they were stand alone operations and accordingly discuss their results prior to any intersegment eliminations. Interest expense, income tax expense and stock-based compensation are discussed on a consolidated basis.

### Exploration and Production

	For the three months ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
Revenues (in thousands)	\$ 476,170	\$ 492,069
Operating costs and expenses (in thousands)	\$ 297,887	\$ 241,638
Operating income (in thousands)	\$ 178,283	\$ 250,431
Gas production (Bcf)	114.9	89.7
Oil production (MBbls)	30	46
Total production (Bcfe)	115.0	90.0
Average gas price per Mcf, including hedges	\$ 4.12	\$ 5.42
Average gas price per Mcf, excluding hedges	\$ 3.68	\$ 4.87
Average oil price per Bbl	\$ 92.11	\$ 75.55

## Average unit costs per Mcfe:

Lease operating expenses	\$	0.86	\$	0.78
General & administrative expenses	\$	0.26	\$	0.29
Taxes, other than income taxes	\$	0.12	\$	0.14
Full cost pool amortization	\$	1.31	\$	1.41

*Revenues*

Revenues for our E&P segment were down \$15.9 million, or 3%, for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010. Higher natural gas production volumes in the first quarter of 2011 increased revenues by \$136.5 million while lower realized prices for our natural gas production decreased revenue by \$150.0 million. We expect our natural gas production volumes to continue to increase due to the development of our Fayetteville Shale play in Arkansas. Natural gas and oil prices are difficult to predict and subject to wide price fluctuations. As of April 27, 2011, we had hedged 161.0 Bcf of our remaining 2011 natural gas production, 225.4 Bcf of our 2012 natural gas production and 125.0 Bcf of our 2013 natural gas production to limit our exposure to price fluctuations. We refer you to Note 6 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q and to the discussion of *Commodity Prices* provided below for additional information.

*Production*

For the three months ended March 31, 2011 our natural gas and oil production increased 28% to 115.0 Bcfe, up from 90.0 Bcfe for the same period in 2010, and was produced entirely by our properties in the United States. The 25.0 Bcfe increase in our 2011 production was primarily due to a 25.6 Bcf increase in net production from our Fayetteville Shale play and a 2.8 Bcf increase in net production from our Appalachia properties, which more than offset a combined 3.4 Bcfe decrease in net production from our East Texas and Arkoma Basin properties. Net production from the Fayetteville Shale was 101.1 Bcf for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to 75.5 Bcf for the same period in 2010.

*Commodity Prices*

The average price realized for our natural gas production, including the effects of hedges, decreased approximately 24% to \$4.12 per Mcf for the three months ended March 31, 2011, as compared to the same period in 2010. The decrease in the average realized gas price reflects the decrease in average gas prices, excluding hedges, in addition to the decreased effect of our price hedging activities for the first three months of 2011 as compared to the same period in

---

2010. We periodically enter into various hedging and other financial arrangements with respect to a portion of our projected natural gas and crude oil production in order to ensure certain desired levels of cash flow and to minimize the impact of price fluctuations, including fluctuations in locational basis differentials (we refer you to Item 3 and Note 6 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q for additional discussion).

Our hedging activities increased the average gas price \$0.44 per Mcf for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to an increase of \$0.55 per Mcf for the same period in 2010. Disregarding the impact of hedges, the average price received for our natural gas production for the three months ended March 31, 2011 of \$3.68 per Mcf was approximately \$1.19 per Mcf lower than the three months ended March 31, 2010 and \$0.43 lower than the average NYMEX settlement price, primarily due to locational basis differentials and transportation costs. Assuming a NYMEX commodity price of \$4.50 per Mcf for 2011, the average price received for our natural gas production is expected to be approximately \$0.10 to \$0.20 per Mcf below the NYMEX Henry Hub index price, including the impact of our basis hedges. We had protected approximately 56% of our natural gas production for the three months ended March 31, 2011 from the impact of widening basis differentials through our hedging activities and sales arrangements. At March 31, 2011, we had basis protected on approximately 151 Bcf of our remaining 2011 expected natural gas production through financial hedging activities and physical sales arrangements at a basis differential to NYMEX gas prices of approximately (\$0.05) per Mcf. Our E&P segment receives a sales price for our natural gas at a discount to average monthly NYMEX settlement prices due to locational basis differentials, while transportation charges and fuel charges also reduce the price received. For 2011, we expect our total gas sales discount to NYMEX to be \$0.45 to \$0.50 per Mcf.

In addition to the basis hedges discussed above, at April 27, 2011, we had NYMEX fixed price hedges in place on notional volumes of 114.3 Bcf of our remaining 2011 natural gas production at an average price of \$5.34 per MMBtu and collars in place on notional volumes of 46.8 Bcf of our remaining 2011 natural gas production at an average floor and ceiling price of \$5.09 and \$6.50 per MMBtu, respectively.

At April 27, 2011, we had NYMEX fixed price hedges in place on notional volumes of 144.9 Bcf and 125.0 Bcf of our 2012 and 2013 natural gas production, respectively, and we had collars in place on notional volumes of 80.5 Bcf of our 2012 natural gas production. Additionally, we had basis swaps on 19.3 Bcf for the remainder of 2011, 26.7 Bcf for 2012, and 19.1 for 2013, in order to reduce the effects of widening market differentials on prices we receive.

*Operating Income*

Operating income from our E&P segment was \$178.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011, down from operating income of \$250.4 million for the same period in 2010. Operating income decreased as the increase in revenue attributable to our 28% increase in production was more than offset by the decrease in revenue attributable to the 24% decline in realized gas prices and the \$56.2 million increase in our operating costs and expenses.

*Operating Costs and Expenses*

Lease operating expenses per Mcfe for our E&P segment were \$0.86 for three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$0.78 for the same period in 2010. The increase in lease operating expenses per unit of production for the three months ended March 31, 2011, as compared to the same period of 2010, is primarily due to increased gathering and water disposal costs related to our Fayetteville Shale operations.

General and administrative expenses per Mcfe decreased 10% to \$0.26 for the three months ended March 31, 2011, reflecting the effects of our increased production volumes. In total, general and administrative expenses for our E&P segment were \$30.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$26.3 million for the same period in 2010. Payroll, incentive compensation and other employee-related costs associated with our E&P operations increased by \$1.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010 primarily as a result of the expansion of our E&P operations.

Taxes other than income taxes per Mcfe decreased to \$0.12 for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$0.14 for the same period in 2010. Taxes other than income taxes per Mcfe vary from period to period due to changes in severance and ad valorem taxes that result from the mix of our production volumes and fluctuations in commodity prices.

Our full cost pool amortization rate averaged \$1.31 per Mcfe for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared

to \$1.41 per Mcfe for the same period in 2010. The decline in the average amortization rate for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2010 was primarily the result of the sale of certain East Texas oil and natural gas leases and wells in the second quarter of 2010, as the proceeds from the sale were appropriately credited to the full cost pool, combined with lower acquisition and development costs. The amortization rate is impacted by the timing and amount of reserve additions and the costs associated with those additions, revisions of previous reserve estimates due to both price and well performance, write-downs that result from full cost ceiling tests, proceeds from the sale of properties that reduce the full cost pool and the levels of costs subject to amortization. We cannot predict our future full cost pool amortization rate with accuracy due to the variability of each of the factors discussed above, as well as other factors, including but not limited to the uncertainty of the amount of future reserves attributed to our Fayetteville Shale play.

Unevaluated costs excluded from amortization were \$757.6 million at March 31, 2011 compared to \$712.1 million at December 31, 2010. The increase in unevaluated costs during the three months ended March 31, 2011 primarily resulted from a \$28.8 million increase in our undeveloped leasehold acreage and seismic costs and a \$9.4 million increase in our drilling activity in our wells in progress. Unevaluated costs excluded from amortization at March 31, 2011 included \$13.1 million related to our properties in Canada, compared to \$10.7 million at December 31, 2010.

The timing and amount of production and reserve additions could have a material adverse impact on our per unit costs.

### Midstream Services

		For the three months ended March 31,	
		2011	2010
		(in thousands, except volumes)	
Revenues	marketing	\$ 586,648	\$ 564,988
Revenues	gathering	\$ 92,620	\$ 66,655
Gas purchases	marketing	\$ 579,320	\$ 560,003
Operating costs and expenses		\$ 46,031	\$ 34,016
Operating income		\$ 53,917	\$ 37,624
Gas volumes marketed (Bcf)		143.0	107.9
Gas volumes gathered (Bcf)		171.5	125.7

### Revenues

Revenues from our marketing activities were up 4% to \$586.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010. The increase in marketing revenues resulted from an increase in the volumes

marketed, partially offset by a decrease in the prices received for volumes marketed. For the three months ended March 31, 2011, the volumes marketed increased 33% and the price received for volumes marketed decreased 22% compared to the same period in 2010. Increases and decreases in marketing revenues due to changes in commodity prices are largely offset by corresponding changes in gas purchase expenses. Of the total volumes marketed, production from our affiliated E&P operated wells accounted for 94% and 97% of the marketed volumes for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Revenues from our gathering activities were up 39% to \$92.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010. The increase in gathering revenues resulted primarily from a 36% increase in gas volumes gathered for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010. Substantially all of the increases in gathering revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2011 resulted from increases in volumes gathered related to the Fayetteville Shale play. Gathering volumes, revenues and expenses for this segment are expected to continue to grow as reserves related to our Fayetteville Shale and Marcellus Shale plays are developed and production increases as expected.

#### *Operating Income*

Operating income from our Midstream Services segment increased \$16.3 million to \$53.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$37.6 million for the same period in 2010. The increase in operating income reflects the substantial increases in gas volumes gathered which primarily resulted from our increased E&P production

volumes. The \$16.3 million increase in operating income for the three months ended March 31, 2011 was primarily due to an increase of \$26.0 million in gathering revenues and an increase of \$2.3 million in the margin generated from our gas marketing activities, which were partially offset by a \$12.0 million increase in operating costs and expenses, exclusive of gas purchase costs.

The margin generated from gas marketing activities was \$7.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$5.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010. Margins are primarily driven by volumes of gas marketed and may fluctuate depending on the prices paid for commodities and the ultimate disposition of those commodities. We enter into hedging activities from time to time with respect to our gas marketing activities to provide



margin protection. We refer you to Item 3, Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risks included in this Form 10-Q for additional information.

### **Interest Expense**

Interest expense, net of capitalization, increased to \$7.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011, compared to \$6.5 million same period in 2010. Interest expense, excluding capitalization, increased due primarily to our increased borrowing level. We capitalized interest of \$9.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$7.9 million for the same period in 2010. The increase in capitalized interest was primarily due to the increase in our costs excluded from amortization in our E&P segment.

### **Income Taxes**

Our effective tax rates were 39.4% and 39.0% for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. For the three months ended March 31, 2011, we recorded an income tax expense of \$89.0 million compared to an income tax expense of \$109.8 million for the same period in 2010. We do not expect to pay any current federal income taxes in 2011.

### **Stock-Based Compensation Expense**

We expensed \$2.5 million and capitalized \$1.9 million for stock-based compensation for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$2.3 million expensed and \$1.7 million capitalized for the comparable period in 2010. We refer you to Note 13 in the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q for additional discussion of our equity based compensation plans.

### **New Accounting Standards Implemented in this Report**

On January 1, 2011, we implemented certain provisions of Accounting Standards Update No. 2010-06, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (Topic 820) Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements (Update 2010-06 ). Update 2010-06 requires entities to provide a reconciliation of purchases, sales, issuance and settlements of anything valued with a Level 3 method, which is used to price the hardest to value instruments. The implementation did not have an impact on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

## **LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

We depend primarily on internally-generated funds, our Credit Facility and funds accessed through debt and equity markets as our primary sources of liquidity.

For the remainder of 2011, assuming natural gas prices remain at current levels, we expect to draw on a portion of the funds available under our Credit Facility to fund our planned capital investments (discussed below under "Capital Investments"), which are expected to exceed the net cash generated by our operations. We refer you to Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q and the section below under "Financing Requirements" for additional discussion of our Credit Facility.

Net cash provided by operating activities decreased 5% to \$396.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$417.6 million for the same period in 2010, due to a decrease in net income adjusted for non-cash expenses primarily resulting from decreased revenues due to lower realized gas prices, partially offset by an increase in changes in working capital. During the three months ended March 31, 2011, requirements for our capital investments were funded primarily from our cash generated by operating activities and borrowings under our Credit Facility. For the

30

---

three months ended March 31, 2011, cash generated from our operating activities funded 75% of our cash requirements for capital investments and 94% for the three months ended March 31, 2010.

At March 31, 2011 our capital structure consisted of 28% debt and 72% equity. We believe that our operating cash flow and available funds under our Credit Facility will be adequate to meet our capital and operating requirements for 2011. The credit status of the financial institutions participating in our Credit Facility could adversely impact our ability to borrow funds under the Credit Facility. While we believe all of the lenders under the facility have the ability to provide funds, we cannot predict whether each will be able to meet its obligation.

Our cash flow from operating activities is highly dependent upon the market prices that we receive for our natural gas and oil production. Natural gas and oil prices are subject to wide fluctuations and are driven by market supply and demand factors which are impacted by the overall state of the economy. The price received for our production is also influenced by our commodity hedging activities, as more fully discussed in Item 3, "Quantitative and Qualitative

Disclosures about Market Risks and Note 6 in the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q. Our commodity hedging activities are subject to the credit risk of our counterparties being financially unable to complete the transaction. We actively monitor the credit status of our counterparties, performing both quantitative and qualitative assessments based on their credit ratings and credit default swap rates where applicable, and to date have not had any credit defaults associated with our transactions. However, any future failures by one or more counterparties could negatively impact our cash flow from operating activities.

Additionally, our short-term cash flows are dependent on the timely collection of receivables from our customers and partners. We actively manage this risk through credit management activities and through the date of this filing have not experienced any significant write-offs for non-collectable amounts. However, any sustained inaccessibility of credit by our customers and partners could adversely impact our cash flows.

Due to the above factors, we are unable to forecast with certainty our future level of cash flow from operations. Accordingly, we will adjust our discretionary uses of cash dependent upon available cash flow.

### **Capital Investments**

Our capital investments were \$530.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$473.6 million for the same period in 2010. Our E&P segment investments were \$468.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$411.4 million for the same period in 2010. Our E&P segment capitalized internal costs of \$37.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 compared to \$33.9 million for the comparable period in 2010. These internal costs were directly related to acquisition, exploration and development activities and are included as part of the cost of natural gas and oil properties. The increase in internal costs capitalized is due to the addition of personnel and related costs in our exploration and development segment.

Our capital investments for 2011 are planned to be \$2.0 billion, consisting of \$1.7 billion for E&P, \$225 million for Midstream Services and \$60 million for corporate and other purposes. Of the approximate \$1.7 billion, we expect to allocate approximately \$1.25 billion to our Fayetteville Shale play. Our planned level of capital investments in 2011 is expected to allow us to continue our progress in the Fayetteville Shale and Marcellus Shale programs and explore and develop other existing natural gas and oil properties and generate new drilling prospects. Our 2011 capital investment program is expected to be funded through cash flow from operations and borrowings under our Credit Facility. The planned capital program for 2011 is flexible and can be modified, including downward, if the low natural gas price environment persists for an extended period of time. We will reevaluate our proposed investments as needed to take into account prevailing market conditions and, if natural gas prices change significantly in 2011, we could change our planned investments.

### **Financing Requirements**

Our total debt outstanding was \$1.2 billion at March 31, 2011, compared to \$1.1 billion at December 31, 2010.

In February 2011, we amended and restated our unsecured revolving credit facility, increasing the borrowing capacity to \$1.5 billion and extending the maturity date to February 2016. The amount available under the revolving credit facility may be increased to \$2.0 billion at any time upon the Company's agreement with its existing or additional lenders. We had \$531.1 million outstanding under our revolving credit facility at March 31, 2011 compared to \$421.2 million at December 31, 2010.

The interest rate on our Credit Facility is calculated based upon our public debt rating and is currently 200 basis points over LIBOR. Our publicly traded notes are rated BBB- by Standard and Poor's and we have a Corporate Family Rating of Ba1 by Moody's. Any downgrades in our public debt ratings could increase our cost of funds under the Credit Facility.

Our Credit Facility contains covenants which impose certain restrictions on us. Under the Credit Facility, we must keep our total debt at or below 60% of our total capital, and must maintain a ratio of EBITDA to interest expense of 3.5 or above. Our Credit Facility's financial covenants with respect to capitalization percentages exclude hedging activities, pension and other postretirement liabilities as well as the effects of non-cash entries that result from any full cost ceiling impairments occurring after the date of the agreement. At March 31, 2011, our capital structure under our Credit Facility was 28% debt and 72% equity, which excluded hedging activities, pension and other postretirement liabilities but included the effect of the full cost ceiling impairment that occurred in 2009. We were in compliance with all of the covenants of our Credit Facility at March 31, 2011. Although we do not anticipate any violations of our financial covenants, our ability to comply with those covenants is dependent upon the success of our exploration and development program and upon factors beyond our control, such as the market prices for natural gas and oil. If we are unable to borrow under our Credit Facility, we may have to decrease our capital investment plans.

At March 31, 2011, our capital structure consisted of 28% debt and 72% equity compared to 27% debt and 73% equity at December 31, 2010. Equity at March 31, 2011 included an accumulated other comprehensive gain of \$71.5 million related to our hedging activities and a loss for \$12.3 million related to our pension and other postretirement liabilities. The amount recorded in equity for our hedging activities is based on current market values for our hedges at March 31, 2011 and does not necessarily reflect the value that we will receive or pay when the hedges are ultimately settled, nor does it take into account revenues to be received associated with the physical delivery of sales volumes hedged.

Our hedges allow us to ensure a certain level of cash flow to fund our operations. At April 27, 2011, we had NYMEX commodity price hedges in place on 161.0 Bcf of our remaining targeted 2011 natural gas production, 225.4 Bcf of our expected 2012 natural gas production and 125.0 Bcf of our expected 2013 natural gas production. The amount of long-term debt we incur will be largely dependent upon commodity prices and our capital investment plans.

### **Contractual Obligations and Contingent Liabilities and Commitments**

We have various contractual obligations in the normal course of our operations and financing activities. There have been no material changes to our contractual obligations from those disclosed in our 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### *Contingent Liabilities and Commitments*

In the first quarter of 2010, we were awarded exclusive licenses by the Province of New Brunswick in Canada to conduct an exploration program covering approximately 2.5 million acres in the province. The licenses require us to make certain capital investments in New Brunswick of approximately CAD \$47 million in the aggregate over a three year period. In order to obtain the licenses, we provided promissory notes payable on demand to the Minister of Finance of the Province of New Brunswick with an aggregate principal amount of CAD \$44.5 million. The promissory notes secure our capital expenditure obligations under the licenses and are returnable to us to the extent we perform such obligations. If we fail to fully perform, the Minister of Finance may retain a portion of the applicable promissory notes in an amount equal to any deficiency. We commenced our Canada exploration program in 2010 and, as of March 31, 2011, no liability has been recognized in connection with the promissory notes.

Substantially all of our employees are covered by defined benefit and postretirement benefit plans. We currently expect to contribute approximately \$12.1 million to our pension plans and \$0.1 million to our postretirement benefit plan in 2011. As of March 31, 2011, there have been no contributions to our pension plans and postretirement benefit plan. At March 31, 2011, we recognized a liability of \$18.5 million as a result of the underfunded status of our pension and other postretirement benefit plans compared to a liability of \$15.9 million at December 31, 2010.

We are subject to litigation and claims (including with respect to environmental matters) that arise in the ordinary course of business. Management believes, individually or in aggregate, such litigation and claims will not have a material adverse impact on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows, but these matters are subject to inherent uncertainties and management's view may change in the future, at which time management may reserve

---

amounts that are reasonably estimable. For further information regarding commitments and contingencies, we refer you to Note 9 in the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q.

### **Working Capital**

We had negative working capital of \$138.0 million at March 31, 2011 and negative working capital of \$113.1 million at December 31, 2010. Current assets decreased by \$23.7 million during the three months ended March 31, 2011 primarily due to a \$12.0 million decrease in accounts receivable and a \$6.4 million decrease in prepaid inventory.

Current liabilities increased by \$1.2 million during the three months ended March 31, 2011 primarily as a result of a \$13.4 million increase in accounts payable and an \$11.6 million increase in advances from partners, which were mostly offset by a \$13.6 million decrease in taxes payable and a \$9.8 million decrease in interest payable. We maintain access to funds that may be needed to meet capital requirements through our Credit Facility described in Financing Requirements above.

### **Natural Gas in Underground Storage**

We record our natural gas stored in inventory that is owned by the E&P segment at the lower of weighted average cost or market. The natural gas in inventory for the E&P segment is used primarily to supplement production in meeting the segment's contractual commitments, especially during periods of colder weather. In determining the lower of cost or market for storage gas, we utilize the natural gas futures market in assessing the price we expect to be able to realize for our natural gas in inventory. A significant decline in the future market price of natural gas could result in write-downs of our natural gas in underground storage carrying cost.

## **ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

Market risks relating to our operations result primarily from the volatility in commodity prices, basis differentials and interest rates, as well as credit risk concentrations. We use natural gas and crude oil swap agreements and options and interest rate swaps to reduce the volatility of earnings and cash flow due to fluctuations in the prices of natural gas and oil and in interest rates. Our Board of Directors has approved risk management policies and procedures to utilize financial products for the reduction of defined commodity price risk. Utilization of financial products for the reduction

of interest rate risks is subject to the approval of our Board of Directors. These policies prohibit speculation with derivatives and limit swap agreements to counterparties with appropriate credit standings.

### **Credit Risk**

Our financial instruments that are exposed to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of trade receivables and derivative contracts associated with commodities trading. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to receivables are limited due to the large number of our customers and their dispersion across geographic areas. No single customer accounted for greater than 10% of revenues for the three months ended, March 31, 2011. See **Commodities Risk** below for discussion of credit risk associated with commodities trading.

### **Interest Rate Risk**

At March 31, 2011, we had \$1.2 billion of total debt with a weighted average interest rate of 5.17%. Our revolving credit facility has a floating interest rate (2.251% at March 31, 2011). At March 31, 2011, we had \$531.1 million of borrowings outstanding under our Credit Facility. Interest rate swaps may be used to adjust interest rate exposures when deemed appropriate. We do not have any interest rate swaps in effect currently.

### **Commodities Risk**

We use over-the-counter natural gas and crude oil swap agreements and options to hedge sales of our production and to hedge activity in our Midstream Services segment against the inherent price risks of adverse price fluctuations or locational pricing differences between a published index and the NYMEX futures market. These swaps and options include (1) transactions in which one party will pay a fixed price (or variable price) for a notional quantity in exchange for receiving a variable price (or fixed price) based on a published index (referred to as price swaps), (2) transactions in which parties agree to pay a price based on two different indices (referred to as basis swaps) and (3) the purchase and sale of index-related puts and calls (collars) that provide a floor price, below which the counterparty pays funds equal

to the amount by which the price of the commodity is below the contracted floor, and a ceiling price above which we pay to the counterparty the amount by which the price of the commodity is above the contracted ceiling.

The primary market risks relating to our derivative contracts are the volatility in market prices and basis differentials for natural gas and crude oil. However, the market price risk is offset by the gain or loss recognized upon the related sale or purchase of the natural gas or sale of the oil that is hedged. Credit risk relates to the risk of loss as a result of non-performance by our counterparties. The counterparties are primarily major commercial banks, investment banks and integrated energy companies which management believes present minimal credit risks. The credit quality of each counterparty and the level of financial exposure we have to each counterparty are closely monitored to limit our credit risk exposure. Additionally, we perform both quantitative and qualitative assessments of these counterparties based on their credit ratings and credit default swap rates where applicable. We have not incurred any counterparty losses related to non-performance and do not anticipate any losses given the information we have currently. However, given the recent volatility in the financial markets, we cannot be certain that we will not experience such losses in the future.

### *Exploration and Production*

The following table provides information about our financial instruments that are sensitive to changes in commodity prices and that are used to hedge prices for natural gas production. The table presents the notional amount in Bcf, the weighted average contract prices and the fair value by expected maturity dates. At March 31, 2011, the fair value of our financial instruments related to natural gas production was a \$118.0 million asset.

	Weighted Average Price to be Swapped	Weighted Average Floor Price	Weighted Average Ceiling Price	Weighted Average Basis Differential	Fair value at March 31, 2011
Volume	(\$/MMBtu)	(\$/MMBtu)	(\$/MMBtu)	(\$/MMBtu)	(\$ in millions)

### **Natural Gas (Bcf):**

#### Fixed Price Swaps:

2011	97.4	\$ 5.39	\$	\$	\$ 79.5
2012	144.9	\$ 5.02	\$	\$	\$ (5.4)
2013	99.5	\$ 5.00	\$	\$	\$ (38.8)

#### Floating Price Swaps:

2011	1.1	\$ 4.49	\$	\$	\$
2012	4.4	\$ 5.67	\$	\$	\$ (3.0)



## Costless-Collars:

2011	46.8	\$	\$	5.09	\$	6.50	\$	\$	31.5
2012	80.5	\$	\$	5.50	\$	6.67	\$	\$	55.2

## Basis Swaps:

2011	19.3	\$	\$	\$	\$	0.07	\$	(0.2)
2012	26.7	\$	\$	\$	\$	0.15	\$	(0.5)
2013	19.1	\$	\$	\$	\$	0.12	\$	(0.3)

At March 31, 2011, our basis swaps did not qualify for hedge accounting treatment. Changes in the fair value of derivatives that do not qualify as cash flow hedges are recorded in gas and oil sales. For the three months ended March 31, 2011, we recorded an unrealized gain of \$0.9 million related to the basis swaps that did not qualify for hedge accounting treatment and an unrealized gain of \$0.1 million related to the change in estimated ineffectiveness of our cash flow hedges. Typically, our hedge ineffectiveness results from changes at the end of a reporting period in the price differentials between the index price of the derivative contract, which is primarily a NYMEX price, and the index price for the point of sale for the cash flow that is being hedged.

At December 31, 2010, we had outstanding natural gas price swaps on total notional volumes of 66.8 Bcf in 2011, 68.1 Bcf in 2012 and 36.5 in 2013 for which we will receive fixed prices ranging from \$5.00 to \$7.03 per MMBtu. At December 31, 2010, we had collars in place on notional volumes of 62.1 Bcf in 2011 at an average floor and ceiling

---

price of \$5.09 and \$6.50 per MMBtu, respectively, and collars on notional volumes of 80.5 Bcf in 2012 at an average floor and ceiling price of \$5.50 and \$6.67 per MMBtu, respectively.

Additionally, at December 31, 2010, we had outstanding fixed price basis differential swaps on 12.0 Bcf of 2011 natural gas production that did not qualify for hedge treatment.

*Midstream Services*

At March 31, 2011, our Midstream Services segment had outstanding fair value hedges in place on 0.1 Bcf and 0.1 Bcf of natural gas for 2011 and 2012, respectively. These hedges are a mixture of floating-price swap purchases and sales relating to our gas marketing activities. These hedges have contract months from October 2011 through March 2012 and have a net fair value liability of \$0.3 million as of March 31, 2011.

#### **ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.**

We have performed an evaluation under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act). Our disclosure controls and procedures are the controls and other procedures that we have designed to ensure that we record, process, accumulate and communicate information to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures and submission within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. All internal control systems, no matter how well designed, have inherent limitations. Therefore, even those determined to be effective can provide only a level of reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation. Based on the evaluation, our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2011. There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the three months ended March 31, 2011 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

### **PART II - OTHER INFORMATION**

#### **ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.**

The Company is subject to laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment. Our policy is to accrue environmental and cleanup related costs of a non-capital nature when it is both probable that a liability has been incurred and when the amount can be reasonably estimated. Management believes any future remediation or other compliance related costs will not have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

In February 2009, SEPCO was added as a defendant in a Third Amended Petition in the matter of Tovah Energy, LLC and Toby Berry-Helfand v. David Michael Grimes, et, al. In the Sixth Amended Petition, filed in July 2010, in the 273<sup>rd</sup> District Court in Shelby County, Texas (collectively, the Sixth Petition) the plaintiffs alleged that, in 2005, they provided SEPCO with proprietary data regarding two prospects in the James Lime formation pursuant to a confidentiality agreement and that SEPCO refused to return the proprietary data to plaintiffs, subsequently acquired leases based upon such proprietary data and profited therefrom. Among other things, the plaintiffs' allegations in the Sixth Petition included various statutory and common law claims, including, but not limited to claims of misappropriation of trade secrets, violation of the Texas Theft Liability Act, breach of fiduciary duty and confidential relationships, various fraud based claims and breach of contract, including a claim of breach of a purported right of first refusal on all interests acquired by SEPCO between February 15, 2005 and February 15, 2006. In the Sixth

Petition, plaintiffs sought actual damages of over \$55 million as well as other remedies, including special damages and punitive damages of four times the amount of actual damages established at trial.

Immediately before the commencement of the trial in November 2010, plaintiffs were permitted, over the Company's objections, to file a Seventh Amended Petition claiming actual damages of approximately \$46 million and also seeking the equitable remedy of disgorgement of all profits for the misappropriation of trade secrets and the breach of fiduciary duty claims. In December 2010, the jury found in favor of the plaintiffs with respect to all of the statutory and common law claims and awarded approximately \$11.4 million in compensatory damages. The jury did not, however, award plaintiffs any special, punitive or other damages. In addition, the jury separately determined that SEPCO's profits for purposes of disgorgement were \$381.5 million. This profit determination does not constitute a

judgment or an award. The plaintiffs' entitlement to disgorgement of profits as an equitable remedy will be determined by the judge and it is within the judge's discretion to award none, some or all the amount of profit to the plaintiffs. On December 31, 2010, the plaintiff filed a motion to enter the judgment based on the jury's verdict. On February 11, 2011, SEPCO filed a motion for a judgment notwithstanding the verdict and a motion to disregard certain findings. On March 11, 2011, the plaintiff filed an amended motion for judgment and intervenor filed its motion for judgment seeking not only the monetary damages and the profits determined by the jury but also seeking, as a new remedy, a constructive trust for profits from 143 wells as well as future drilling and sales of properties in the prospect areas. A hearing on the post-verdict motions was held on March 14, 2011. At the suggestion of the judge, all parties voluntarily agreed to participate in non-binding mediation efforts. The mediation occurred on April 6, 2011 and was unsuccessful. The judge was advised of the unsuccessful outcome and the parties are now awaiting the entry of a judgment.

The Company has determined that an adverse outcome in this lawsuit is reasonably possible, but not probable and, as such, has not accrued any amounts with respect to this lawsuit and cannot reasonably estimate the amount of any potential liability based on the Company's understanding and judgment of the facts and merits of this case, including appellate remedies, and the advice of counsel. The Company's assessment may change in the future due to occurrence of certain events, such as denied appeals, and such re-assessment could lead to the determination that the potential liability could be material to the Company's results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In March 2010, the Company's subsidiary, SEECO, Inc., was served with a subpoena from a federal grand jury in Little Rock, Arkansas. Based on the documents requested under the subpoena and subsequent discussions described

below, the Company believes the grand jury is investigating matters involving approximately 27 horizontal wells operated by SEECO in Arkansas, including whether appropriate leases or permits were obtained therefor and whether royalties and other production attributable to federal lands have been properly accounted for and paid. The Company believes it has fully complied with all requests related to the federal subpoena and delivered its affidavit to that effect. The Company and representatives of the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Attorney have had discussions since the production of the documents pursuant to the subpoena. In January 2011, the Company voluntarily produced additional materials informally requested by the government arising from these discussions. Although, to the Company's knowledge, no proceeding in this matter has been initiated against SEECO, the Company cannot predict whether or when one might be initiated. The Company intends to fully comply with any further requests and to cooperate with any related investigation. No assurance can be made as to the time or resources that will need to be devoted to this inquiry or the impact of the final outcome of the discussions or any related proceeding.

The Company is subject to other litigation and claims that have arisen in the ordinary course of business. The Company accrues for such items when a liability is both probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. In the opinion of management, the results of such litigation and claims currently pending will not have a material effect on the results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

#### **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS.**

There were no additions or material changes to the Company's risk factors as disclosed in Item 1A of Part I in the Company's 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### **ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS.**

Not applicable.

#### **ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES.**

Not applicable.

#### **ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION.**

Not applicable.

---

**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS.**

(4.1)

Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated February 14, 2011 among Southwestern Energy Company, JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA, Bank of America, N.A., Wells Fargo N.A., The Royal Bank of Scotland PLC, Citigroup, N.A. and the other lenders named therein, JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA, as administrative agent. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed February 18, 2011)

(31.1)

Certification of CEO filed pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

(31.2)

Certification of CFO filed pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

(32.1)

Certification of CEO and CFO furnished pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

(101.INS)

Interactive Data File Instance Document

(101.SCH)

Interactive Data File Schema Document

(101.CAL)

Interactive Data File Calculation Linkbase Document

(101.LAB)

Interactive Data File Label Linkbase Document

(101.PRE)

Interactive Data File Presentation Linkbase Document

(101.DEF)

Interactive Data File Definition Linkbase Document

37

---

**Signatures**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

**SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY COMPANY**

Registrant

Dated: April 28, 2011

/s/ GREG D. KERLEY

Greg D. Kerley

Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer