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XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

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Feb. 25. 2011 / 4:00PM, XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

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John Edwards

Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc. - Analyst

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Raymond James - Analyst

PRESENTATION

Operator

Great day ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the fourth-quarter 2010 Crosstex Energy earning's conference call. My name is Thelma, and I will be your coordinator for today's event.

(Operator Instructions) As a reminder, this conference is being recorded for replay purposes.

I would now like to turn the presentation over to Ms. Jill McMillan.

Jill McMillan - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Manager of Public and Industry Affairs*

Thank you. Good morning, everyone. Thank you for joining us today to discuss Crosstex fourth quarter and full year 2010 results. On the call today are Barry Davis, President and Chief Executive Officer and Bill Davis, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Our fourth-quarter and full-year 2010 earning's release was issued early this morning. For those of you who didn't receive a copy, it is available on our website at www.CrosstexEnergy.com. If you want to listen to a recording of today's call, you have 90 days to access a replay by phone or webcast on our website. I will remind you that any statements that might include our expectations or predictions should be considered forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Federal Securities laws. Forward-looking statements are subject to a number of assumptions and uncertainties that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in these statements, and we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements. We encourage you to review the cautionary statements and other disclosures made in our SEC filings, specifically those under the heading, risk factors. I will now turn the call over to Barry Davis.

Barry Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO*

Thank you all for joining us on the call today to discuss our fourth-quarter and full-year 2010 earnings and our guidance for 2011. We'll also discuss the state of the industry and opportunities we believe we'll have in the current environment. Looking briefly at our 2010 financial results, adjusted EBITDA for the year was \$186.9 million, up 18% from 2009. Adjusted EBITDA for the fourth quarter was \$50.2 million, up 17% from 2009. Distributable cash flow was \$91.2 million in 2010, a 48% increase over 2009. We are forecasting continued growth in 2011 with adjusted EBITDA in the range of \$185 million to \$215 million.



Feb. 25, 2011 / 4:00PM, XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

Bill Davis will provide more details on our fourth-quarter and full-year 2010 results and our guidance later in the call. When we began 2010, we said we would restore our financial and organizational strength and continue to reposition Crosstex for the future. We laid out our plans to complete a recapitalization, improve our balance sheet and restore our distributions and dividends. I am pleased to report that we have accomplished our goals. As a result, we have no significant near term debt maturities. We have over \$300 million available under our existing debt facilities. We have access to debt and capital markets at attractive rates for growth, and we have organizational capabilities and experience to build and operate large-scale shale mid-stream projects including gathering, processing, and NGL handling. Today, we are a leaner, more efficient organization focused on performance and long-term growth.

Looking to the future in growth, we recently revamped our business development teams and have substantial resources committed to developing opportunities for growth. We are focusing our growth initiatives on three areas. First, we are aggressively pursuing infrastructure needs in the emerging liquids rich shale plays where producer activity is focused. The development and growth of these plays and growth in power demand across the United States will create the need for \$6 billion to \$10 billion annually in infrastructure investment over the next several years. Second, we believe that increasing NGL production will create opportunities for us to better utilize and grow our existing NGL assets in Louisiana where we have fractionation capacity and the ability to expand that capacity as well as access to key Louisiana NGL markets. Third, we're evaluating opportunities to acquire assets that are synergistic with our existing assets or that provide a point of entry into new geographic areas.

We believe that we have strategic advantages to be successful in growing our business. First, we have tremendous experience with large rapidly expanding shale developments, such as the Barnett shale, where we have established a significant gathering and transmission footprint. Second, we have substantial guest processing and NGL capabilities and in-depth NGL market knowledge. Our capabilities include excess fractionation capacity in Louisiana with truck, rail and barge access. This helps us compete to build new gathering and processing infrastructure for producers in liquids rich plays. We should benefit from developing new gathering and processing infrastructure and from the NGL services we offer. Third, we have the organizational capabilities, the people and the systems to identify and develop opportunities and efficiently operate assets that we may develop or acquire.

Turning to operations, I will review our accomplishments in 2010 and update you on first quarter 2011 activities. I'll also provide some insight into what we see for 2011. In 2010, throughput on our North Texas pipeline averaged approximately 339,000 MMBtu per day versus 318,000 MMBtu for 2009. Our fourth quarter 2010 throughput on the North Texas pipeline was about 333,000 MMBtu per day versus approximately 344,000 MMBtu for the third quarter of 2010. Throughput on the North Texas pipeline is anticipated to remain in this range during 2011. Throughput in 2010 on our North Texas gathering systems was 730,000 MMBtu compared to 793,000 MMBtu per day in 2009. And our processing volumes were 209,000 MMBtu per day versus 2009 volumes of 219,000 MMBtu per day.

Fourth quarter 2010 gathering throughput was about 711,000 MMBtu per day versus approximately 736,000 MMBtu in the third quarter of 2010, and our plant's processed 206,000 MMBtu per day for the fourth quarter of 2010 compared with 224,000 MMBtu for the third quarter of 2010. These declines were largely attributable to operations temporarily shutting in existing wells to allow frac operations to be conducted on new wells. And to allow for tie-ins to made behind existing central delivery points. In addition, certain producers with multiple pipeline options chose to take their guests to other outlets. The loss of this volume has very little margin impact on us. Beginning in late first quarter 2011, we anticipate substantial volume growth on our gathering and processing systems due to expansion projects nearing completion, which I'll cover in a moment.

The Barnett shale overall continues to perform exceedingly well. In late 2010, cumulative gas production from the Barnett exceeded 8 Tcf. Daily production hit an all-time high at about 5.3 Bcf during the fourth quarter despite fewer rigs running in the Barnett during the last 24 months. In other words, due to increased efficiency of the rigs, the Barnett exceeded prior peak production with less than half the rigs used in the past. Our assets are primarily located in what has proven to be the core of the Barnett shale. We expect continued development around our assets. We continue to see opportunities for incremental growth in North Texas due to the significant investment we've made in our Barnett infrastructure for nearly five years.



Feb. 25, 2011 / 4:00PM, XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

We have two very good projects under way with firm volume dedications and relatively low capital investment compared with their cash flow impact. These two projects will significantly contribute to our gathered volume increase of approximately 100 million cubic feet a day in 2011 with a peak flow rate from these projects of 150,000 to 175,000 Mcf a day in 2012. Total capital costs of these projects is \$35 million with cash flow of approximately \$18 million. The projects are on track to be completed and operational near the end of the first quarter. These are the type of low-cost high-return opportunities that are created by the strategic position of our assets and that we will continue to invest in. We believe we will see more of these types of incremental investment opportunities as the Barnett is developed over its lifetime. In Louisiana, our LIG pipeline system is one of the largest most strategically positioned intrastate pipes in the state.

We provide 465,000mcf a day fully contracted take away capacity for gas from the Haynesville shale with a volume weighted average life of five years. We offer producers great optionality so they can reach a variety of interstate and intrastate markets. Drilling in the Haynesville remains active with 117 rigs running compared with 128 rigs in early October of 2010. In fact, Louisiana's 2010 natural gas production reached 2 Tcf, the highest since 1984, largely due to robust drilling activity in the Haynesville shale. In 2010, throughput on our LIG system averaged approximately 902,000 MMBtu per day, about the same as 2009. Our fourth quarter 2010 LIG throughput was 921,000 MMBtu per day versus approximately 883,000 MMBtu for the third quarter. The increased volumes were due to a new transportation contract on the Northern part of the system with a Haynesville shale producer and increased heating demand this winter on the LIG system.

We continue to work on LIG growth projects. There are new opportunities for us in central Louisiana, which is experiencing a resurgence of producer activity targeting liquids-rich production. We have existing assets that can provide producers with take away capacity and the ability to expand these assets as needed. The new activity should also offer some attractive processing opportunities for LIG and our PNLG assets. Our LIG system is well positioned to provide us with steady, profitable and reliable business. Significant growth opportunities to take advantage of current and strong processing economics. In southern Louisiana, we have made good progress to expand and improve our processing and natural gas liquids business primarily due to operational improvements, strong ethane prices, and higher processing margins compared with early 2010. Our full-year 2010 processing volumes were 874,000 MMBtu per day compared with 747,000 MMBtu per day for 2009. An improved market environment provided more processing opportunities which in turn contributed to higher fractionated NGL volumes.

In the fourth quarter of 2010, processing volumes averaged 840,000 MMBtu per day versus 878,000MMBtu in third quarter. The quarter-to-quarter volume decline was offset by higher processing margins and fractionation volumes in late 2010. We are encouraged by the near term optimization and growth opportunities for this business because we have great flexibility to increase the utilization of our asset infrastructure. We're working on projects that create incremental stable fee-based income for the NGL fractionation and terminal business. We see a growing need for fractionation in NGL handling as producers make liquids-rich production a priority. This need is primarily driven by gas produced from developing shale plays including the Eagle Ford, Granite Wash, Marcellus, Bakken and Permian basin plays. These areas have limited NGL markets and inadequate NGL infrastructure.

We offer producers in these regions an excellent interim solution by transporting their NGLs via truck, rail, and barge to our Louisiana fractionators. We are currently handling approximately 1,500 barrels per day from the Marcellus and about 6,300 total barrels per day of truck and rail volumes from other plays. We expect our truck and rail volumes to grow in 2011 as producers pursue these shale plays. High NGL prices are motivating customers to process as much gas as possible, and we are seeing increased NGL deliveries from our straddle plants. We are on schedule to complete the expansion and restart of our units fractionator in Southern Louisiana late in the first quarter.

This expansion will give us operational flexibility, increased fractionation capacity and the opportunity to capture new NGL related business. We will resume operations at an initial capacity of about 15,000 barrels per day of NGLs at Eunice, and we could add an additional 21,000 barrels per day of capacity at these facilities as supply grows. We have also identified opportunities to link our processing and NGL business in Southern Louisiana with our LIG assets and capabilities. We recently completed an interconnect linking LIGs Gibson gas processing plant to our Pelican plant in the South. Initial volumes from Gibson to Pelican began flowing in December. We will continue to look for additional opportunities to achieve full capacity at our Gibson and



Feb. 25, 2011 / 4:00PM, XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

Pelican plants. In summary, we believe the development of the liquids-rich plays will lead to more opportunities to better utilize our processing and NGL facilities. These assets are ideally situated near the Louisiana petrochemical and refining markets. Now, I'll turn the call over to Bill who will discuss our fourth-quarter and full-year 2010 financial results.

Bill Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - EVP and CFO*

Thanks for joining us on the call. As always in our earnings release, we have reconciled certain non-GAAP items to their GAAP equivalents, which we will discuss on this call today. Please refer to the earnings release for the reconciliation. As we report to you on our results and financial condition in 2010 and give 2011 guidance, we feel we are in great shape. Cash coverage of our distribution for the fourth quarter of 2010 was 1.6 times, with over \$10 million retained to contribute to our continued deleveraging. Retained cash, since restarting our distribution, amounts to \$16 million, a significant contribution to the equity requirements of our capital program. We exceeded the guidance we gave at the beginning of the year on distributions and dividends paying a total of \$0.51 in distributions and \$0.15 in dividends versus the \$0.30 and \$0.10 in our original guidance.

We ended 2010 with a debt to EBITDA below 4.1 times. No borrowings under our credit facility. More than \$300 million of liquidity available and no significant near-term debt returns. As you are all aware, the capital markets for MLP and General Partner equity are open for business. The high yield markets continue at a record-setting pace, and the bank market is much improved from just a year ago. Therefore, as we look at the opportunities presented by the abundance of new production in shale developments, we're confident of our ability to execute on the capital needs to fund growth beyond our current operations.

Turning to our financial results for 2010. We realized adjusted EBITDA during the year of \$186.9 million compared with \$158.7 million in 2009. That improvement fell to the bottom line with the distributable cash flow rising 48% to \$91.2 million from \$61.7 million in 2009. Fourth quarter 2010 adjusted EBITDA increased 17% to \$50.2 million, and distributable cash flow increased 60% to \$28.1 million over the fourth quarter of 2009. The majority of the difference between the years was related to increased gross operating margins including significant contributions from gathering and transport, processing, and NGL fractionation and marketing. Approximately 77% of the partnership's 2010 gross margin came from either gathering and transmission business or fixed fee processing and fractionation, which are not sensitive to commodity prices. Gross operating margin for the fourth quarter of 2010 increased to \$89.4 million compared with \$80.6 million in the fourth quarter of 2009. The full-year gross operating margin increased to \$338.3 million from \$311.2 million for 2009.

As I just mentioned, we're able to make improvements in all areas of the business, particularly the LIG segment, which increased \$16.6 million year-over-year with approximately \$11.6 million from gathering and transmission primarily due to improved pricing and higher volumes on the Northern part of the system and a gain of \$4.9 million from processing. In addition, the PNGL segment increased \$13.7 million for 2010 compared with 2009, due to improved processing and NGL marketing environments as well as the contribution of rail and truck product deliveries on volumes of fractionated NGLs. Processing margins were strong during 2010 with a weighted average NGL price of \$1.03 per gallon versus an \$0.81 average price in 2009. The NGL to gas ratio was 263% for the year 2010 and during the fourth quarter rose to 331%. So, we continue to see strong processing margins as we go through the first quarter of 2011.

In addition, the partnership is benefiting from increased NGL fractionation and marketing activity. Primarily the result of product deliveries by rail and truck to our Louisiana frac facilities. As Barry mentioned earlier, we're currently handling approximately 7,800 barrels a day of truck and rail volumes at our fractionation facilities. As we execute our strategy to import more barrels from developing shale plays, we expect this volume to continue to grow. 2010 operating expenses decreased \$5.3 million from 2009 primarily as a result of decreased plant compressor rent expense, partially offset by the costs related to our expansions on operations in North Louisiana. 2010 general and administrative expenses of \$59.9 million reflect a decline of \$11.4 million of 2009, largely due to workforce reductions completed in 2009 and lower legal and professional costs.

Depreciation and amortization expense decreased \$7.5 million in 2010 primarily due to the extension of the useful lives of various assets in accordance with the findings of an engineering study completed during 2009. Interest expense declined at



Feb. 25, 2011 / 4:00PM, XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

\$87 million in 2010 from \$95 million in 2009 which is primarily the result of the impact of some interest rate swaps we had in 2009. We've also continued to add to our commodity hedge position for 2011 hedging our percentage of liquids contracts and our processing margin contracts. The two types of contracts which we have which have commodity exposure. For 2011, we currently hedged about 62% of our hedgeable volumes for our percentage of liquids contracts, including amounts hedged with put options during the second half of this year, and approximately 58% of our hedgeable volumes for our processing margin contracts. We're continuing to evaluate hedging opportunities for 2011 and 2012. Particularly in light of the recent strength in the crude oil markets, which has driven further strength in the NGL markets.

We have hedged a small amount of 2012 volumes and we will continue to monitor pricing in the forward curves to add 2012's hedges as opportunities arise. Turning briefly to Crosstex Energy Inc., the Corporation had a year-end cash balance of a little over \$5 million, which will continue to grow as a portion of the distribution each receives each quarter are added to its cash balance. This cash will be used to make any matching contributions needed in the future on equity raises by Crosstex Energy L.P. and to build a reserve for potential income taxes payable in the future. As we had said we don't currently envision any significant income taxes to be paid by the corporation in the near future. We are now providing our preliminary 2011 high and low guidance based on a range of commodity pricing, volume and other assumptions that we are taking into account.

We're forecasting 2011 adjusted EBITDA in a range of \$185 million to \$215 million and associated distributable cash flow in a range of \$86 million to \$120 million. At the mid-point of guidance, we expect growth to come from our new production projects of North Texas and from the start-up of our Eunice fractionator. Assuming actual results are within the range of guidance, the partnership anticipates paying distributions in the range of \$1.04 to \$1.20 per unit for the year, and the corporation expects it could pay dividends in the range of \$0.32 to \$0.40 per share, assuming the receipt of the per-unit distributions as stated above from the partnership. There are a number of variables that could affect the payment of distributions and dividends of course. And the payment of any distribution and dividend will be subject to approval by the respective Boards of Directors and economic divisions and other factors existing at the time of determination.

In our guidance, we are assuming weighted average liquids prices will be between \$0.83 and \$1.18 per gallon, implying a crude price of between \$60 and \$86 per barrel. We're also assuming average Henry Hub prices of between \$3.50 and \$4.50 per MMBtu. Which implies natural gas liquids to gas ratios of between 209% and 382% for the period. We've indicated growth capital could range between \$50 million and \$150 million for the year and maintenance capital between \$11 million and \$14 million.

The low end of the growth capital range currently includes projects that we have approved on the books and are executing. While the \$100 million increase, at the upper end of the range, includes additional project opportunities that we're studying and evaluating and could be transacted in 2011. Most of these projects have 6 to 18-month lead times on their development. So, the impact on 2011 EBITDA would likely be nominal. In 2011, we expect to continue to grow our base business while focusing on the next phase of growth. We will provide additional color on this guidance during our scheduled analyst conference on the buy side and sell side analyst community on March 31. We look forward to seeing many of you for an in depth overview of our operations and financials at that time. The conference will be webcast and available to the general public. If you have questions or interest in the conference or want more information about it, please contact Jill McMillan or me. Now, I'll turn the call back to Barry.

Barry Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO*

Thank you, Bill. As we look at 2011 and beyond, our vision is to be the best mid-stream energy solutions provider. We will accomplish this by aggressively competing as a preferred partner, driving growth with a highly skilled experienced team, promoting a culture of safety, ensuring Crosstex's financial strength and remaining true to our core Company values. We will differentiate ourselves in this highly competitive market by acquiring knowledge, developing strategies and presenting solutions.

We believe we do this as well as anyone or better than anyone in the industry. In 2010, we made great progress executing our strategic plan. Today we are focused on a clear growth strategy that drives value for our customers, unit holders and shareholders



Feb. 25, 2011 / 4:00PM, XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

alike. We're positioned to take advantage of the abundant opportunities in and beyond our core areas in this robust industry environment. We believe Crosstex is in the best shape it's ever been and are optimistic about what lies ahead. Now, we'll turn the call back to our operator and open it up for any questions that you may have.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Operator

(Operator Instructions)

Our first question comes from James Allred with Raymond James.

James Allred - *Raymond James - Analyst*

Just focusing on your guidance for 2011. Looking at the low end of your distribution guidance and the low end of your DCF guidance, you'd be running about I guess between 1.2 and 1.3 coverage. But at the high end looks, more like 1.4 to 1.5. Can you just give more insight into your target coverage, and how you're thinking about coverage as it relates to distribution growth in 2011?

Bill Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - EVP and CFO*

We typically will think about that in terms of the ability to have predictable cash flows in our results. So, to the extent we feel like the cash flows that we're generating are, for example, from commodity-related margins as opposed to more predictable contract margins. We'll tend to distribute less of those. So as you get in to the higher ranges here that come to some extent from higher commodity processing margins, we will distribute a lower percentage of that distributable cash flow.

James Allred - *Raymond James - Analyst*

Okay. Just kind of switching over, looking at your Blue Water facility. Has your outlook on that plant changed at all given current spreads, or are you still looking at running that plant more on an opportunistic basis?

Barry Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO*

James, it's Barry. We have had the opportunity to run Blue Water recently. Again it's really a combination of two things. One is processing margins, and two is the actual dynamics of flow around the Blue Water plant. We have to have the gas and we have to have the margin available, and in that scenario, we run. We have had the opportunity to do that in the last couple of months, so we're benefiting from that.

James Allred - *Raymond James - Analyst*

And then just finally, your growth CapEx for 2010 came in at what?

Bill Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - EVP and CFO*

A little over \$40 million.

Feb. 25. 2011 / 4:00PM, XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

James Allred - *Raymond James - Analyst*

That's all I had. Thank you.

Operator

Michael Blum with Wells Fargo.

Bill Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - EVP and CFO*

Hi, Michael.

Unidentified Participant - *Analyst*

Hi, actually it's Sharon. Question in regards to your processing assumptions in terms of your 2011 guidance. Are you expecting, I guess, volumes to ramp up?

Barry Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO*

Sharon in our -- first of all, looking at the two places that we primarily see volumes, North Texas and in Louisiana both the LIG system and our South Louisiana. Our forecast in North Texas does have a substantial growth in the volumes there as a result of the two projects that we're completing. As we've said, we think by year end, we'll see at or near full capacity of our 280 million a day compared to the low 200 millions that we're seeing now. In south Louisiana, Bill, you got a reference there?

Bill Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - EVP and CFO*

Yes. We don't have a significant change in volumes in processed gas versus 2010. We do anticipate continued growth and fractionated volumes due to the truck and rail business that we're executing.

Unidentified Participant - *Analyst*

Okay. Then maybe if you could touch on the fourth quarter. It looked like the processing volumes declined sequentially?

Bill Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - EVP and CFO*

Right. And as Barry said, that was offset by the increase in fractionated volumes. Once again, the truck and rail business. We did have some gas at PNGL that went to another system beginning in the fourth quarter. So, we have a small decline in volume as a result.

Barry Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO*

Sharon, I would just emphasize, I think if you look back quarter-over-quarter for several quarters what you would see is some volatility in the PNGL volumes. That's really just the nature of that business. I mean, we're processing primarily straddle plant gas; gas that flows through the pipes that we are connected to. And from month-to-month or year-to-year, we can see some significant change in the flow of that volume. Generally that's the reason for any fluctuations.



Feb. 25. 2011 / 4:00PM, XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

Unidentified Participant - - *Analyst*

And I guess in terms of the high-end of the your growth CapEx guidance. Is there one particular region that you guys are focusing on or one larger project of that \$150 million budget?

Barry Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO*

Well, the good news is it's not just one region or not just one project. We are working on a number of projects, and at this point feel comfortable to put that size of investment into our guidance range. Which means we have some level of confidence that we will do some projects that are beyond current known and budgeted projects. I would say, as we said in the presentation, we are essentially working all of the areas with more advancement in certain areas than others but it would be premature to define what those are.

Unidentified Participant - - *Analyst*

Okay. Barry, maybe if you could just touch on what type of returns are you targeting for those type of projects?

Barry Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO*

Sharon, it would be consistent with our historical returns. One thing to keep in mind is the cost of the capital is lower today, which some believe is driving returns down. We still think the types of projects that we're getting will drive mid-teens or higher returns on the projects. Generally, looking at it from a -- getting synergies from our PNLG fractionation capacity. If we're able to do gathering and processing in an area and get upside with our synergy with our NGL facilities existing, then we can certainly enhance our returns there.

Unidentified Participant - - *Analyst*

Just your debt balance and liquidity?

Bill Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - EVP and CFO*

What was the question, Sharon?

Unidentified Participant - - *Analyst*

Your debt balance and your liquidity as of the end of the quarter?

Bill Davis - *Crosstex Energy, L.P. - EVP and CFO*

Yes. We have nothing drawn on the revolver at that point. We have about \$85 million in letters of credit outstanding. So, availability is about \$335 million.

Unidentified Participant - - *Analyst*

Great. Thank you.

Feb. 25, 2011 / 4:00PM, XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

Operator

John Edwards with Morgan Keegan & Co.

John Edwards - Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc. - Analyst

Just wondering on your CapEx, your growth capital guidance, the \$50 million that's approved. Were those some of the projects that you were hoping for in 2010? They just have moved over to 2011?

Bill Davis - Crosstex Energy, L.P. - EVP and CFO

We initiated the three bigger projects that we've got going on in 2010. This is the wrapping up of the spending on those projects, which mainly are the Fossil Creek project in North Texas, the Benbrook project in North Texas and the Eunice frac restart in the PNLG asset. Those have a combined capital of \$45 million, of which a little over two-thirds is being spent in 2011 here in the first quarter to bring those online.

John Edwards - Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc. - Analyst

Then I'm just curious on the truck and rail business. What kind of contribution are you looking from that, and then what's the sustainability of that contribution in your view?

Barry Davis - Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO

Let me speak first of all to the sustainability, John. We think that this is both a near term and a long-term solution for some of the bottle necking that we're seeing come about in the liquids-rich plays. We think we can be an interim solution, like we under the Marcellus, until there is a permanent solution with pipeline. But we always think there's going to be local/regional bottle necks where we can provide some outlet on an interim basis. So, it's hard to say. I think it can be near-term, the next two to three years. But three years from now we may be working new plays that will then need an interim solution. So, we think it's more sustainable than not.

Bill Davis - Crosstex Energy, L.P. - EVP and CFO

Yes, in terms of the amount of contribution, you can see that our NGLs fractionated year-over-year go up nearly 50%. That is in a large extent the contribution of the rail and truck volumes. Which I really want to hand it to the creativity of our NGL team being able to execute around this new type of business for us. It's a major contributor.

Barry Davis - Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO

John, let me add further to -- like we are looking for long-term solutions for these areas that are seeing bottlenecks. We're also looking at long-term solutions for our NGL facilities trying to provide permanent throughput, if you will, through pipeline connections or even permanent rail outlets. So, we're not just thinking of it as an interim solution, but we think there's some ways to be connected to the overall infrastructure.

Feb. 25, 2011 / 4:00PM, XTEX - Q4 2010 Crosstex Energy Earnings Conference Call

John Edwards - Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc. - Analyst

Great. Lastly, you are speaking about your evaluating acquisition opportunities. Obviously, you mention a whole range of the shale plays. Are there any areas of more particular focus, I guess, than others? Like the Eagle Ford?

Barry Davis - Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO

Let me remind you of our position in the Barnett really began with an acquisition of, what we called kind of a cornerstone or a platform asset that we purchased from Chief. And then we essentially doubled or more the size of those facilities over time. We think there are some of the plays that are getting to the point where you see the early stage developers, guys who go in and contract for the earliest part of the development or even producers who build for themselves. We are working some opportunities where we would see that in other plays. Again, at this point, I think it's fair to say that there are six or seven key plays. And that we working in all of those, and I wouldn't want to identify which ones might be the first ones to come together.

John Edwards - Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc. - Analyst

Thanks a lot.

Operator

Ladies and gentlemen that concludes our Q&A session for today's event. I would now like to turn the call back over to Mr. Barry Davis for closing remarks.

Barry Davis - Crosstex Energy, L.P. - Chairman, President and CEO

Thank you for coordinating the call. Let me just say thank you to everyone who's been on the call. I think 2010 has been a great year for all of us. We are more excited about what we're working on now for 2011. You heard us say the word growth a number of times, and that really does dominate what we're thinking about right now. So, we look forward to continuing to report good results and good results on our growth opportunities ahead. Thank you and have a great day and a great weekend.

Operator

Thank you for your participation in today's conference. This concludes today's presentation.

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