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

Form 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2018

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 No. 001-35912

EMERGE ENERGY SERVICES LP

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

90-0832937

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

5600 Clearfork Main Street, Suite 400, Fort Worth, Texas 76109

(Address of principal executive offices)

(817) 618-4020

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class

Common Units Representing Limited Partner Interests

Name of Each Exchange On Which Registered

New York Stock Exchange

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

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, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one)

Large-Accelerated Filer

Non-Accelerated Filer

Accelerated Filer

Smaller Reporting Company

Emerging growth company

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

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

As of April 25, 2018, 31,006,173 common units were outstanding.

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements and information in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q may constitute “forward-looking statements.” The words “believe,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “plan,” “intend,” “foresee,” “should,” “would,” “could” or other similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, which are generally not historical in nature. These forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations and beliefs concerning future developments and their potential effect on us. While management believes that these forward-looking statements are reasonable as and when made, there can be no assurance that future developments affecting us will be those that we anticipate. All comments concerning our expectations for future revenues and operating results are based on our forecasts for our existing operations and do not include the potential impact of any future acquisitions. Our forward-looking statements involve significant risks and uncertainties (some of which are beyond our control) and assumptions that could cause actual results to differ materially from our historical experience and our present expectations or projections. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those summarized below:

- failure to secure or maintain contracts with our largest customers, or non-performance of any of those customers under the applicable contract;
- competitive conditions in our industry;
- the amount of frac sand we are able to excavate and process, which could be adversely affected by, among other things, operating difficulties and unusual or unfavorable geologic conditions;
- the volume of frac sand we are able to sell;
- the price at which we are able to sell frac sand;
- changes in the long-term supply of and demand for oil and natural gas;
- volatility of fuel prices;
- unanticipated ground, grade or water conditions at our sand mines;
- actions taken by our customers, competitors and third-party operators;
- our ability to complete growth projects on time and on budget;
- our ability to realize the expected benefits from recent acquisitions;
- increasing costs and minimum contractual obligations relating to our transportation services and infrastructure;
- inclement or hazardous weather conditions, including flooding, and the physical impacts of climate change;
- environmental hazards;
- industrial accidents;
- changes in laws and regulations (or the interpretation thereof) related to the mining and hydraulic fracturing industries, silica dust exposure or the environment;
- inability to acquire or maintain necessary permits or mining or water rights;
- facility shutdowns in response to environmental regulatory actions;
- inability to obtain necessary production equipment or replacement parts;
- reduction in the amount of water available for processing;
- technical difficulties or failures;
- labor disputes and disputes with our excavation contractor;
- late delivery of supplies;
- difficulty collecting receivables;
- inability of our customers to take delivery of our products;
- changes in the price and availability of transportation;
- fires, explosions or other accidents;
- pit wall failures or rock falls;
- the effects of future litigation; and
- other factors discussed in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and the detailed factors discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

When considering forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the known material risk factors and other cautionary statements set forth in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017 in “Risk Factors” and in this Form 10-Q in “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and “Risk Factors.” Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements after the date they are made, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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

EMERGE ENERGY SERVICES LP
UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(\$ in thousands, except unit data)

	<u>March 31, 2018</u>	<u>December 31, 2017</u>
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,689	\$ 5,729
Trade and other receivables, net	66,768	56,951
Inventories	14,889	27,825
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	8,173	6,331
Total current assets	<u>98,519</u>	<u>96,836</u>
Property, plant and equipment, net	203,813	185,970
Intangible assets, net	570	1,664
Other assets, net	22,563	24,422
Total assets	<u>\$ 325,465</u>	<u>\$ 308,892</u>
LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 21,976	\$ 18,819
Accrued liabilities	16,012	29,718
Current portion of long-term debt	8,063	—
Total current liabilities	<u>46,051</u>	<u>48,537</u>
Long-term debt, net of current portion	195,690	176,351
Business acquisition obligation, net of current portion	4,553	5,013
Other long-term liabilities	22,228	29,882
Total liabilities	<u>268,522</u>	<u>259,783</u>
Commitments and contingencies		
Partners' equity:		
General partner	—	—
Limited partner common units - 31,006,173 units and 30,174,940 units issued and outstanding as of March 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively	56,943	49,109
Total partners' equity	<u>56,943</u>	<u>49,109</u>
Total liabilities and partners' equity	<u>\$ 325,465</u>	<u>\$ 308,892</u>

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

EMERGE ENERGY SERVICES LP
UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(\$ in thousands, except unit and per unit data)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
Revenues	\$ 106,750	\$ 75,344
Operating expenses:		
Cost of goods sold (excluding depreciation, depletion and amortization)	80,242	72,311
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	4,861	4,656
Selling, general and administrative expenses	8,571	5,878
Contract and project terminations	1,689	—
Total operating expenses	95,363	82,845
Operating income (loss)	11,387	(7,501)
Other expense (income):		
Interest expense, net	10,492	3,198
Other	(688)	691
Total other expense	9,804	3,889
Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income taxes	1,583	(11,390)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	97	—
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,486	\$ (11,390)
Earnings (loss) per common unit (1)		
Basic earnings (loss) per common unit	\$ 0.05	\$ (0.38)
Diluted earnings (loss) per common unit	\$ 0.05	\$ (0.38)
Weighted average number of common units outstanding - basic	31,212,968	30,061,022
Weighted average number of common units outstanding - diluted	31,371,382	30,061,022
(1) See Note 8.		

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

EMERGE ENERGY SERVICES LP
UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PREFERRED UNITS AND PARTNERS' EQUITY
(\$ in thousands)

	<u>Limited Partner Common Units</u>	<u>General Partner (non-economic interest)</u>	<u>Total Partners' Equity</u>
Balance at December 31, 2017	\$ 49,109	\$ —	\$ 49,109
Net income	1,486	—	1,486
Equity-based compensation	434	—	434
Issuance of equity	5,974	—	5,974
Other	(60)	—	(60)
Balance at March 31, 2018	<u>\$ 56,943</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 56,943</u>

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

EMERGE ENERGY SERVICES LP
UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(\$ in thousands)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,486	\$ (11,390)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash flows from operating activities:		
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	4,861	4,656
Equity-based compensation expense	434	347
Project and contract termination costs	1,689	—
Unrealized (gain) loss on fair value of warrant	(677)	696
Provision for doubtful accounts	3	—
Loss (gain) on disposal of assets	2	(6)
Amortization of debt discount/premium and deferred financing costs	4,528	663
Unrealized (gain) loss on derivative instruments	—	(149)
Other non-cash charges	30	29
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(9,815)	(15,609)
Inventories	12,936	4,204
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(1,843)	(784)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(3,155)	4,194
Other assets	265	210
Cash flows from operating activities	10,744	(12,939)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(30,102)	(1,399)
Net proceeds from disposal of assets	9	7
Cash flows from investing activities	(30,093)	(1,392)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from line of credit borrowings	9,510	76,100
Proceeds from second lien term loan	175,000	—
Repayment of line of credit borrowings	(143,700)	(57,929)
Repayment of other long-term debt	(5,882)	—
Payment of business acquisition obligation	(595)	(1,519)
Payment of financing costs	(11,964)	(163)
Other financing activities	(60)	(63)
Cash flows from financing activities	22,309	16,426
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Net increase (decrease)	2,960	2,095
Balance at beginning of period	5,729	4
Balance at end of period	\$ 8,689	\$ 2,099

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

EMERGE ENERGY SERVICES LP
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)

1. ORGANIZATION AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Organization

Emerge Energy Services LP (“Emerge”) is a Delaware limited partnership that completed its initial public offering (“IPO”) on May 14, 2013 to become a publicly traded partnership. The combined entities of Superior Silica Sands LLC (“SSS”), a Texas limited liability company and EmERGE Energy Services Operating LLC (“EmERGE Operating”), a Delaware limited liability company, currently represent EmERGE.

References to the “Partnership,” “we,” “our” or “us” refer collectively to EmERGE and all of its subsidiaries.

We are engaged in the business of mining, processing, and distributing silica sand, a key input for the hydraulic fracturing of oil and gas wells. We conduct our operations through our subsidiary SSS, and we believe our Superior Silica Sands brand has name recognition and a positive reputation with our customers. The Sand business conducts mining and processing operations from facilities located in Wisconsin and Texas. In addition to mining and processing silica sand for the oil and gas industry, the Sand business sells its product for use in building products and foundry operations.

We previously owned a fuel business that operated transmix processing facilities located in the Dallas-Fort Worth area and in Birmingham, Alabama. The Fuel business also offered third-party bulk motor fuel storage and terminal services, biodiesel refining, sale and distribution of wholesale motor fuels, reclamation services (which consists primarily of cleaning bulk storage tanks used by other petroleum terminal and others) and blending of renewable fuels.

Basis of Presentation and Consolidation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements were prepared using generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and the instructions to Form 10-Q and Regulation S-X. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include all information or notes required by generally accepted accounting principles for annual financial statements and should be read together with our 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K. These financial statements include the accounts of all of our subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. In the opinion of management, all adjustments and disclosures necessary for a fair presentation of these interim statements have been included.

2. ASSET ACQUISITION

On April 12, 2017, we closed the transaction to acquire substantially all of the assets of Materials Holding Company, Inc., Osburn Materials, Inc., Osburn Sand Co. and South Lehr, Inc. for \$20 million. The transaction was funded with a \$40 million term loan. The San Antonio site is located 25 miles south of San Antonio, Texas, and previously produced and sold construction, foundry and sports sands, but did not serve the energy markets. We upgraded the existing operations for conversion into frac sand production and commenced frac sand production in July 2017. Our San Antonio site’s reserves consist mostly of 40/70 and 100 mesh sands and meet American Petroleum Institute (“API”) specifications for all grades.

We early adopted the provisions of Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 805, *Business Combinations* and Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2017-01, *Business Combinations (Topic 805): Clarifying the Definition of a Business*, in accounting for this transaction. Under this guidance, if substantially all of the fair value of the gross assets acquired is concentrated in a single asset or group of similar assets, the transaction can be accounted for as an asset purchase. Based on our analysis of the transaction, substantially all of the fair value is concentrated in the sand reserves acquired, and thus we accounted for the transaction as an asset purchase. Significant judgment is often required in estimating the fair values of assets acquired. We engaged a third-party valuation specialist in estimating fair values of the assets acquired. We used our best estimates and assumptions to allocate the cost of the acquisition to the assets acquired on a relative fair value basis at the acquisition date. The fair value estimates are based on available historical information and on expectations and assumptions about the future production and sales volumes, market demands, the average selling price of sand, and the discount factor used in estimating future cash flows. While we believe those expectations and assumptions are reasonable, they are inherently uncertain. Transaction costs of \$434,000 incurred for the acquisition are capitalized as a component of the cost of the assets acquired.

3. OTHER FINANCIAL DATA

Adoption of ASC 606, Revenue from Contracts with Customers

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued ASU 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, ASC 606. The new revenue recognition standard provides a five-step analysis of transactions to determine when and how revenue is recognized. The core principle is that a company should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. It also requires entities to disclose both quantitative and qualitative information that enable financial statements users to understand the nature, amount, timing, and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts with customers. ASC 606 replaced most existing revenue recognition guidance in United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (“GAAP”) when it became effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017. ASC 606 permits the use of either the retrospective or cumulative effect transition method. We conducted and completed a comprehensive review of contracts and their associated business terms and conditions and performed detailed analyses on the impact of this standard to our contracts. Based on our evaluation, we adopted the new standard on January 1, 2018, using the full retrospective method. Because accounting for revenue under contracts did not materially change for us under the new standard as explained below, prior period consolidated financial statements did not require adjustment.

We recognize revenue at a point in time when obligations under the terms of a contract with our customer are satisfied. This occurs with the transfer of control of our products to customers when products are shipped for direct sales to customers or when the product is picked up by a customer either at our plant location or transload location. Our contracts contain one performance obligation which is the delivery of sand to the customer at a point in time. Revenue is measured as the amount of consideration we expect to receive in exchange for transferring products. We recognize the cost for shipping as an expense in cost of sales when control over the product has transferred to the customer. Sales taxes collected concurrently with revenue-producing activities are excluded from revenue.

Our sand products are sold to United States and Canada-based customers primarily in the energy industry. Demand for our product is impacted by the economic conditions related to the energy industry, particularly fluctuations in oil and gas prices. This affects the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of our revenue. Changes in the price of oil and gas relative to other inflationary measures could make our products more or less affordable and therefore affect our sales. We also sell a small quantity of non-frac sand to customers outside the energy industry.

Our payment terms vary by the type and location of our customers. The term between invoicing and the payment due date is 30 days in most cases. For certain customers, we require payment before the product is delivered.

The following table presents our revenues disaggregated by nature of product:

	Three Months Ended			
	March 31, 2018		March 31, 2017	
	<i>\$ in thousands</i>	<i>Tons in thousands</i>	<i>\$ in thousands</i>	<i>Tons in thousands</i>
Frac sand revenues	\$ 105,971	1,437	\$ 75,182	1,245
Non-frac sand revenues	779	66	162	6
Total revenues	<u>\$ 106,750</u>	<u>1,503</u>	<u>\$ 75,344</u>	<u>1,251</u>

We maintain an allowance for doubtful accounts to reflect estimated losses resulting from the failure of customers to make required payments. On an ongoing basis, the collectability of accounts receivable is assessed based upon historical collection trends, current economic factors and the assessment of the collectability of specific accounts. We evaluate the collectability of specific accounts and determine when to grant credit to our customers using a combination of factors, including the age of the outstanding balances, evaluation of customers’ current and past financial condition, recent payment history, current economic environment, and discussions with our personnel and with the customers directly. Accounts are written off when it is determined the receivable will not be collected. If circumstances change, our estimates of the collectability of amounts could change by a material amount.

A limited number of our contracts have variable consideration, including shortfall fees and demurrage fees. For a limited number of customers, we sell under long-term, minimum purchase supply agreements. These agreements define, among other commitments, the volume of product that our customers must purchase, the volume of product that we must provide, and the price that we will charge for each product. The shortfall fees are billed when the customer does not meet the minimum purchases over a period of time defined in each contract. As we do not have the ability to predict the customer’s orders over the period, there are constraints around our ability to recognize the variability in consideration related to this condition. Demurrage fees are assessed to customers for not returning the railcar timely and according to the terms of the contract. Estimation of demurrage fees is also constrained as we cannot estimate when the customer will pick up the product from the railcar upon delivery. Shortfall fees and demurrage

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represent an immaterial amount of revenue historically. For these contracts we estimate our position quarterly using the most likely outcome method, including customer-provided forecasts and historical buying patterns, and we accrue for any asset or liability these arrangements may create. The effect of accruals for variable consideration on our consolidated financial statements is immaterial.

After a thorough and extensive analysis of all of our long-term, minimum purchase supply agreements and a review of the standard terms of the purchase orders, we determined that there is no material change in the transaction price and amounts allocated to performance obligations, or the timing of satisfaction of performance obligations under ASC 606 compared to our accounting for these items in previous periods.

Discontinued Operations

On August 31, 2016, we completed the sale of our Fuel business pursuant to the terms of the Fuel Business Purchase Agreement. The purchase price was \$167.7 million, subject to adjustment based on actual working capital conveyed at closing. The following escrow accounts were established at closing:

- \$7 million of the sales price was withheld as a general escrow associated with certain indemnification obligations. Any unutilized escrow balance, plus any accrued interest thereon, will be paid 54 months from the closing date.
- \$4 million of the sales price was withheld as a hydrotreater escrow to satisfy any cost overruns of the Birmingham hydrotreater completion. In 2017, we wrote off the entire receivable relating to hydrotreater completion delays and cost overruns.
- \$2.25 million of the sales price was withheld as the Renewable Fuel Standard escrow account. The entire amount, along with interest thereon, was collected in April 2017.
- \$1 million of the sales price was withheld as a pipeline escrow account. Any unutilized escrow balance, along with any accrued interest thereon, will be released with the general escrow.

Escrow receivables are recorded at the net present values of estimated future recoveries and will be adjusted as contingencies are resolved.

Private Placement

In connection with our private placement in August 2016, we issued to the purchaser a warrant to purchase approximately 890,000 common units at an exercise price of \$10.82 per common unit. The warrant, which expires on August 16, 2022, was exercisable immediately upon issuance and contains a cashless exercise provision and other customary provisions and protections, including anti-dilution protections. This warrant is classified as a liability in accordance with ASC 480, *Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity*, and is included in Other long-term liabilities on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. This warrant has not been exercised as of March 31, 2018.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The allowance for doubtful accounts totaled \$17.0 thousand at March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017.

Inventories

Inventories consisted of the following:

	<u>March 31, 2018</u>	<u>December 31, 2017</u>
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Sand finished goods	\$ 9,959	\$ 12,914
Sand work in process	4,751	14,650
Sand raw materials and supplies	179	261
Total	<u>\$ 14,889</u>	<u>\$ 27,825</u>

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Prepaid expenses and other current assets

Prepaid expenses and other current assets consisted of the following:

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	(\$ in thousands)	
Prepaid mining costs	\$ 3,381	\$ 1,011
Prepaid lease assets, current (1)	2,415	2,496
Prepaid insurance	772	875
Prepaid transload services	693	1,274
Other	912	675
Total	<u>\$ 8,173</u>	<u>\$ 6,331</u>

(1) The cost to transport leased railcars from the manufacturer to our site for initial placement in service is capitalized and amortized over the term of the lease (typically five to seven years). This balance reflects the current portion of these capitalized costs.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment consisted of the following:

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	(\$ in thousands)	
Machinery and equipment (1)	\$ 92,925	\$ 92,353
Buildings and improvements (1)	66,545	66,444
Mineral reserves	49,091	49,091
Land and improvements (1)	47,597	45,567
Construction in progress	34,870	15,696
Capitalized reclamation costs	2,521	2,521
Total cost	<u>293,549</u>	<u>271,672</u>
Accumulated depreciation and depletion	89,736	85,702
Net property, plant and equipment	<u>\$ 203,813</u>	<u>\$ 185,970</u>

(1) Includes assets under capital lease.

We classified \$393,000 and \$292,000 as assets held for sale as of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017.

We recognized \$4.1 million and \$3.9 million of depreciation and depletion expense for the three months ended March 31, 2018, and 2017, respectively.

Intangible Assets

Our intangible assets consisted of the following:

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net
	(\$ in thousands)		
March 31, 2018:			
Patents	\$ 7,443	\$ 6,936	\$ 507
Non-compete agreement	100	37	63
Total	<u>\$ 7,543</u>	<u>\$ 6,973</u>	<u>\$ 570</u>
December 31, 2017:			
Patents	\$ 7,443	\$ 6,188	\$ 1,255
Supply and transportation agreements	569	226	343
Non-compete agreement	100	34	66
Total	<u>\$ 8,112</u>	<u>\$ 6,448</u>	<u>\$ 1,664</u>

We recognized \$0.8 million of amortization expense for each of the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017.

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Other assets, net consisted of the following:

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Deferred lease asset (1)	\$ 8,763	\$ 8,775
Prepaid lease assets, net of current portion (2)	6,575	7,153
Escrow receivable, non-current (3)	5,772	5,684
Other	1,453	2,810
Total	<u>\$ 22,563</u>	<u>\$ 24,422</u>

- (1) During 2016, we completed negotiations with various railcar lessors pursuant to which we terminated future orders of railcars, deferred future railcar deliveries and reduced and deferred payments on existing leases. The cost of deferring future railcar deliveries was recorded as a deferred lease asset. This asset will be amortized over the terms of the associated leases as those railcars enter service.
- (2) The cost to transport leased railcars from the manufacturer to our site for initial placement in service is capitalized and amortized over the term of the lease (typically five to seven years). This balance reflects the non-current portion of these capitalized costs.
- (3) Non-current receivables are recorded at net present value of estimated recoveries and will be adjusted as contingencies are resolved.

Accrued Liabilities

Accrued liabilities consisted of the following:

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Logistics	\$ 2,816	\$ 5,898
Fuel sale related liabilities	2,478	2,475
Current portion of business acquisition obligations	1,790	1,952
Mining	1,544	170
Salaries and other employee-related	1,209	4,633
Sales, excise, property and income taxes	871	1,953
Deferred compensation	848	848
Sand purchases and royalties	768	311
Accrued interest	578	2,552
Construction	434	7,122
Professional fees	200	373
Current portion of contract termination	85	210
Other	2,391	1,221
Total	<u>\$ 16,012</u>	<u>\$ 29,718</u>

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Other Long-term Liabilities

Other long-term liabilities consisted of the following:

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Deferred lease obligation (1)	\$ 11,033	\$ 9,561
Long-term promissory note	5,370	9,370
Asset retirement obligation	2,814	2,792
Warrants	2,134	2,811
Contract and project terminations	877	5,348
Total	<u>\$ 22,228</u>	<u>\$ 29,882</u>

(1) We recognize lease expense for operating leases on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease, beginning on the date we take possession of the property. The difference between the cash paid to the lessor and the amount recognized as lease expense on a straight-line basis is included in deferred lease obligation.

Long-term Promissory Note

During the second quarter of 2016, we negotiated significant concessions on the majority of our railcar leases pursuant to which we cancelled or deferred deliveries on rail cars and reduced cash payments on a substantial portion of the existing rail cars in our fleets. In exchange for these concessions, we issued at par an unsecured promissory note in the aggregate principal amount of \$8 million (the "PIK Note") for delivery deferrals. The PIK Note bears interest at a rate of 10% per annum payable in cash or, in certain situations, in-kind, when certain financial metrics have been met. We began paying interest in cash as of January 1, 2018. This Note will mature on June 2, 2020. We paid \$1.5 million of the principal balance during the three months ended March 31, 2018, as part of our debt refinancing described in Note 4 to our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. We also issued warrants to purchase 370,000 common units representing limited partnership interests in the Partnership in exchange for these concessions during the second quarter of 2016.

Contract and Project Terminations

In December 2015, we gained access to a significant reserve base in Jackson County, Wisconsin through a business arrangement with a contracted customer. The assets acquired included certain owned and leased land, sand deposit leases and related prepaid royalties, and transferable mining and reclamation permits. In consideration for the assets, we amended and restated the existing supply agreement between the parties and entered into a new sand purchase option agreement that provided the customer with a market-based discount on sand purchased from us. Under the agreements, we have the option to supply the contracted tons from our existing footprint of northern white sand operations or construct a new sand mine and dry plant in Jackson County, Wisconsin. Due to changing market conditions and changing preferences of customer demand, we determined that these projects were no longer economically viable and decided to terminate the land owner agreements and the mine permits. We recorded a \$1.9 million charge to earnings to write off the related prepaid royalties during the three months ended March 31, 2018. As we terminated our permits for these properties, we will not owe any future royalty payments related to these properties.

During 2016, we negotiated concessions on the majority of our railcar leases pursuant to which we cancelled or deferred deliveries on rail cars and reduced cash payments on a substantial portion of the existing rail cars in our fleets. In exchange for these concessions, we incurred a contract termination charge of \$4 million. We issued at par an unsecured promissory note in the aggregate principal amount of \$4 million with interest payable in cash or, in certain situations, in-kind, when certain financial metrics have been met. This note bore interest at a rate of five percent per annum. We fully extinguished this liability and paid \$4.4 million in January 2018 as part of our debt refinancing described in Note 4 to our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

The following table illustrates the various contract termination liabilities and exit and disposal reserves included in Accrued liabilities and Other long-term liabilities in our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets:

	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Balance at December 31, 2017	\$	5,557
Adjustments		(221)
Accretion		8
Payments		(4,382)
Balance at March 31, 2018	<u>\$</u>	<u>962</u>

Mining and Wet Sand Processing Agreement

In April 2014, a five-year contract with a sand processor (“Processor”) became effective to support our Sand business in Wisconsin. In January 2015, the agreement was amended and extended to expire on December 31, 2021. Under this contract, the Processor financed and built a wet wash processing plant near our Wisconsin operations. As part of the agreement, the Processor wet washes our sand, creates stockpiles of washed sand and maintains the plant and equipment. During the term of the agreement the Processor will own the wet plant along with the equipment and other temporary structures used to support this activity. At the end of the term of the agreement or following a default under the contract by the Processor, we have the right to take ownership of the wet plant and other equipment without charge. Subject to certain conditions, ownership of the plant and equipment will transfer to us at the expiration of the term. We accounted for the wet plant as a capital lease obligation.

Fair Value Measurements

Our financial instruments consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and debt instruments. The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable and accounts payable are representative of their fair values due to their short maturities. The carrying amounts of our revolving credit facility approximates fair value because the underlying instrument includes provisions that adjust our interest rates based on current market rates. The fair values of our other long-term liabilities are not materially different from their carrying values.

On August 8, 2016, we, as part of the private placement described above, also issued a warrant to the purchaser to purchase approximately 890,000 common units at an exercise price of \$10.82 per common unit. This warrant shall be exercisable for a period of six years from the closing date and include customary provisions and protections, including anti-dilution protections. The fair value of this warrant at issuance date was calculated at \$5.56 per unit based on a Black Scholes valuation model, utilizing Level 2 inputs based on the hierarchy established in ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurement*. This liability is marked to market each quarter with fair value gains and losses recognized immediately in earnings and included in Other income (expense) on our Consolidated Statements of Operations. The warrant liability was \$2.1 million and \$2.8 million at March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, respectively. We recorded a a non-cash mark-to-market gain of \$0.7 million during the three months ended March 31, 2018, and a loss of \$0.7 million during the three months ended March 31, 2017.

Retirement Plan

We sponsor a 401(k) plan for substantially all employees that provides for us to match 100% of participant contributions up to 5% of the participant’s pay. Additionally, we can make discretionary contributions as deemed appropriate by management.

As of May 1, 2017, we reestablished the employer 401(k) contributions, which was previously suspended on July 1, 2016. Employer contributions to these plans totaled \$297,000 and \$0 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, and 2017, respectively.

Seasonality

Winter weather affects the months during which we can wash and wet-process sand in Wisconsin. Seasonality is not a significant factor in determining our ability to supply sand to our customers because we accumulate a stockpile of wet sand feedstock during non-winter months. During the winter, we process the stockpiled sand to meet customer requirements. However, we sell sand for use in oil and natural gas production basins where severe weather conditions may curtail drilling activities. This is particularly true in drilling areas located in the northern U.S. and western Canada. If severe winter weather precludes drilling activities, our frac sand sales volume may be adversely affected. Generally, severe weather episodes affect production in the first quarter with effects possibly continuing into the second quarter.

Concentration of Credit Risk

We provide credit, in the normal course of business, to customers located throughout the United States and Canada. We encounter a certain amount of credit risk as a result of a concentration of receivables among a few significant customers. We perform ongoing credit evaluations of our customers and generally do not require collateral. The trade receivables (as a percentage of total trade receivables) as of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, from such significant customers are set forth below:

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
Customer A	25%	17%
Customer B	19%	20%
Customer C	*	13%

An asterisk indicates trade receivables less than ten percent.

[Table of Contents](#)**Significant customers**

The table shows the percent of revenue of our significant customers for our continuing operations represented for the three months ended March 31, 2018, and 2017.

	March 31, 2018	March 31, 2017
Customer A	28%	17%
Customer B	12%	*
Customer D	10%	32%

An asterisk indicates revenue is less than ten percent.

Geographical Data

Although we own no long-term assets outside the United States, we began selling sand in Canada during 2013. We recognized \$11.8 million and \$5.4 million of revenues in Canada for the three months ended March 31, 2018, and 2017, respectively. All other sales have occurred in the United States.

Recent Issued Accounting Pronouncement

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, *Leases*. This ASU requires lessees to recognize lease assets and lease liabilities generated by contracts longer than a year on their balance sheets. The ASU also requires companies to disclose in the footnotes to their financial statements information about the amount, timing, and uncertainty for the payments they make for the lease agreements. ASU 2016-02 is effective for public companies for annual periods and interim periods within those annual periods beginning after December 31, 2018. Early adoption is permitted for all entities. We currently have significant long-term operating leases for rail cars and transload facilities. Pursuant to the adoption, we will record substantial liabilities and corresponding assets for these leases. We have engaged an independent consultant to assist us in our assessment of our lease contracts. While we are not yet in a position to assess the full impact of the application of this ASU, we expect that the impact of recording the lease liabilities and the corresponding additional assets will have a significant impact on our financial position and results of operations and related disclosures in the notes to our consolidated financial statements. We plan to adopt this guidance on January 1, 2019.

4. LONG-TERM DEBT

Following is a summary of our long-term debt:

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Second lien term loan - principal	\$ 215,000	\$ 40,000
Revolving credit facility - principal	9,510	143,700
Less: Deferred financing costs, net	(20,757)	(7,349)
Total debt	203,753	176,351
Less current portion	(8,063)	—
Long-term debt	\$ 195,690	\$ 176,351

Revolving Credit Facility

On January 5, 2018, we entered into a \$75.0 million Second Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Security Agreement (the "Credit Agreement"), among the Partnership, as parent guarantor, each of its subsidiaries, as borrowers, PNC Bank, National Association ("PNC Bank"), as administrative agent and collateral agent, and the other lenders party thereto. The Credit Agreement replaced the Prior Credit Agreement. The Credit Agreement provides for a \$75.0 million asset-based revolving credit facility, and a \$20.0 million sublimit for the issuance of letters of credit. The Credit Agreement matures on January 5, 2022. Substantially all our assets are pledged as collateral on a first lien basis. This revolving credit facility is available to (i) refinance existing indebtedness, (ii) fund fees and expenses incurred in connection with the credit facility and (iii) for general business purposes, including working capital requirements, capital expenditures, permitted acquisitions, making debt payments when due, and making distributions and dividends.

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The Credit Agreement contains various covenants and restrictive provisions and also requires the maintenance of certain financial covenants as follows:

- a minimum liquidity requirement of \$20.0 million at all times;
- beginning with the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2018, a total leverage ratio of a maximum of 5.50:1.00 decreasing quarterly thereafter to 3.00:1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending December 31, 2018, and thereafter;
- beginning with the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2018, a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.10:1.00; and
- a limit on capital expenditures, subject to certain availability thresholds.

Loans under the Credit Agreement bear interest at our option at either (i) a base rate, which will be the base commercial lending rate of PNC Bank, as publicly announced to be in effect from time to time, plus an applicable margin ranging from 0.75% to 1.25% based on total leverage ratio; or (ii) LIBOR plus an applicable margin ranging from 1.75% to 2.25% based on the Partnership's total leverage ratio.

During the three months ended March 31, 2018, we wrote off \$3.9 million of deferred financing costs relating to the reduction of our revolving credit facility.

As of March 31, 2018, our outstanding borrowings under the Credit Agreement bore interest at a rate of 7.8%.

Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement

On January 5, 2018, the Partnership as guarantor, and the Partnership's wholly owned subsidiaries EmERGE Energy Services Operating LLC and Superior Silica Sands LLC, as issuers, entered into a \$215 million second lien note purchase agreement with the purchasers thereunder (the "Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement"). The notes issued under the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement will mature on January 5, 2023. Proceeds of the sale of the notes under the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement will be used (i) to fully pay off the Partnership's existing second lien term credit facility, (ii) to fully pay off the obligations under the Partnership's Prior Credit Agreement, (iii) to finance capital expenditures, (iv) to pay fees and expenses incurred in connection with the new second lien facility and (v) for general business purposes. Substantially all of the Partnership's assets are pledged as collateral on a second lien basis.

The Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement contains various covenants and restrictive provisions and also requires the maintenance of certain financial covenants as follows:

- a minimum liquidity requirement of \$20.0 million at all times;
- beginning with the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2018, a total leverage ratio of a maximum of 6.00:1.00 decreasing quarterly thereafter to 3.00:1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2019, and thereafter;
- beginning with the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2018, a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.10:1.00, increasing quarterly to 2.00:1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2019, and thereafter; and
- a limit on capital expenditures, subject to certain availability thresholds.

Commencing on September 30, 2018, we are required to make quarterly principal payments (without premium or penalty) equal to (i) for each fiscal quarter ending on or prior to December 31, 2019, 1.25%, and (ii) for each fiscal quarter thereafter, 1.875%, of the original principal amount. Accordingly, on March 31, 2018, we have classified \$8.1 million of principal as a current liability.

The notes under the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement bear interest at 11.0% per annum until December 31, 2018, and ranging from 10.00% per annum to 12.00% per annum thereafter, depending on our leverage ratio.

In lieu of paying cash for certain transaction costs, we also issued 814,295 common units representing limited partnership interests in the Partnership to the Second Lien Note holders in a private placement in January 2018. Proceeds from this issuance, net of expenses, was \$6.0 million.

As of March 31, 2018, borrowings under the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement bore interest at a rate of 11.0%.

Covenants Compliance

At March 31, 2018, we were in compliance with our loan covenants and had undrawn availability under the Credit Agreement totaling \$53.5 million, well above the minimum availability required under our current covenants.

5. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Related party transactions included in our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets and Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations are summarized in the following table:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Employee-related and other costs (1)	\$ 9,286	\$ 4,076

	March 31, 2018		December 31, 2017	
		<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>		
Accounts receivable, net	\$ 2	\$	962	\$
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 351	\$	800	\$

(1) We do not have any employees. Our general partner manages our human resource assets, including fringe benefits and other employee-related charges. We routinely and regularly reimburse our general partner for any employee-related costs paid on our behalf, and report such costs as operating expenses.

6. EQUITY-BASED COMPENSATION

Effective May 14, 2013, we adopted our 2013 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "LTIP") for providing long-term incentives for employees, directors, and consultants who provide services to us. The LTIP provides for the issuance of an aggregate of up to 2,321,968 common units to be granted either as options, restricted units, phantom units, distribution equivalent rights, unit appreciation rights, unit award, profits interest units, or other unit-based award granted under the plan. All of our outstanding grants will be settled through issuance of limited partner common units.

For remaining phantom units granted to employees in 2013, we currently assume a 67-month vesting period, which represents management's estimate of the amount of time until all vesting conditions have been met. For other phantom units granted to employees, we have a 24 to 36-month vesting period. Restricted units are awarded to our independent directors on each anniversary of our IPO, each with a vesting period of one year. Regarding distributions for independent directors and other employees, distributions are credited to a distribution equivalent rights account for the benefit of each participant and become payable generally within 45 days following the date of vesting. As of March 31, 2018, the unpaid liability for distribution equivalent rights totaled \$0.8 million.

In the first quarter of 2018, we granted 24,800 time-based phantom units to certain officers and employees to vest in equal installments on each anniversary date of the grant over a period of two years.

The following table summarizes awards granted during the three months ended March 31, 2018.

	Total Units	Phantom Units	Restricted Units	Fair Value per Unit at Award Date
Outstanding at December 31, 2017	333,821	310,780	23,041	\$ 13.10
Granted	24,800	24,800	—	\$ 6.98
Vested	(25,275)	(25,275)	—	\$ 9.72
Forfeitures	—	—	—	\$ —
Outstanding at March 31, 2018	333,346	310,305	23,041	\$ 12.90

For the three months ended March 31, 2018, and 2017, we recorded non-cash equity-based compensation expense of \$0.4 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, in selling, general and administrative expenses.

As of March 31, 2018, the unrecognized compensation expense related to the grants discussed above amounted to \$1.5 million to be recognized over a weighted average of 1.09 years.

7. INCOME TAXES

Our provision for income taxes relates to: (i) Texas margin taxes for the Partnership, and (ii) a Canadian income taxes on SSS earnings in Canada (most of our earnings are exempted under a U.S./Canada tax treaty). For federal income tax purposes, we report our income, expenses, gains, and losses as a partnership not subject to income taxes. As such, each partner is responsible for his or her share of federal and state income tax. Net earnings for financial statement purposes may differ significantly from taxable income reportable to each partner because of differences between the tax basis and financial reporting basis of assets and liabilities.

The composition of our provision for income taxes is as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Texas margin tax	\$ 42	\$ —
Canadian income tax	55	—
Total provision for income taxes	<u>\$ 97</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

We are responsible for our portion of the Texas margin tax that is included in our subsidiaries' consolidated Texas franchise tax returns. For our operations in Texas, the effective margin tax rate is approximately 0.375% as defined by applicable state law. The margin tax qualifies as an income tax under GAAP, which requires us to recognize the impact of this tax on the temporary differences between the financial statement assets and liabilities and their tax basis attributable to such tax.

8. EARNINGS PER COMMON UNIT

We compute basic earnings (loss) per unit by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted-average number of common units outstanding including certain participating securities. Participating securities include unvested equity-based payment awards that contain rights to distributions, as well as convertible preferred units and warrants that contain contractual rights to participate in any distributions that are declared. It is our policy to exclude participating securities, convertible preferred units and warrants from the calculation of basic earnings (loss) per unit in periods of net losses from continuing operations since these securities are not contractually obligated to share in losses.

Diluted earnings per unit is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common units outstanding, including the number of common units that would have been outstanding had potential dilutive units been exercised. The dilutive effect of restricted units is reflected in diluted net income per unit by applying the treasury stock method. For periods in which warrants are dilutive, we reverse the income effects of the warrants and include incremental units in our computation of diluted earnings per unit. Under FASB ASC 260-10-45, *Contingently Issuable Shares*, 93,806 of our outstanding phantom units are not included in basic or diluted earnings per common unit calculations as of March 31, 2018, and 2017.

Basic and diluted earnings per unit for the three months ended March 31, 2018, is calculated as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands, except per unit data)</i>	
Net Income (loss)	\$ 1,486	\$ (11,390)
Weighted average common units outstanding	30,997,125	30,061,022
Weighted average units deemed participating securities	215,843	—
Weighted average number of common units outstanding - basic	31,212,968	30,061,022
Weighted average potentially dilutive units outstanding	15,122	—
Add incremental units from assumed exercise of warrants	143,292	—
Weighted average number of common units outstanding - diluted	<u>31,371,382</u>	<u>30,061,022</u>
Basic earnings (loss) per common unit	<u>\$ 0.05</u>	<u>\$ (0.38)</u>
Diluted earnings (loss) per common unit	<u>\$ 0.05</u>	<u>\$ (0.38)</u>

9. RECURRING FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

We follow FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurement*, which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and specifies disclosures about fair value measurements. This guidance establishes a hierarchy for disclosure of the inputs to valuations used to measure fair value. The hierarchy prioritizes the inputs into three broad levels as follows.

- Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 inputs are quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets or inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly through market corroboration, for substantially the full term of the financial instrument.
- Level 3 inputs are measured based on prices or valuation models that require inputs that are both significant to the fair value measurement and less observable from objective sources.

Our valuation models consider various inputs including (a) mark to market valuations, (b) time value and, (c) credit worthiness of valuation of the underlying measurement.

A financial asset or liability's classification within the hierarchy is determined based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

We do not designate our derivative instruments as hedges under GAAP. As a result, we recognize derivatives at fair value on the consolidated balance sheet with resulting gains and losses reflected in interest expense (for interest rate swap agreements). Our derivative instruments serve the same risk management purpose whether designated as a hedge or not. We derive fair values principally from published market interest rates (Level 2 inputs). We do not use derivative financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes.

On August 8, 2016, we, as part of the private placement described above, issued a warrant to the purchaser to purchase approximately 890,000 common units at an exercise price of \$10.82 per common unit. The warrant shall be exercisable for a period of six years from the closing date and include customary provisions and protections, including anti-dilution protections. The fair value of this warrant at issuance date was calculated at \$5.56 per unit based on a Black Scholes valuation model, utilizing Level 2 inputs based on the hierarchy established in ASC 820, Fair Value Measurement. This liability is marked to market each quarter with fair value gains and losses recognized immediately in earnings and included in Other expense (income) on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. We recorded non-cash mark-to-market gain of \$0.7 million and a loss of \$0.7 million during the three months ended March 31, 2018, and 2017, respectively.

The fair values of outstanding derivative instruments and warrant and their classifications within our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets are summarized as follows:

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017	Classification
<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>			
Warrant liability	\$ 2,134	\$ 2,811	Other long-term liabilities

The effect of derivative instruments, none of which has been designated for hedge accounting, on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations was as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,		Classification
	2018	2017	
<i>((income) expense \$ in thousands)</i>			
Interest rate swaps	\$ —	\$ (56)	Interest expense, net
Warrant	(677)	696	Other expense (income)
	<u>\$ (677)</u>	<u>\$ 640</u>	

10. SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW DISCLOSURES

The following supplemental disclosures may assist in the understanding of our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Cash paid for interest	\$ 3,359	\$ 2,921
Cash paid for income taxes, net of refunds	\$ —	\$ 15
Issuance of equity	\$ 5,974	\$ —
Purchases of PP&E accrued but not paid at period-end	\$ 3,210	\$ 1,561
Purchases of PP&E accrued in a prior period and paid in the current period	\$ 11,372	\$ 170

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Emerge Energy Services LP ("Emerge") is a Delaware limited partnership that completed its initial public offering ("IPO") on May 14, 2013 to become a publicly traded partnership. The combined entities of Superior Silica Sands LLC ("SSS"), a Texas limited liability company and Emerge Energy Services Operating LLC ("Emerge Operating"), a Delaware limited liability company, currently represent Emerge.

References to the "Partnership," "we," "our" or "us" refer collectively to Emerge and all of its subsidiaries.

Overview

We are a publicly-traded limited partnership formed in 2012 by management and affiliates of Insight Equity Management Company LLC and its affiliates to own, operate, acquire and develop a diversified portfolio of energy service assets.

The following discussion analyzes our financial condition and results of operations and should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, as well as historical condensed consolidated financial statements and notes included elsewhere in this Quarterly Report.

[Table of Contents](#)**Results of Operations**

The following table summarizes our consolidated operating results:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Revenues	\$ 106,750	\$ 75,344
Operating expenses:		
Cost of goods sold (excluding depreciation, depletion and amortization)	80,242	72,311
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	4,861	4,656
Selling, general and administrative expenses	8,571	5,878
Contract and project terminations	1,689	—
Total operating expenses	95,363	82,845
Operating income (loss)	11,387	(7,501)
Other expense (income):		
Interest expense	10,492	3,198
Other	(688)	691
Total other expense	9,804	3,889
Income (loss) before provision for income taxes	1,583	(11,390)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	97	—
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,486	\$ (11,390)
Adjusted EBITDA (a)	\$ 17,386	\$ 68

(a) See “Adjusted EBITDA” below for a discussion of Adjusted EBITDA and a reconciliation to net income (loss) and cash flows from operations.

Major Factors Impacting Comparability Between Prior and Future Periods**Market Trends**

Beginning in late 2014, the market prices for crude oil and refined products began a steep and protracted decline which continued into 2016. This greatly impacted the demand for frac sand as drilling and completion of new oil and natural gas wells was significantly curtailed in North America. As a result, we experienced significant downward pressure on sand volume and pricing. However, commodity prices stabilized in the middle of 2016, leading to an improvement in drilling activity during the third quarter of 2016 and into 2017. Market conditions have continued to improve in the current environment, and based on industry outlooks from third-party research firms and customers, we expect conditions to remain strong for 2018. The increase in demand for frac sand has significantly tightened the availability of supply, and as a result, customers are seeking surety of supply through contractual commitments. We are selectively agreeing and entering into multi-year contracts with some of our key accounts. We are also executing take-or-pay sand supply agreements for our San Antonio operation and have received a number of non-binding indications of interest for the product. We believe that sand supply agreements ensure the customers a steady supply of product in exchange for covering the infrastructure-related fixed costs plus needed margins associated with operating our business.

Although the near-term supply is closely aligned to current demand, our competitors have begun building in-basin frac sand operations targeting the Permian Basin in West Texas and the Eagle Ford basin in South Texas. There can be no assurances that all of the announced projects will be completed given permitting, construction, infrastructure, and environmental constraints. Our San Antonio operation positions us to target the second most active Texas in-basin market with comparatively less start-up costs (e.g., permitting, construction, infrastructure, and environmental analysis).

Expansion of Sand Resources

On April 12, 2017, we closed the transaction to acquire our San Antonio operations for \$20 million. The San Antonio site is located approximately 25 miles south of San Antonio, Texas and previously produced and sold construction, foundry and sports sands, but did not serve the energy markets. We upgraded the existing operations for conversion into frac sand production and commenced frac sand production in July 2017. As part of our expansion strategy in San Antonio, we began construction of a new wet and dry

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plant on the site in October 2017. The new dry plant commenced operations in late April 2018, and the wet plant is targeted to be operational in July 2018. Our San Antonio reserves contain API-specification, strategic reserves (40/70 and 100 mesh sands) that bolster our presence with in-basin local sands and balance our portfolio of northern white to local sands. With the close proximity of the plant to the Eagle Ford basin, we expect to sell the majority of the sand produced at the plant into this shale play, which is currently the second most active in the United States.

Fluctuating Fixed Costs for Sand

During 2014, our rapidly expanding frac sand business required us to contract for numerous railcars to be delivered and leased in the future as well as contracting for new transload facilities. The industry downturn from 2015 through 2016 and the corresponding decline in volumes shipped created an excess number of railcars in our fleet, increasing our fixed costs per-ton. However, we successfully negotiated concessions with several of our vendors, and the significant upturn in frac sand demand has required us to place most of our idled railcars back into service, thereby reducing our fixed cost per ton.

Changing Preferences of Customer Demand

For several years leading up to 2015, most oil and gas producers preferred the highest quality, coarsest grades of frac sand (20/40 and 30/50) to complete shale wells around North America. The drop in oil and gas prices during 2015 and 2016 forced many oil and gas producers to consider alternatives for lowering the cost to complete a new well. Lower quality proppants compared to northern white sands are often located closer to the shale basins than northern white sands, so some operators have elected to use these proppants and save on transportation costs. Finer mesh sands (40/70 and 100 mesh) have also been used more regularly as oil and gas well completion designs have evolved. As a leading provider of frac sand, we are able to meet the changing needs of our customers and the market. Our diversified set of capabilities enables us to produce both coarse and fine grades in large quantities. With our recent acquisition in San Antonio, we have two Texas operations that are well positioned geographically to meet the strong demand in the prolific Texas basins.

Sand Distribution System

We have developed our sand distribution system over several years through the addition of third-party transload facilities in the basins in which our customers operate. We are able to charge higher prices for these terminal sales than for FOB plant sales to provide this additional service and convenience to our customers and to cover related transportation and other services costs.

Currently, our northern white sand volumes are partially constrained by railroad congestion from certain class I carriers due to the high volume of shipments that have surpassed prior peak periods. We are working closely with our logistics partners to resolve the bottlenecks during this period of surging demand, and we are increasing shipments on newly expanded rail outlets.

Technology Driven Proppant Products

In early 2016, we launched our self-suspending sand marketed under the brand SandMaxX™. This new technology offers the potential to increase production in oil and gas wells in addition to improving pump time and reducing other upfront costs. Trial wells have proven that the technology is effective down-hole, but the customer adoption rate has been slower than initially anticipated. Under the contract, we had the option to continue ownership of this technology after the initial installment period (which expires on May 25, 2018) by payment of significant additional funds. Given the lack of market acceptance for SandMaxX™ proppant, even after considerable efforts to market the product, we have elected to discontinue ownership of the intellectual property after the initial installment period. This will not have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations.

Operating results

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(\$ in thousands)	
Revenues:		
Frac sand revenues	\$ 105,971	\$ 75,182
Non-frac sand revenues	779	162
Total revenues	106,750	75,344
Operating expenses:		
Cost of goods sold (excluding depreciation, depletion and amortization)	80,242	72,311
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	4,861	4,656
Selling, general and administrative expenses	8,571	5,878
Contract and project terminations	1,689	—
Operating income (loss)	\$ 11,387	\$ (7,501)
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 1,486	\$ (11,390)
Adjusted EBITDA (a)	\$ 17,386	\$ 68
Volume of sand sold (tons in thousands):		
Volume of frac sand sold (tons in thousands)	1,437	1,245
Volume of non-frac sand sold (tons in thousands)	66	6
Total volume of sand sold (tons in thousands)	1,503	1,251
Terminal sand sales (tons in thousands):		
Terminal sand sales (tons in thousands)	655	588
Volume of frac sand produced by plant (tons in thousands):		
Arland, Wisconsin facility	407	368
Barron, Wisconsin facility	498	532
New Auburn, Wisconsin facility	345	317
Kosse, Texas facility	99	65
San Antonio, Texas facility (b)	59	—
Total volume of frac sand produced	1,408	1,282

(a) See “Adjusted EBITDA” below for a discussion of Adjusted EBITDA and a reconciliation to net income (loss) and operating cash flows.

(b) We commenced frac sand production at the San Antonio facility in July 2017.

Three Months Ended March 31, 2018 Compared to Three Months Ended March 31, 2017
Revenues

Sand revenues increased by \$31.4 million primarily due to a 20.1% increase in total volumes sold as a result of the increased market demand for frac sand, as well as higher prices of frac sand in 2018 compared to 2017. FOB plant sales volumes increased 28% compared to an 11% increase for the higher-priced, terminal sand sales. Terminal sales as a percentage of total volumes sold decreased from 47% in 2017 to 44% in 2018. Revenue per ton increased to \$71.02 in 2018 compared to \$60.23 per ton in 2017 due to significant price increases.

The major changes from 2017 to 2018 are as follows:

- \$16.9 million increase in sales of northern white sand (excluding estimated transportation markups), relating primarily to an 8% increase in volumes sold as well as increased pricing in light of market conditions for frac sand;
- an estimated \$8.2 million increase for significant increases in markups per ton sold through transload sites, along with increased volumes sold through these sites; and
- \$6.3 million increase in sales of native Texas sand (excluding estimated transportation markups), due to the addition of our San Antonio operation in July 2017, and increased volumes and prices at our Kosse facility.

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Cost of goods sold (excluding depreciation, depletion and amortization)

Our cost of goods sold consists primarily of direct costs such as processing plant wages, royalties, mining, purchased sand, and transportation to the plant or to transload facilities, as well as indirect costs such as plant repairs and maintenance. Our direct costs of producing sand and our logistics costs for finished product increased with our increased sales. The most significant components of the \$7.9 million increase from 2017 to 2018 are:

- \$7.5 million increase in the total cost to acquire and produce sand due to 20% increase in total volumes sold;
- \$0.6 million increase in costs of transload facilities due to increased volumes; and
- \$0.2 million decrease in rail transportation-related expense resulting primarily from decreased railcar storage costs as we have placed previously stored cars back into service.

Selling, general and administrative expenses

The \$2.7 million increase in selling, general and administrative expenses is attributable primarily to:

- \$1.3 million increase in employee-related costs due to higher staffing and bonus accruals; and
- \$1.1 million expenses related to the long-term debt refinancing in January 2018.

Interest expense

Net interest expense increased \$7.3 million primarily due to;

- \$5.7 million increase due to a \$215 million addition of the notes issued under the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement; and
- \$3.9 million write-off of deferred financing costs relating to the reduction of our revolving credit facility in January 2018; offset by
- \$2.1 million decreased interest expense due to the reduction of outstanding balances under the revolving credit facility.

Contract and project terminations

During the three months ended March 31, 2018, we recorded a non-cash charge against earnings of \$1.7 million. This charge relates to the write-off of prepaid royalties. See Note 3 to our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion.

Other

Other expenses decreased \$1.4 million due to a mark-to-market gain of \$0.7 million recognized in the first quarter of 2018, compared to a loss of \$0.7 million recognized in the first quarter of 2017, due to a change in the fair value of the warrant issued in August 2016.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Sources of Liquidity

Our principal liquidity requirements are to finance current operations, fund capital expenditures, finance acquisitions from time to time, service our debt and pay distributions to partners. Our sources of liquidity generally include cash generated by our operations, borrowings under our revolving credit and security agreement and issuances of equity and debt securities. We depend on the Credit Facility for both short-term and long-term capital needs and may use borrowings under our Credit Facility to fund our operations and capital expenditures to the extent cash generated by our operations is insufficient in any period. Following our entry into the Credit Agreement and the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement (described below), we believe that cash generated from our liquidity sources will be sufficient to meet our working capital and capital expenditure needs for at least the next 12 months.

In addition to our continued focus on generating and preserving cash from operations and maintaining availability under the Credit Facility, we may seek access to the capital markets for additional liquidity through equity and debt offerings. Any new issuances may take the form of public or private offerings for cash, equity issued to consummate acquisitions or equity issued in exchange for a portion of our outstanding debt. We may also from time to time seek to retire or purchase outstanding debt through cash purchases and/or exchanges for equity or other debt securities, in open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions or otherwise. However, there can be no assurance that we will be able to complete any of these transactions on favorable terms or at all.

For 2018, we expect to spend between \$70 million and \$90 million in capital expenditures to fund the expansion of our San Antonio operation and finance various capital projects that offer attractive rates of return.

Revolving Credit Facility

On January 5, 2018, we entered into a \$75.0 million Second Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Security Agreement (the “Credit Agreement”), among the Partnership, as parent guarantor, each of its subsidiaries, as borrowers, PNC Bank, National Association (“PNC Bank”), as administrative agent and collateral agent, and the other lenders party thereto. The Credit Agreement replaced the Prior Credit Agreement. The Credit Agreement provides for a \$75.0 million asset-based revolving credit facility, and a \$20.0 million sublimit for the issuance of letters of credit. The Credit Agreement matures on January 5, 2022. Substantially all our assets are pledged as collateral on a first lien basis. This revolving credit facility is available to (i) refinance existing indebtedness, (ii) fund fees and expenses incurred in connection with the credit facility and (iii) for general business purposes, including working capital requirements, capital expenditures, permitted acquisitions, making debt payments when due, and making distributions and dividends.

The Credit Agreement contains various covenants and restrictive provisions and also requires the maintenance of certain financial covenants as follows:

- a minimum liquidity requirement of \$20.0 million at all times;
- beginning with the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2018, a total leverage ratio of a maximum of 5.50:1.00 decreasing quarterly thereafter to 3.00:1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending December 31, 2018, and thereafter;
- beginning with the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2018, a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.10:1.00; and
- a limit on capital expenditures, subject to certain availability thresholds.

Loans under the Credit Agreement bear interest at our option at either (i) a base rate, which will be the base commercial lending rate of PNC Bank, as publicly announced to be in effect from time to time, plus an applicable margin ranging from 0.75% to 1.25% based on total leverage ratio; or (ii) LIBOR plus an applicable margin ranging from 1.75% to 2.25% based on the Partnership’s total leverage ratio.

Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement

On January 5, 2018, the Partnership as guarantor, and the Partnership’s wholly owned subsidiaries Emerge Energy Services Operating LLC and Superior Silica Sands LLC, as issuers, entered into a \$215 million second lien note purchase agreement with the purchasers thereunder (the “Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement”). The notes issued under the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement will mature on January 5, 2023. Proceeds of the sale of the notes under the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement will be used (i) to fully pay off the Partnership’s existing second lien term credit facility, (ii) to fully pay off the obligations under the Partnership’s Prior Credit Agreement, (iii) to finance capital expenditures, (iv) to pay fees and expenses incurred in connection with the new second lien facility and (v) for general business purposes. Substantially all of the Partnership’s assets are pledged as collateral on a second lien basis.

The Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement contains various covenants and restrictive provisions and also requires the maintenance of certain financial covenants as follows:

- a minimum liquidity requirement of \$20.0 million at all times;
- beginning with the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2018, a total leverage ratio of a maximum of 6.00:1.00 decreasing quarterly thereafter to 3.00:1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2019, and thereafter;
- beginning with the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2018, a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.10:1.00, increasing quarterly to 2.00:1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2019, and thereafter; and
- a limit on capital expenditures, subject to certain availability thresholds.

Commencing on September 30, 2018, we are required to make quarterly principal payments (without premium or penalty) equal to (i) for each fiscal quarter ending on or prior to December 31, 2019, 1.25%, and (ii) for each fiscal quarter thereafter, 1.875%, of the original principal amount. Accordingly, on March 31, 2018, we have classified \$8.1 million of principal as a current liability.

The notes under the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement bear interest at 11.0% per annum until December 31, 2018, and ranging from 10.00% per annum to 12.00% per annum thereafter, depending on the our leverage ratio.

Covenants Compliance

At March 31, 2018, we were in compliance with our loan covenants.

Liquidity Trends

Beginning in late 2014 and continuing through the middle of 2016, prices for natural gas, crude oil and refined fuels were extremely volatile and decreased significantly. Although oil and gas drilling and completions activity has improved significantly in the last two years, our cash flows from operating activities are subject to significant quarterly variations as volatile commodity prices influence demand for our frac sand. Therefore, the cash generated by our operations are driven by a number of factors beyond our control, including global and regional product supply and demand, weather, product distribution, refining and processing capacity and other supply chain dynamics, among other factors. Our liquidity needs may not be met solely by cash generated from operations, and we expect to continue relying on borrowings under the Credit Agreement as source of future liquidity.

However, our ability to comply with the restrictions and covenants of the Credit Agreement and the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement is uncertain and will be affected by the amount of cash flow from our operations and events or circumstances beyond our control, including events and circumstances that may stem from the condition of financial markets and commodity price levels. If in the future we are unable to comply with the financial covenants of the Credit Agreement and the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement and the lenders are unwilling to provide us with additional flexibility or a waiver, we may be forced to repay or refinance amounts then outstanding under the Credit Agreement and the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement and seek alternative sources of capital to fund our business and anticipated capital expenditures. Any such alternative sources of capital, such as equity transactions or debt financing, may be on terms less favorable or at higher costs than our current financing sources, depending on future market conditions and other factors, or may not be available at all.

Cash Flow Summary

The table below summarizes our cash flows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Cash flows from operating activities	\$ 10,744	\$ (12,939)
Cash flows from investing activities	\$ (30,093)	\$ (1,392)
Cash flows from financing activities	\$ 22,309	\$ 16,426
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	\$ 5,729	\$ 4
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 8,689	\$ 2,099

Operating cash flows

Cash flows from operating activities have generally trended the same as our net income (loss) adjusted for non-cash items of depreciation, depletion and amortization, equity-based compensation, amortization of deferred financing costs, contract termination costs, unrealized losses on derivative instruments, and unrealized (gain) loss on fair value of warrants. Significant changes in our working capital resulted from rapid growth of sales and billings to support our expanding business, offset by lower inventory balances during the first three months of 2018.

Investing cash flows

Cash flows used in investing activities increased during the three months ended March 31, 2018, due to construction of the San Antonio plants. We had significantly curtailed our capital expenditures to comply with our bank covenants that limited capital expenditures during the three months ended March 31, 2017.

[Table of Contents](#)*Financing cash flows*

Our cash balance as of March 31, 2018, was \$8.7 million compared to \$5.7 million as of December 31, 2017, and \$2.1 million as of March 31, 2017. During 2017, We were subject to a cash dominion requirement as per Amendment No. 11 to our Prior Credit Agreement, which required all cash receipts by us and our subsidiaries to be swept on a daily basis and used to reduce outstanding borrowings under the Credit Agreement. We maintained a minimal cash balance and managed our cash on a daily basis and made advances against the revolver based on our daily disbursements. Following our entry into our Credit Agreement on January 5, 2018, we are in compliance with the requirements for excess availability and no longer in a dominion period for purposes of the agreement.

The main categories of our financing cash flows can be summarized as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Net debt proceeds (payments)	\$ 34,928	\$ 18,171
Payment of financing costs	(11,964)	(163)
Other	(655)	(1,582)
Total	<u>\$ 22,309</u>	<u>\$ 16,426</u>

In January 2018, we entered into the Credit Agreement and Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement described in Note 4 to our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. Proceeds of the sale of the notes under the Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement were used (i) to fully pay off the \$40 million Partnership's existing second lien term credit facility, (ii) to fully pay off the obligations under the Partnership's existing revolving credit facility, (iii) to finance capital expenditures, (iv) to pay fees and expenses incurred in connection with the new second lien facility and (v) for general business purposes.

ADJUSTED EBITDA

We calculate Adjusted EBITDA, a non-GAAP measure, in accordance with our current Credit Agreement as: net income (loss) plus consolidated interest expense (net of interest income), income tax expense, depreciation, depletion and amortization expense, non-cash charges and losses that are unusual or non-recurring less income tax benefits and gains that are unusual or non-recurring and other adjustments allowable under our current Credit Agreement. Adjusted EBITDA is used as a supplemental financial measure by our management and external users of our financial statements, such as investors and commercial banks, to assess:

- our debt covenant compliance. Adjusted EBITDA is a key component of critical covenants to our Credit Agreement;
- the financial performance of our assets without regard to the impact of financing methods, capital structure or historical cost basis of our assets;
- the viability of capital expenditure projects and the overall rates of return on alternative investment opportunities;
- our liquidity position and the ability of our assets to generate cash sufficient to make debt payments and to make distributions; and
- our operating performance as compared to those of other companies in our industry without regard to the impact of financing methods and capital structure.

We believe that Adjusted EBITDA provides useful information to investors because, when viewed with our GAAP results and the accompanying reconciliations, it provides a more complete understanding of our performance than GAAP results alone. We also believe that external users of our financial statements benefit from having access to the same financial measures that management uses in evaluating the results of our business.

Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered an alternative to, or more meaningful than, net income, operating income, cash flows from operating activities or any other measure of financial performance presented in accordance with GAAP. Moreover, our Adjusted EBITDA as presented may not be comparable to similarly titled measures of other companies.

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Reconciliation of Net Income (Loss) and Operating Cash Flows to Adjusted EBITDA

The following table reconciles net income (loss) to Adjusted EBITDA for the three months ended March 31, 2018, and 2017:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,486	\$ (11,390)
Interest expense, net	10,492	3,198
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	4,861	4,656
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	97	—
EBITDA	16,936	(3,536)
Equity-based compensation expense	434	347
Contract and project terminations	1,689	—
Provision for doubtful accounts	3	—
Accretion expense	31	29
Retirement of assets	2	(6)
Other state and local taxes	395	424
Non-cash deferred lease expense	(2,576)	1,901
Unrealized (gain) loss on fair value of warrant	(677)	696
Other adjustments allowable under our Credit Agreement	1,149	213
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 17,386	\$ 68

The following table reconciles Adjusted EBITDA to our operating cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2018, and 2017:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 17,386	\$ 68
Interest expense, net	(5,964)	(2,684)
Income tax expense	(493)	(424)
Other adjustments allowable under our Credit Agreement	(1,149)	(213)
Non-cash deferred lease expense	2,576	(1,901)
Change in other operating assets and liabilities	(1,612)	(7,785)
Cash flows from operating activities:	\$ 10,744	\$ (12,939)
Cash flows from investing activities:	\$ (30,093)	\$ (1,392)
Cash flows from financing activities:	\$ 22,309	\$ 16,426

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Information about market risks for the three months ended March 31, 2018, does not differ materially from that discussed under Item 7A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of March 31,

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2018. Based on such evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of such date, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting identified in management's evaluation required by Rule 13a-15(d) and 15d-15(d) of the Exchange Act during the quarter ended March 31, 2018 that materially affected, or that are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Although we are, from time to time, involved in litigation and claims arising out of our operations in the normal course of business, we do not believe that we are a party to any litigation that could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition or results of operations. We are not aware of any undisclosed significant legal or governmental proceedings against us, or contemplated to be brought against us. We maintain such insurance policies with insurers in amounts and with coverage and deductibles as our general partner believes are reasonable and prudent. However, we cannot assure you that this insurance will be adequate to protect us from all material expenses related to potential future claims for personal and property damage or that these levels of insurance will be available in the future at acceptable prices.

Environmental Matters

On November 21, 2013, the EPA issued a General Notice Letter and Information Request ("Notice") under Section 104(e) of CERCLA to one of our subsidiaries operating within the Fuel business. The Notice provides that the subsidiary may have incurred liability with respect to the Reef Environmental site in Alabama, and requested certain information in accordance with Section 107(a) of CERCLA. We timely responded to the Notice. At this time, no specific claim for cost recovery has been made by the EPA (or any other potentially responsible party) against us. There is uncertainty relating to our share of environmental remediation liability, if any, because our allocable share of wastewater is unknown and the total remediation cost is also unknown. Consequently, management is unable to estimate the possible loss or range of loss, if any. We have not recorded a loss contingency accrual in our financial statements. In the opinion of management, the outcome of such matters will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity or results of operations.

In January 2016, AEC experienced a leak in its proprietary fuel pipeline that connects the bulk storage terminal to the transmix facility located in Birmingham, Alabama. AEC management notified the controlling governmental agencies of this condition, and commenced efforts to locate the leak, determine the cause of the leak, repair the leak, and remediate known contamination to the proximate soils and sub-grade. These efforts remain in progress, and management does not expect the costs to repair and remediate these conditions to have a material impact on our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

Under the Restated Purchase Agreement, we agreed to indemnify Sunoco against these and any other environmental liabilities associated with the business and operations of the Fuel business prior to its sale, subject to certain exceptions. We have obtained an environmental insurance policy which, pursuant to the terms of the Restated Purchase Agreement, acts as the first recourse coverage for any pre-closing environmental liability asserted by Sunoco with our indemnification obligation being for any claims in excess of the insurance policy coverage or in the event a claim is denied under the insurance policy. Our management does not expect our environmental indemnification obligations pursuant to the Restated Purchase Agreement will have a material adverse effect on our future results of operations, financial position or cash flow.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information set forth in this report, you should carefully consider the factors discussed in Part I, "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, which could materially affect our business, financial condition or future results. The risks described in this report and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K are not the only risks we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or future results.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

We adhere to a strict occupational health program aimed at controlling exposure to silica dust, which includes dust sampling, a respiratory protection program, medical surveillance, training, and other components. We designed our safety program to ensure compliance with the standards of our Occupational Health and Safety Manual and U.S. Federal Mine Safety and Health Administration ("MSHA") regulations. For both health and safety issues, extensive training is provided to employees. We have organized safety committees at our plants made up of both salaried and hourly employees. We perform internal health and safety

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audits and conduct tests of our abilities to respond to various situations. Our health and safety department administers the health and safety programs with the assistance of corporate personnel and plant environmental, health and safety coordinators.

All of our production facilities are classified as mines and are subject to regulation by MSHA under the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (the "Mine Act"). MSHA inspects our mines on a regular basis and issues various citations and orders when it believes a violation has occurred under the Mine Act. Following passage of The Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act of 2006, MSHA significantly increased the numbers of citations and orders charged against mining operations. The dollar penalties assessed for citations issued has also increased in recent years. Information concerning mine safety violations or other regulatory matters required by Section 1503(a) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and Item 104 of Regulation S-K (17 CFR 229.104) is included in Exhibit 95.1 to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
3.1	Certificate of Limited Partnership of Emerge Energy Services LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-187487).
3.2	Amendment to Certificate of Limited Partnership of Emerge Energy Services LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-187487).
3.3	First Amended and Restated Limited Partnership Agreement of Emerge Energy Services LP, dated as of May 14, 2013 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on May 20, 2013).
3.4	Amendment No. 1 to the First Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Emerge Energy Services LP, dated as of August 15, 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on August 16, 2016).
3.5	Certificate of Formation of Emerge Energy Services GP LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.5 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-187487).
3.6	Amendment to Certificate of Formation of Emerge Energy Services GP LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.6 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-187487).
3.7	Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of Emerge Energy Services GP, LLC, dated as of May 14, 2013 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on May 20, 2013).
4.1	Registration Rights Agreement, dated January 5, 2018, by and between Emerge Energy Services LP, Mezzanine Partners III, L.P., AP Mezzanine Partners III, L.P., EES Offshore, LLC and OC II AIV II LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 8, 2018).
10.1	Second Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of January 5, 2018, among Emerge Energy Services LP, as parent guarantor, the Borrowers party thereto, PNC Bank, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent, and the Lenders party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 8, 2018).
10.2	Second Lien Note Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 5, 2018, between Emerge Energy Services LP, Emerge Energy Services Operating LLC, as issuers, and HPS Investment Partners, LLC as notes agent and collateral agent (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 8, 2018).
31.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer under Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer under Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer under Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer under Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
95.1*	Mine Safety Disclosure Exhibit.
101*	Interactive Data Files - XBRL.

* Filed herewith (or furnished in the case of Exhibits 32.1 and 32.2).

† Certain portions have been omitted pursuant to a confidential treatment request. Omitted information has been separately filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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.

Date: May 3, 2018

EMERGE ENERGY SERVICES LP

By: EMERGE ENERGY SERVICES GP LLC, its general partner

By: /s/ Rick Shearer

Rick Shearer
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

By: /s/ Deborah Deibert

Deborah Deibert
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

CERTIFICATION

I, Rick Shearer, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Emerge Energy Services LP;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 3, 2018

/s/ Rick Shearer

Rick Shearer

*President and Chief Executive Officer of Emerge Energy Services GP LLC
(the general partner of Emerge Energy Services LP)
(Principal Executive Officer)*

CERTIFICATION

I, Deborah Deibert, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Emerge Energy Services LP;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 3, 2018

/s/ Deborah Deibert

Deborah Deibert

Chief Financial Officer of Emerge Energy Services GP LLC (the general partner of Emerge Energy Services LP) (Principal Financial Officer)

CERTIFICATION OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Emerge Energy Services LP (the "Partnership") on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2018, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Rick Shearer, President and Chief Executive Officer of Emerge Energy Services GP LLC, the general partner of the Partnership, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 ("Section 906"), that:

- (1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Partnership.

Date: May 3, 2018

By: /s/ Rick Shearer
Rick Shearer
*President and Chief Executive Officer of Emerge Energy Services GP
LLC (the general partner of Emerge Energy Services LP)*

The foregoing certification is being furnished to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to the Report.

MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

The following disclosures are provided pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and Item 104 of Regulation S-K, which requires certain disclosures by companies required to file periodic reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that operate mines regulated under the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (the “Mine Act”).

Mine Safety Information

Whenever MSHA believes a violation of the Mine Act, any health or safety standard or any regulation has occurred, it may issue a citation which describes the alleged violation and fixes a time within which the U.S. mining operator must abate the alleged violation. In some situations, such as when MSHA believes that conditions pose a hazard to miners, MSHA may issue an order to remove miners from the area of the mine affected by the condition until the alleged hazards are corrected. When MSHA issues a citation or order, it generally proposes a civil penalty or a fine that the operator is ordered to pay. Citations and orders can be contested and appealed and, as part of that process, may be dismissed or reduced in severity or amount. The number of citations, orders and proposed assessments vary depending on the size and type (underground or surface) of the mine as well as by the MSHA inspector(s) assigned.

Mine Safety Data

The following provides additional information about references used in the table below to describe the categories of violations, orders or citations issued by MSHA under the Mine Act:

- *Section 104 S&S Citations*: Citations received from MSHA under section 104 of the Mine Act for violations of mandatory health or safety standards that could significantly and substantially contribute to the cause and effect of a mine safety or health hazard.

- *Section 104(b) Orders*: Orders issued by MSHA under section 104(b) of the Mine Act, which represents a failure to abate a citation under section 104(a) within the period of time prescribed by MSHA. This results in an order of immediate withdrawal from the area of the mine affected by the condition until MSHA determines that the violation has been abated.

- *Section 104(d) Citations and Orders*: Citations and orders issued by MSHA under section 104(d) of the Mine Act for unwarrantable failure to comply with mandatory health or safety standards.

- *Section 110(b)(2) Violations*: Flagrant violations issued by MSHA under section 110(b)(2) of the Mine Act.

- *Section 107(a) Orders*: Orders issued by MSHA under section 107(a) of the Mine Act for situations in which MSHA determined an “imminent danger” (as defined by MSHA) existed.

The following table sets out information required by the Dodd-Frank Act for the three months ended March 31, 2018. The mine data retrieval system maintained by MSHA may show information that is different than what is provided herein. Any such difference may be attributed to the need to update that information on MSHA’s system and/or other factors. The table also displays pending legal actions before the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission (the “Commission”) that were initiated during the three months ended March 31, 2018, as well as total pending legal actions that were pending before the Commission as of March 31, 2018, which includes the legal proceedings before the Commission as well as all contests of citations and penalty assessments which are not before an administrative law judge. Any such pending legal actions constitute challenges by us of citations issued by MSHA.

Mine or Operating Name and MSHA Identification Number	Section 104 S&S Citations (#)	Section 104(b) Orders (#)	Section 104(d) Citations and Orders (#)	Section 110(b)(2) Violations (#)	Section 107(a) Orders (#)	Total Dollar Value of MSHA Assessments Proposed (\$)	Total Number of Mining Related Fatalities (#)	Received Notice of Pattern of Violations Under Section 104(e) (yes/no)	Received Notice of Potential to Have Pattern Under Section 104(e) (yes/no)	Legal Actions Pending as of Last Day of Period (#)	Legal Actions Initiated During Period (#)	Legal Actions Resolved During Period (#)
Independence Mine (#4703728)	—	—	—	—	—	\$—	—	No	No	—	—	—
Arland Wet Plant (#4703662) (Midwest Frac)	—	—	—	—	—	\$—	—	No	No	—	—	—
Thompson Hills (#4703718)	—	—	—	—	—	\$—	—	No	No	—	—	—
Dry Plant (#4703620) (New Auburn)	—	—	—	—	—	\$—	—	No	No	2	2	—
FLS Mine/Wet Plant (#4703670) (Barron/Clinton)	—	—	—	—	—	\$—	—	No	No	—	—	1
Clinton Dry Plant (#4703671) (Barron/Clinton)	—	—	—	—	—	\$—	—	No	No	—	—	2
Kosse Mine (#4104312)	5	—	—	—	—	\$20,509	—	No	No	11	8	4
LP Mine Site and Wet Plant (#4703707)	—	—	—	—	—	\$—	—	No	No	—	—	—
Arland Dry Plant (#4703720)	1	—	—	—	—	\$—	—	No	No	—	—	2
Chippewa Sand (#4703607) (New Auburn)	—	—	—	—	—	\$—	—	No	No	—	—	—
San Antonio (#4101126)	—	—	—	—	—	\$—	—	No	No	—	—	5

