



DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

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

November 7, 2014

Via E-mail

Nancy K. Buese
Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer
MarkWest Energy GP, L.L.C.
1515 Arapahoe Street
Tower 1, Suite 1600
Denver, Colorado 80202

**Re: MarkWest Energy Partners, L.P.
Registration Statement on Form S-3
Filed October 10, 2014
File No. 333-199280**

Dear Ms. Buese:

We have limited our review of your registration statement to those issues we have addressed in our comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by amending your registration statement and providing the requested information. Where you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your registration statement and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Registration Statement on Form S-3

General

1. As you know, we are reviewing your Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013. To the extent any comments related to our review of your Form 10-K apply to disclosure in your Form S-3, please make corresponding revisions to all affected disclosure. Moreover, insofar as you are required to incorporate by reference to the Form 10-K, please note that we will not be in a position to accelerate the effectiveness of your Form S-3 until all outstanding issues related to the review of your Form 10-K have been resolved.

Signatures, page II-6

2. Note that Form S-3 requires the registrant to certify that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3. Please revise this section of your filing accordingly.

Closing Comments

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Act of 1933 and all applicable Securities Act rules require. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

Notwithstanding our comments, in the event you request acceleration of the effective date of the pending registration statement please provide a written statement from the company acknowledging that:

- should the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, declare the filing effective, it does not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing;
- the action of the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, in declaring the filing effective, does not relieve the company from its full responsibility for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments and the declaration of effectiveness as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

Please refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We will consider a written request for acceleration of the effective date of the registration statement as confirmation of the fact that those requesting acceleration are aware of their respective responsibilities under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as they relate to the proposed public offering of the securities specified in the above registration statement. Please allow adequate time for us to review any amendment prior to the requested effective date of the registration statement.

Nancy K. Buese
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Please contact Sirimal Mukerjee at (202) 551-3340 or, in his absence, Timothy S. Levenberg, Special Counsel, at (202) 551-3707 with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/H. Roger Schwall

H. Roger Schwall
Assistant Director

cc: Via E-mail
Alan Beck
Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.