

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C.

FORM 10-K

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ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended **December 31, 2012**

Commission File Number

000 Withington, DC 20549

JAMES RIVER COAL COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

901 E. Byrd Street, Suite 1600 Richmond, Virginia (Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (804) 780-3000

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

Name of each exchange on which registered: Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share Series A Participating Cumulative Preferred Stock Purchase Rights The Nasdaq Global Select Market None

Indicate by a check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes 🗌 No 🗹

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer 🗌 Accelerated filer 🖉 Non-accelerated filer 🗍 Smaller Reporting Company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes 🗌 No 🗹

The aggregate market value of the common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant, based upon the closing sale price of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, on June 29, 2012 as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market, was approximately \$95.6 million (affiliates being, for these purposes only, directors, executive officers and holders of more than 10% of the registrant's Common Stock).

The number of shares of the registrant's Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share, outstanding as of February 15, 2013 was 35,862,549.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the registrant's 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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54-1602012 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

> 23219 (Zip Code)

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

From time to time, we make certain comments and disclosures in reports and statements, including this report, or statements made by our officers, which may be forward-looking in nature. These statements are known as "forward-looking statements," as that term is used in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Examples include statements related to our future outlook, anticipated capital expenditures, projected cash flows and borrowings and sources of funding. We caution readers that forward-looking statements, including disclosures that use words such as "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "goal," "intend," "may," "should," "could," "objective," "plan," "predict," "project," "target," "will," or their negatives and similar words or statements, are subject to certain risks, trends and uncertainties that could cause actual cash flows, results of operations, financial condition, cost reductions, acquisitions, dispositions, financing transactions, operations, expansion, consolidation and other events to differ materially from the expectations expressed or implied in such forward-looking statements. We have based any forward-looking statements we have made on our current expectations and assumptions about future events and circumstances that are subject to risks, uncertainties and contingencies that could cause results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to:

- our cash flows, results of operation or financial condition;
- the consummation of acquisition, disposition or financing transactions and the effect thereof on our business;
- governmental policies, regulatory actions and court decisions affecting the coal industry or our customers' coal usage;
- legal and administrative proceedings, settlements, investigations and claims;
- our ability to obtain and renew permits necessary for our existing and planned operation in a timely manner;
- environmental concerns related to coal mining and combustion and the cost and perceived benefits of alternative sources of energy;
- inherent risks of coal mining beyond our control, including weather and geologic conditions or catastrophic weather-related damage;
- our production capabilities;
- availability of transportation;
- our ability to timely obtain necessary supplies and equipment;
- market demand for coal, electricity and steel;
- competition, including competition from alternative sources such as natural gas;
- our relationships with, and other conditions affecting, our customers;
- employee workforce factors;
- our assumptions concerning economically recoverable coal reserve estimates;
- future economic or capital market conditions; and
- our plans and objectives for future operations and expansion or consolidation.

We are including this cautionary statement in this document to make applicable and take advantage of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 for any forward-looking statements made by, or on behalf, of us. Any forward-looking statements should be considered in context with the various disclosures made by us about our businesses, including without limitation the risk factors more specifically described below in Item 1A. Risk Factors of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Forward-looking statements speak only as if the date they are made. We disclaim any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements unless required by securities law, and we caution the reader not to rely on them unduly.

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JAMES RIVER COAL COMPANY

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PART I

Available Information

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The Company's website address is <u>http://www.jamesrivercoal.com</u>. The Company makes available free of charge through its website its annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and any amendments to those reports as soon as reasonably practicable after filing or furnishing the material to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). However, our website and any contents thereof should not be considered to be incorporated by reference into this document. You may read and copy documents the Company files at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C., 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for information on the public reference room. The SEC maintains a website that contains annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information that issuers (including the Company) file electronically with the SEC. The SEC's website is <u>http://www.sec.gov</u>.

In Part III of this Form 10-K, we incorporate certain information by reference from our Proxy Statement for the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The Company expects to file the Proxy Statement with the SEC on or about March 27, 2013, and will make it available on the Company website as soon as reasonably practicable. Please refer to the Proxy Statement when it is available.

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Item 1. Business

General Business

Overview

Unless the context requires otherwise, references to "we," "us," "our" or "the Company" are intended to mean consolidated James River Coal Company (James River) and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. This drafting style is suggested by the Securities and Exchange Commission and is not meant to indicate that the publicly-traded James River owns or operates any asset, business or property of any of its subsidiaries. The operations and businesses described in this filing are owned and operated, and management services provided, by distinct direct and indirect subsidiaries of James River. James River was incorporated in 1991 under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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We mine, process and sell thermal and metallurgical coal through eight active mining complexes located throughout eastern Kentucky, southern West Virginia and southern Indiana. The majority of our metallurgical coal was obtained in the April 18, 2011 acquisition (the IRP Acquisition) of International Resource Partners LP and its subsidiary companies (collectively IRP). We have two reportable business segments based on the coal basins in which we operate — Central Appalachia (CAPP) and the Midwest (Midwest). For additional information on our segments, see Item 15 of Part IV "Financial Statement — Note 15 — Segment Information."

As of December 31, 2012, our eight mining complexes included 18 underground mines, 9 surface mines and 13 preparation plants. As of December 31, 2012, we believe that we controlled approximately 341.7 million tons of proven and probable coal reserves. At current production levels, we believe these reserves would support greater than 30 years of production.

In 2012, our mines produced 9.5 million tons of coal (including 0.4 million tons of coal produced in our mines that are operated by contract mine operators) and we purchased another 2.0 million tons for resale. Of the 9.5 million tons produced from Company mines, approximately 64% came from underground mines, while the remaining 36% came from surface mines. In 2012, we generated revenues of \$1.1 billion and had a net loss of \$138.9 million. Approximately 44% of our total revenues for 2012 were generated from coal sales to electric utility customers and the remaining 56% from coal sales (including metallurgical coal) to industrial and other customers. In 2012, US Steel, Steel Authority of India Limited and Georgia Power Company were our largest customers, representing approximately 13%, 13%, and 12% of our total revenues, respectively. No other customer accounted for more than 10% of our total revenues.

The coal that we sell is obtained from three sources: our Company-operated mines, our mines that are operated by independent contract mine operators, and other third parties from whom we purchase coal for resale. Contract mining and coal purchased from other third parties provide flexibility to increase or decrease production based on market conditions. The table below reflects the amount and percentage of coal obtained from those sources in 2012:

| | Tons (000s) | Percentage of total coal obtained by the Company |
|--|-------------|---|
| Coal produced from Company-operated mines | 9,097 | 79.1% |
| Coal obtained from our mines operated by independent contractors | 402 | 3.5% |
| Coal purchased from third parties | 1,995 | 17.4% |
| | 11,494 | 100% |

Mining Methods

Our Company-operated and contractor operated mines produce coal using different mining methods. These methods are room and pillar underground mining and contour and point removal surface mining. These methods are described in more detail below.

Room and Pillar. In the underground room and pillar method of mining, continuous mining machines cut five to nine entries into the coal seam and connect them by driving crosscuts, leaving a series of rectangular pillars, or columns of coal, to help support the mine roof and control the flow of air. Generally, openings are driven 20 feet wide and the pillars are 40 to 100 feet wide. As mining advances, a grid-like pattern of entries and pillars is formed. When mining advances to the end of a panel, or section of the mine, retreat mining may begin. In retreat mining, as much coal as is feasible is mined from the pillars that were created in advancing the panel, allowing the roof to cave.

The coal face is cut with continuous mining machines and the coal is transported from the continuous mining machine to the mine conveyor belts using a continuous haulage system, shuttle cars or ram cars. The mine conveyor system consists of a series of conveyor belts, which transport the coal from the active face areas to the surface. Once on the surface, the coal is transported to the preparation plants where it is processed to remove any impurities. The coal is then transported to the clean coal stockpiles or silos from which it is loaded for shipment to our customers. Reserve recovery, a measure of the percentage of the total coal in place that is ultimately produced, using this method of mining typically depends on the shape of the reserve, the amount of low-cover areas, and the geological characteristics of the reserve body.

Surface Mining. Surface mining is used when coal is found close to the surface. This method involves the removal of overburden (earth and rock covering the coal) with heavy earth-moving equipment and explosives, loading out the coal, replacing the overburden and topsoil after the coal has been excavated and reestablishing vegetation and plant life and making other improvements that have local community and environmental benefit, Overburden is typically removed at our mines by either hydraulic shovels or front-end loaders which place the overburden into large trucks.

In CAPP, we use the contour and highwall surface mining methods. Contour and highwall mining is used where removal of all the overburden overlying a coal, seam is either uneconomical or impossible to remove due to property control or other issues. With contour mining, a contour cut is taken along the outcrop of the seam and the coal is removed from the exposed pit, Highwall mining can then take place where the seam is exposed in the highwall. A highwall miner resembles an underground continuous miner. The highwall miner cuts entries into the coal seam up to 10 feet wide and up to 900 feet deep. The coal is transported to the surface through the augers and loaded into trucks using a loader. The contour area is then reclaimed by returning overburden to the pit and restoring the mountainside to its approximate original contour.

As of December 31, 2012, we had 9 Company-operated surface mines, 2 of which had a highwall miner operated in connection with the surface operations. One of the contract highwall miners was operated by independent contractors.

and the state of the **Underground Mine Characteristics**

Underground mines are characterized as either "drift" mines or "below drainage" mines. Drift mines are mines that are developed into the coal seam at a point where the seam intersects the surface. The area where the seam intersects the surface is commonly known as the "outcrop." Multiple entries are developed into the coal seam and are used as airways for mine ventilation, passageways for miners and supplies, and entries for conveyor belts that transport coal from the active production areas of the mine to the surface.

In below drainage mines, the coal seam does not intersect the surface in the vicinity of the mining area. Therefore, the coal seam must be accessed through excavated passageways from the surface. These passageways typically consist of vertical shafts and angled slopes. The shafts are constructed with diameters ranging from 12 to 24 feet and are used as airways for mine ventilation and passageways for miners and supplies via elevators. The slopes, when used to house conveyor belts to transport the mined coal from the active production areas of the mine to the surface, are typically driven at an angle of less than 17 degrees from the horizontal. In addition, the slopes provide passageways for miners and supplies, and airways for mine ventilation. Below drainage mines can also be accessed from "box cut" openings from the surface.

As of December 31, 2012, we had 18 Company-operated underground mines, of which 11 were drift mines and the remaining 7 were below-drainage mines. and the second sec

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Mining Operations

Our coal production is conducted through seven mining complexes in the Central Appalachia Region and one mining complex in the Midwest Region. We generally do not own the land on which we conduct our mining operations. Rather, our coal reserves are controlled pursuant to leases from third party landowners. We believe

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that greater than 95% and 90% of our coal reserves in the Central Appalachia Region and Midwest Region, respectively, are controlled pursuant to leases from third party landowners. These leases typically convey mining rights to the coal producer in exchange for a per ton fee or royalty payment of a percentage of the gross sales price to the lessor. The average royalties (including wheelage amounts and unrecoupable royalty prepayments) for coal reserves from our producing properties were approximately 8.9% and 4.5% of produced coal sales revenue for the year ended December 31, 2012, in the Central Appalachia Region and the Midwest Region, respectively.

All of our operations are located on or near public highways and receive electrical power from commercially available sources. Existing facilities and equipment are maintained in good working condition and are continuously updated through capital expenditure investments.

The following table provides summary information on our mining complexes as of December 31, 2012:

| and the second second second | Number and Type of Mines | | S | | Quality of Shipments for the year ended 2012 | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---------|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Mining Complex | Underground | Surface (Š) and Highwall (HW) | Total | Tons Shipped (millions) (2) | Average Sulfur Content (%) | Average BTU Content |
| Central Appalachia | | | <u></u> | . | | |
| Bell County | 1 | | 1 | 0.4 | 2.0 | 13,455 |
| Bledsoe | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1:1 | 1.4 | 12,803 |
| Blue Diamond Buckeye | 2 | 2S /1HW(1) | 4 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 12,763 |
| Blue Diamond Leatherwood | 4 | | 4 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 13,239 |
| Hampden Coal | 5 | 1 S | 5 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 14,198 |
| Laurel Mountain | | 2S /1HW(1) | 2 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 12,476 |
| McCoy Elkhorn | 2 | · · · · · · | 2 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 12,822 |
| Midwest | | | | • • • • | ter en ser en | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| Triad Mining | 2 | 4 S | 6 | 2.3 | 3.2 | 11,371 |
| | | · . | ·. | | | and the second second |

(1) Highwall Miner operated in conjunction with surface mining.

(2) Tons shipped include only the tons shipped from our mining complexes. Purchased tons that are not processed or shipped from our mining complexes are not included in the tons shipped. Additionally, tons shipped between locations are only included in the shipped tons from the originating location.

The following summarizes additional information concerning each of our mining complexes:

Bell County. The Bell County complex is located in Bell County in eastern Kentucky. We use room and pillar mining and mine the Garmeada seam of coal. Coal is processed at our preparation plant and loaded into railcars via an integrated four-hour unit train loadout that is serviced by both the CSX and Norfolk Southern railroads. As of December 31, 2012, we employed 95 mining and support personnel at this complex.

Bledsoe. The Bledsoe complex is located in Leslie and Harlan counties in eastern Kentucky. Our underground mines use room and pillar mining. We mine the Hazard #4 seam of coal at this complex. Coal is processed at one of two preparation plants and loaded into railcars at a separate location via a four-hour unit train loadout on the CSX railroad. As of December 31, 2012, we employed 273 mining and support personnel at this complex.

Blue Diamond — Buckeye. The Buckeye complex is located in Knott and Perry counties in eastern Kentucky. Our underground mines use room and pillar mining and our surface mines use the contour and highwall mining methods. We mine the Amburgy, #5A, #7, #8, and #9 seams of coal at this complex. Coal is processed at our preparation plant and loaded into railcars via an integrated four-hour unit train loadout on the CSX railroad. As of December 31, 2012, we employed 215 mining and support personnel at this complex.

Blue Diamond — Leatherwood. The Leatherwood complex is located in Leslie, Perry and Letcher counties in eastern Kentucky. We use room and pillar mining for our underground mines. We mine the Hazard #4 and Elkhorn #3 seams of coal at this complex. Coal is processed at our preparation plant and loaded into railcars via an integrated four-hour unit train loadout on the CSX railroad. As of December 31, 2012, we employed 318 mining and support personnel at this complex.

Hampden. The Hampden Coal Complex is located in Mingo and Logan counties in southern West Virginia. The underground operations use room-and-pillar mining to produce metallurgical coal from the 2-Gas and Lower Cedar Grove seams. The surface mine produces metallurgical and steam coal from the Alma, Williamson and Lower Cedar Grove seams. Coal is processed at the Hampden Preparation Plant and loaded into railcars via 2 CSX load-outs and 1 Norfolk Southern Load-out. As of December 31, 2012, we employed approximately 391 mining and support personnel at this complex.

McCoy Elkhorn. The McCoy Elkhorn complex is located in Pike and Floyd counties in eastern Kentucky. Our underground mines use room and pillar mining. We mine the Millard and Elkhorn #3 seams at this complex. Coal is processed at our three preparation plants and loaded into railcars via integrated four-hour unit train loadouts on the CSX railroad. As of December 31, 2012, we employed 350 mining and support personnel at this complex.

Laurel Mountain. The Laurel Mountain complex is located in Floyd, Johnson, Lawrence and Knott counties in eastern Kentucky. Our surface mines use both contour and highwall and area mining methods. We mine the Hazard #9, #8, #7, #5A, Haddix, Fireclay, Whitesburg, Amburgy, Taylor and Elkhorn #3, #2, and #1 seams at this complex. Coal is shipped directly to our McCoy Elkhorn complex to be process and loaded. As of December 31, 2012, we employed 136 mining and support personnel at this complex.

Triad. The Triad complex is located in Pike and Knox counties in southern Indiana. We use room and pillar mining to mine the Springfield seam of coal, and use the surface mine method to mine multiple seams, including the Danville, Millersburg, Hymera, Bucktown and Springfield seams. Coal is processed at one of four preparation plants (two of which are active) and loaded into trucks for delivery to the customer or by rail at our Switz City loadout. The Switz City loadout is serviced by Indiana Railroad and the Indiana Southern Railroad. As of December 31, 2012, we employed approximately 271 mining and support personnel at this complex.

Contract mining represented less than 5.0% of our coal production in the year ended December 31, 2012. Each mining complex monitors its contract mining operations and provides geological and engineering assistance to the contract mine operators. The contract mine operators generally provide their own equipment and operate the mines using their employees. Independent contract mine operators are paid a fixed rate for each ton of saleable product. We are primarily responsible for the reclamation activities involved with all contractor-operated mines. Our relationships with contract mine operators typically can be cancelled by either party without penalty by giving between 30 and 60 days notice.

Reserves

We have an ongoing mineral development drilling and exploration program on our coal properties. The purpose of the drilling and exploration program is to assist us with planning our mining activities and to better assess our coal reserves. Marshall Miller & Associates, Inc. (MM&A) prepared a detailed study of our CAPP reserves that we controlled as of March 31, 2004 based on all of our geologic information, including our then current drilling and mining data. For our Midwest reserves, MM&A prepared a detailed study as of February 1, 2005 for the reserves obtained in the acquisition of Triad Mining, Inc. and as of April 11, 2006 for certain additional reserves acquired in the second quarter of 2006 in the Midwest. MM&A also prepared a detailed study as of December 31, 2010 for the reserves obtained in the IRP Acquisition. We have used MM&A's March 31, 2004 study of the CAPP reserves and the December 31, 2010 study of the reserves acquired from IRP (which was based in part on previous evaluations of the properties) as the basis for our current internal estimate of our Central Appalachia reserves and MM&A's February 1, 2005 and April 11, 2006 studies as the basis for our current internal estimate of our Midwest reserves (collectively the "MM&A studies"). However, MM&A has not conducted any coal reserve study on our December 31, 2012 estimate or since the respective dates of such studies.

The MM&A studies were planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance of our subject demonstrated (proven plus probable) reserves. In connection with the studies, MM&A prepared reserve maps and had certified professional geologists develop estimates based on data supplied by us and using standards accepted by government and industry.

After reviewing the maps and information we supplied, MM&A prepared an independent mapping and estimate of our demonstrated reserves using methodology outlined in U.S. Geological Survey Circular 891 and SEC Industry Guide 7. MM&A developed reserve estimation criteria to assure that the basic geologic characteristics of the reserves (e.g., minimum coal thickness and wash recovery, interval between deep mineable seams, mineable area tonnage for economic extraction, etc.) are in reasonable conformity with present and recent mine operation capabilities on our various properties.

We continue to have an ongoing mineral development drilling and exploration program on our coal properties. Any future negative changes in our reserves could have a material adverse impact on our depreciation, depletion and amortization expense. A material adverse impact could also lead to a charge for impairment of the value of our coal property assets.

As of December 31, 2012, we estimated that we controlled approximately 299.7 million tons of proven and probable coal reserves in Central Appalachia and 42.0 million tons of proven and probable coal reserves in the Midwest.

Reserves for these purposes are defined by SEC Industry Guide 7 as that part of a mineral deposit which could be economically and legally extracted or produced at the time of the reserve determination. The reserve estimates have been prepared using industry-standard methodology to provide reasonable assurance that the reserves are recoverable, considering technical, economic and legal limitations. Although the MM&A studies found our reserves to be reasonable (notwithstanding unforeseen geological, market, labor or regulatory issues that may affect the operations), the MM&A studies did not include an economic feasibility study of our reserves. In accordance with standard industry practice, we have performed our own economic feasibility analysis for our reserves. It is not generally considered to be practical, however, nor is it standard industry practice, to perform a feasibility study for a company's entire reserve portfolio. In addition, MM&A did not independently verify our control of our properties, and has relied solely on property information supplied by us. Reserve acreage, average seam thickness, average seam density and average mine and wash recovery percentages were verified by MM&A to prepare a reserve tonnage estimate for each reserve. There are numerous uncertainties inherent in estimating quantities and values of economically recoverable coal reserves as discussed in "Critical Accounting Estimates — Coal Reserves". A state of the second seco

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The following table provides information on our mining complexes reserves (the quality information is based on the MM&A studies):

| | 1 | Approximate Reserve Qualit | < 1 . | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mining Complex | Proven & Probable Reserves As of December 31, 2012 (1),(4) (millions of tons) | Estimated Years of Reserve Life Based on 2012 Production Levels | Sulfur Content (%) | Heat Value (Btu/lb.) |
| Central Appalachia | | | | |
| Bell County | 8.7 | 26 | 1.0 | 13,500 |
| Bledsoe | 56.0 | 9200 50 - 107 | 1:2 | 13,000 |
| Blue Diamond Buckeye | 49. 1 | * 2 * 4 0 | 1.2 | 13,200 |
| Blue Diamond Leatherwood | 74.2 | 67 | 1.1 | 13,700 |
| Hampden | 48.8 | 44 | 0.8 | 13,500 |
| Laurel Mountain | 15.5 | and 20 a | 1.5 | 12,300 |
| McCoy Elkhorn | 47.4 | 32 | 1.6 | 13,300 |
| Total/Average | 299.7 | 42 | . 1.2 | 13,200 |
| Midwest | | | | ; |
| $\mathbf{Triad}_{\mathbf{a},\mathbf{b}},\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a},$ | 42.0 | 18 | 3.2 | 12,000 |

- (1) Proven reserves have the highest degree of geologic assurance and are reserves for which (a) quantity is computed from dimensions revealed in outcrops, trenches, workings, or drill holes; (b) grade and/or quality are computed from the results of detailed sampling and (c) the sites for inspections, sampling and measurement are spaced so closely and the geologic character is so well defined that size, shape, depth and mineral content of reserves are well-established. Probable reserves have a moderate degree of geologic assurance and are reserves for which quantity and grade and/or quality are computed from information similar to that used for proven reserves, but the sites for inspection, sampling and measurement are farther apart or are otherwise less adequately spaced. The degree of assurance, although lower than that for proven reserves, is high enough to assume continuity between points of observation. This reserve information reflects recoverable tonnage on an as-received basis with 5.5% moisture.
- (2) Sulfur content is expressed as the percent by weight of those constituents in the coal sample compared to the total weight of the sample being tested. Heat value is expressed as Btu per pound in the coal based on laboratory testing of coal samples. The samples are typically obtained from exploratory core borings placed at strategic locations within the coal reserve area. The samples are sent to accredited laboratories for testing under protocols established by the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM). The estimated overall quality values are derived by a multiple step process, including: (a) for each mine or reserve area, an arithmetic average quality (dry basis) was prepared to represent the coal tons within the area, based on samples from the area; (b) the overall quality of reserves for each mine complex was determined by performing a tonnage-weighted average of the average quality of all mine and reserve areas within the division; and (c) the resulting dry basis overall quality was converted to wet product basis to reflect its anticipated moisture content at the time of sale. The actual quality of the shipped coal may vary from these estimates due to factors such as: (a) the particle size of the coal fed to the plant; (b) the specific gravity of the float media in use at the preparation plant; (c) the type of plant circuit(s); (d) the efficiency of the plant circuit(s); (e) the moisture content of the final product; and (f) customer requirements.
- (3) For the CAPP region, represents reserve quality information for our mining complexes as of March 31, 2004 for Bell County, Bledsoe, Blue Diamond Buckeye, Blue Diamond Leatherwood and McCoy and as of December 31, 2010 for Hamden and Laurel Mountain. For the Midwest region, represents average reserve quality information as of February 1, 2005 and April 11, 2006, for the reserves obtained on the acquisition of the Triad mining complex and for a lease entered into during 2006, respectively. The reserve quality information is based on the MM&A studies. Quality information for shipments for the most recent year end is contained under "Mining Operations."
- (4) Represents the Company's estimate of reserves at December 31, 2012 based on additional information or reserves obtained from exploration and acquisition activities, production activities or discovery of new geologic information. We calculated the adjustments to the reserves in the same manner, and based on the same assumptions and qualifications, as used in the MM&A studies described above, but these December 31, 2012 estimates have not been reviewed by MM&A.

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Processing and Transportation

Coal from each of our mine complexes is transported by conveyor belt or by truck to one of our preparation plants or directly to one of our load-outs, all of which are in close proximity to our mining operations. These preparation plants remove impurities from the run-of-mine coal (the raw coal that comes directly from the mine)

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and offer the flexibility to blend various coals and coal qualities to meet specific customer needs. We regularly upgrade and maintain all of our preparation plants to achieve a high level of coal cleaning efficiency and maintain the necessary capacity.

In Central Appalachia, coal consumed domestically is usually sold f.o.b. at the mine and transportation costs are normally borne by our customers. Export coal is usually sold at the loading port, with our customers responsible for further transportation. Producers usually pay shipping costs from the mine to the port. Our Central Appalachia produced coal is transported from the mines and to the customer primarily by rail, with the main rail carriers being CSX Transportation and Norfolk Southern Railway Company. The majority of our sales volume is shipped by rail, but a portion of our production is shipped by barge and truck.

In the Midwest, coal is shipped primarily by train and by truck to our customers. The trucked coal is primarily sold f.o.b delivery point with transportation costs borne by either the customer or us. Coal delivered by train and barge is sold f.o.b. at the point of loading. Our Triad mining complex has rail service provided by Indiana Railroad and Indiana Southern Railroad.

Our mining complexes are supported by personnel primarily located in London and Lexington, Kentucky and Charleston, West Virginia who provide engineering and permitting assistance, project management, land management and lease administration, coal quality control and quality reporting, accounting and purchasing support, and railroad transportation scheduling services.

Customers and Coal Contracts

As is customary in the coal industry, we enter into long-term contracts (which we define as contracts with terms of one year or longer) with many of our customers. These arrangements allow customers to secure a supply for their future needs and provide us with greater predictability of sales volume and sales prices. In 2012, we generated 44% of our total revenues from coal sales to electric utility customers and the remaining 56% from coal sales (including metallurgical coal) to industrial and other customers. For the year ended December 31, 2012, US Steel (13%), Steel Authority of India Limited (13%) and Georgia Power Company (12%) were our largest customers by total revenues. No other customer accounted for more than 10% of total revenues.

In 2012, we sold approximately 9.4 million tons of coal in the CAPP region at an average selling price of \$97.37 per ton. In the CAPP region, we currently have approximately 5.0 million and 0.3 million tons contracted to be sold in 2013 and 2014, respectively, at average selling prices of approximately \$81 per ton and \$76 per ton, respectively. Current market prices for steam and metallurgical coal in the CAPP region are substantially below our average 2012 sales price for those coals. If the market does not strengthen, our sales price for future tons sold will be adversely impacted as compared to 2012.

In 2012, we sold approximately 2.3 million tons of coal in the Midwest region at an average selling price of \$44.30 per ton. In the Midwest region, we currently have approximately 2.5 million and 0.9 million tons contracted to be sold in 2013 and 2014, respectively, at average selling prices of approximately \$45 per ton and \$48 per ton, respectively.

The terms of our contracts result from a bidding and negotiation process with our customers. Consequently, the terms of these contracts often vary significantly in many respects. Our long-term supply contracts typically contain one or more of the following pricing mechanisms:

- Fixed price contracts;
- Annually, semi-annually or quarterly negotiated prices that reflect market conditions at the time; or
 - Base-price-plus-escalation methods that allow for periodic price adjustments based on fixed percentages or, in certain limited cases, pass-through of actual cost changes.

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A limited number of our contracts have features of several contract types, such as provisions that allow for renegotiation of prices on a limited basis within a base-price-plus-escalation agreement. Such re-opener provisions allow both the customer and us an opportunity to adjust prices to a level close to the current market conditions. Each contract is negotiated separately, and the triggers for re-opener provisions differ from contract

to contract. Some of our existing contracts with re-opener provisions adjust the contract price to the market price at the time the re-opener provision is triggered. Re-opener provisions could result in early termination of a contract or a reduction in the volume to be purchased if the parties were to fail to agree on price.

Our long-term supply contracts also typically contain force majeure provisions allowing for the suspension of performance by the customer or us for the duration of specified events beyond the control of the affected party, including labor disputes. Some contracts may terminate upon continuance of an event of force majeure for an extended period, which is generally three to six months. Certain of our contracts are fixed in quantity but are priced on a quarterly or semi-annual basis. Contracts also typically specify minimum and maximum quality specifications regarding the coal to be delivered. Failure to meet these conditions could result in substantial price reductions or termination of the contract, at the election of the customer. Although the volume to be delivered under a long-term contract is stipulated, we, or the customer, may vary the timing of delivery within specified limits.

The terms of our long-term coal supply contracts also vary significantly in other respects, including: coal quantity parameters, flexibility and adjustment mechanisms, permitted sources of supply, treatment of environmental constraints, options to extend, suspension, termination and assignment provisions, and provisions regarding the allocation between the parties of the cost of complying with future government regulations.

Competition

The U.S. coal industry is highly competitive, with numerous producers in all coal producing regions. We compete against various large producers and hundreds of small producers. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the largest producer produced approximately 18.5% (based on tonnage produced) of the total United States production in 2011, the latest year for which government statistics are available. The U.S. Department of Energy also reported 1,325 active coal mines in the United States in 2011. Demand for our coal by our principal customers is affected by:

- the price of competing coal and alternative fuel supplies, including natural gas, nuclear, oil and renewable energy sources, such as hydroelectric power;
- government regulations that affect end users' ability to burn coal;
- coal quality;
- transportation costs from the mine to the customer; and
- the reliability of supply.

Continued demand for our coal, and the prices that we obtain are affected by demand for electricity, environmental and government regulation, technological developments and the availability and price of competing coal and alternative fuel supplies.

Employees

At December 31, 2012, we had 2,124 employees. None of our employees are currently represented by collective bargaining agreements. Relations with our employees are generally good.

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Environmental and other Regulatory Matters

The coal mining industry is subject to extensive regulation by federal, state and local authorities on matters such as:

- employee health and safety;
- permitting and licensing requirements;
- air quality standards;
- water quality standards;
- plant, wildlife and wetland protection;
- blasting operations;

- the management and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous materials generated by mining operations;
- the storage of petroleum products and other hazardous substances;
- reclamation and restoration of properties after mining operations are completed;
- discharge of materials into the environment, including air emissions and wastewater discharge;
- surface subsidence from underground mining; and
- the effects of mining operations on groundwater quality and availability.

Complying with these requirements, including the terms of our permits, has had, and will continue to have, a significant effect on our costs of operations. We could incur substantial costs, including clean up costs, fines, civil or criminal sanctions and third party claims for personal injury or property damage as a result of violations of or liabilities under these laws and regulations.

In addition, the utility industry, which is the most significant end-user of coal, is subject to extensive regulation regarding the environmental impact of its power generation activities, which could affect demand for our coal. The possibility exists that new legislation or regulations may be adopted which would have a significant impact on our mining operations or our customers' ability to use coal and may require us or our customers to change operations significantly or incur substantial costs.

Numerous governmental permits and approvals are required for mining operations. In connection with obtaining these permits and approvals, we are, or may be, required to prepare and present to federal, state or local authorities data pertaining to the effect or impact that any proposed exploration for or production of coal may have upon the environment, the public, historical artifacts and structures, and our employees' health and safety. The requirements imposed by such authorities may be costly and time-consuming and may delay commencement or continuation of exploration or production operations. Future legislation and administrative regulations may emphasize the protection of the environment and health and safety and, as a consequence, our activities may be more closely regulated. Such legislation and regulations, as well as future interpretations of existing laws, may require substantial increases in our equipment and operating costs and delays, interruptions or a termination of operations, the extent of which cannot be predicted.

While it is not possible to quantify the costs of compliance with all applicable federal and state laws, those costs have been and are expected to continue to be significant. We estimate that we will make expenditures of approximately \$5.9 million and \$2.0 million for environmental control facilities and complying with safety regulations in 2013 and 2014, respectively. These costs are in addition to reclamation and mine closing costs and the costs of treating mine water discharge, when necessary. Compliance with these laws has substantially increased the cost of coal mining, but is, in general, a cost common to all domestic coal producers.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") was enacted on July 21, 2010. Section 1503 of the Dodd-Frank Act contains new reporting requirements regarding coal or other mine safety. On December 21, 2011, the Securities and Exchange Commission adopted final rules that implement Section 1503 of the Dodd-Frank Act, and these rules went into effect on January 27, 2012. Our mine safety disclosures required pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Act appear in Exhibit 95 to this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Mine Safety and Health Laws

The Federal Mine Safety and Health Administration ("MSHA") is the primary regulating agency for safety and health matters and issues rules and regulations addressing mine safety and health. Stringent federal health and safety standards were imposed by the Federal Coal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1969 and again with the adoption of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977. Mine safety and health standards were further expanded in 2006 with the passage of the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act ("MINER Act"). The combined federal regulations are comprehensive and affect numerous aspects of mining operations, including training of mine personnel, mining procedures, emergency response capabilities, availability of emergency breathable air, communication and tracking systems, blasting, the equipment used in mining operations and other matters.

Pattern of Violations

On January 17, 2013, MSHA announced a final rule revising MSHA's Pattern of Violations regulations ("POV") in '30 C.F.R. Part 104. The final rule allows MSHA to issue a POV notice without first issuing a potential POV notice and eliminates the existing requirement that MSHA can consider only final orders in its POV review. The final rule also establishes general criteria and procedures that MSHA will utilize to identify mines with a pattern of significant and substantial ("S&S") citations, and restates the statutory requirement that, for mines in POV status, each S&S citation will result in a withdrawal order until a complete inspection finds no S&S violations. Under the final rule, MSHA will review at least once a year the compliance and accident, injury and illness records of mines to determine if any mines meet the POV criteria. MSHA's review to identify mines with a pattern of S&S violations, citations for S&S violations, orders under section 104(b) of the Mine Act for not abating S&S violations, citations and withdrawal orders under section 104(d) of the Mine Act, imminent danger orders under section 107(a), orders under section 104(g) for untrained miner withdrawal orders, enforcement measures other than section 104(e) of the Mine Act that have been applied at the mine, and other information that "demonstrates a serious safety or health management problem at the mine, such as accident, injury, and illness records."

Total Incombustible Dust

On June 21, 2011, MSHA issued a final rule requiring that the total incombustible content ("TIC") of the combined coal, rock and other dusts in underground coal mines be at least 80%. In addition, the final rule requires that where methane is present in any ventilating current, the TIC of such combined dust shall be increased 0.4% for each 0.1% of methane. The new rule revised the existing standard, which permitted TIC of combined dusts to be 65% in areas of a mine other than return air courses.

Respirable Dust Levels

On October 19, 2010, MSHA issued a proposed rule which would gradually lower the current 2.0 mg/m³ dust standard to 1.0 mg/m³ over a two-year period from the effective date, and to 0.5 mg/m³ in intake air. The proposed rule also addresses extended work shifts, redefines normal production shifts, requires additional medical surveillance examinations for miners, and provides for the use of a single, full-shift sample to determine compliance rather than averaging multiple dust samples of different miners' exposures per current requirements.

In addition, the proposed rule would phase in the required use of the Continuous Personal Dust Monitor ("CPDM"). The CPDMs would electronically store all respirable dust sampling data collected during a shift and would be sent to MSHA electronically. The CPDMs would be optional for surface coal mines and for non-production areas of underground coal mines (such as out by areas).

Other changes include: requiring sampling of extended work shifts to account for occupational exposures of greater than eight hours per shift; requiring sampling when production is equivalent to or greater than the level of average production level over the last 30 production shifts; and requiring spirometry testing, occupational history and symptom assessment to be implemented, in addition to the chest x-ray exam currently required for underground coal miners and medical surveillance.

Other Safety Rules

On December 28, 2012, MSHA issued a final rule, 77 Fed. Reg. 249, 76406-76498, to revise its civil penalty assessment amounts. The revised rule increases certain penalties for citations and orders issued on or after January 28, 2013.

On April 6, 2012, MSHA issued a final rule, 77 Fed. Reg. 67, 20700-20716, to revise the requirements for pre-shift, supplemental, on-shift and weekly examinations of underground coal mines. The final rule adds the requirement that operators identify violations of mandatory health or safety standards and requires the mine operator to record and correct these violations, note the actions taken to correct the conditions and review with mine examiners (e.g., the mine foreman, assistant mine foreman or other certified persons) on a quarterly basis all citations and orders issued in areas where pre-shift, supplemental, on-shift and weekly examinations are required.

On August 31, 2011, MSHA published proposed rules, 76 Fed. Reg. 169, 54163-54179, that, if finalized, will require mine operators to install proximity detection systems on continuous mining machines. The proximity detection systems initiate a warning or shutdown the continuous miner depending on the proximity of the machine to a miner.

The states in which we operate have state mine safety and health regulation and enforcement similar to those at the federal level. Collectively, federal and state safety and health regulation in the coal mining industry is, perhaps, the most comprehensive for protection of employee health and safety affecting any segment of industry in the United States. While regulation has a significant effect on our operating costs, our United States competitors are subject to the same regulation.

Black Lung Legislation

Under the federal Black Lung Benefits Revenue Act of 1977 and the Black Lung Benefits Reform Act of 1977, as amended in 1981, each coal mine operator is required to make black lung benefits or contribution payments to:

- current and former coal miners who are totally disabled from black lung disease;
- certain survivors of a miner who dies from black lung disease or pneumoconiosis; and
- a trust fund for the payment of benefits and medical expenses to any claimant whose last mine employment was before January 1, 1970, or where a miner's last coal employment was on or after January 1, 1970 and no responsible coal mine operator has been identified for claims, or where the responsible coal mine operator has defaulted on the payment of such benefits.

Federal black lung benefits rates are periodically adjusted according to the percentage increase of the federal pay rate.

In addition to federal black lung legislation, we also are liable under various state statutes for black lung claims. To a certain extent, our federal black lung liabilities are reduced by our state liabilities.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (the "Act") includes a black-lung provision that creates a rebuttable presumption that a miner with at least 15 years of service, with totally disabling pulmonary or respiratory lung impairment and negative radiographic chest x-ray evidence is disabled due to pneumoconiosis and is eligible for black lung benefits. The Act also makes it easier for widows of miners to become eligible for benefits. This legislation could significantly impact the Company's future payments for black lung benefits.

In recent years, additional legislation on black lung reform has been introduced but not enacted in Congress and in the Kentucky legislature. It is possible that additional legislation will be reintroduced for consideration by Congress. If any of the proposals included in this or similar legislation is passed, the number of claimants who are awarded benefits could significantly increase. Any such changes in black lung legislation, if approved, may adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Environmental Laws and Regulations

We are subject to various federal environmental laws and regulatory entities, including:

- the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977;
- the Clean Air Act;
 - initiatives to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions;
- the Clean Water Act;
- the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act; and
- the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

We are also subject to state laws of similar scope in each state in which we operate.

These environmental laws require reporting, permitting and/or approval of many aspects of coal operations. Both federal and state inspectors regularly visit mines and other facilities to ensure compliance. We have ongoing compliance and permitting programs designed to ensure compliance with such environmental laws.

Given the retroactive nature of certain environmental laws, we have incurred and may in the future incur liabilities, including clean-up costs, in connection with properties and facilities currently or previously owned or operated as well as sites to which we or our subsidiaries sent waste materials.

Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA)

SMCRA, and its state counterparts, establish operational, reclamation and closure standards for all aspects of surface mining as well as many aspects of underground mining. SMCRA requires that comprehensive environmental protection and reclamation standards be met during the course of and following completion of mining activities. Permits for all mining operations must be obtained from the Federal Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) or, where state regulatory agencies have adopted federally approved state programs under SMCRA, the state becomes the regulatory authority with primacy and issues the permits with federal oversight from OSM.

SMCRA and similar state statutes, among other things, require that mined property be restored in accordance with specified standards and approved reclamation plans. The mine operator must submit a bond or otherwise secure the performance of these reclamation obligations. The earliest a reclamation bond can be fully released is five years after reclamation has been achieved. On May 1, 2012, OSM notified the state of Kentucky that OSM believes Kentucky's bonding program is insufficient. The resolution of this issue could cause bonding costs for new or existing operations to increase.

All states impose on mine operators the responsibility for repairing or compensating for damage occurring on the surface as a result of mine subsidence, a possible consequence of underground mining. In addition, the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund, which is part of SMCRA, imposes a tax on all current mining operations, the proceeds of which are used to restore unreclaimed mines closed before 1977. Going forward, the maximum tax is \$0,28 per ton on surface mined coal and \$0.12 per ton on coal produced by underground mining.

Our future operating results would be adversely affected if our accruals for reclamation were determined to be insufficient. These obligations are unfunded. The amount that was expensed for reclamation during the year ended December 31, 2012 was \$5.3 million, while the related cash payment for such liability during the same period was \$2.1 million.

¹ We also lease some of our coal reserves to third-party operators. Although specific criteria vary from state to state as to what constitutes an "owner" or "controller" relationship, under SMCRA, operators can be blocked from receiving permits to conduct mining where the operator is deemed to "own" or "control" third-parties who have unabated violations, unpaid civil penalties or unpaid reclamation fees.

t. (* 1 The Clean Air Act and Related Rules

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The federal Clean Air Act and similar state laws and regulations, which regulate emissions into the air, affect coal mining and processing operations primarily through permitting and/or emissions control requirements. In addition, the Ehvironmental Protection Agency (the "EPA") has issued certain, and is considering further, regulations relating to fugitive dust and particulate matter emissions that could restrict our ability to develop new mines or require us to modify our operations and may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

The Clean Air, Act also indirectly affects coal mining operations by extensively regulating the air emissions of coal-fired electric power generating plants. Coal contains impurities, such as sulfur, mercury and other constituents, many of which are released into the air when coal is burned. New environmental regulations governing emissions from coal-fired electric generating plants could reduce demand for coal as a fuel source and affect the volume of our sales. For example, the federal Clean Air Act places limits on sulfur dioxide emissions from electric power plants. In order to meet the federal Clean Air Act limits for sulfur dioxide emissions from electric power plants, coal users need to install scrubbers, use sulfur dioxide emission allowances (some of which

they may purchase), blend high sulfur coal with low sulfur coal or switch to low sulfur coal or other fuels. The cost of installing scrubbers is significant and emission allowances may become more expensive as their availability declines. Switching to other fuels may require expensive modifications to existing plants.

Cross State Air Pollution Rule

On August 8, 2011, the EPA published the final Cross State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) requiring reductions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions from power plants in 27 states located in the eastern half of the U.S. CSAPR addresses interstate emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides that interfere with downwind states' ability to meet or maintain national ambient air quality standards for ozone and/or particulate matter. A Texas utility filed suit against the EPA contesting the legality of CSAPR. On August 21, 2012 the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ruled against the EPA and invalidated CSAPR, finding that the EPA had exceeded its statutory authority. On October 5, 2012 the EPA filed for a rehearing of the case. The impact of CSAPR will depend on the final outcome of the legal proceedings and cannot be determined at this time.

Maximum Achievable Control Technology ("MACT")

On February 16, 2012, the EPA published its final Utility MACT rule, which imposes stringent acid gases, mercury and particulate matter emission limits on coal- and oil-fired electric utility steam generating units. On July 9, 2012 several utilities and interested parties filed suit in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia asking the court to vacate the Utility MACT rule. Subsequently, on August 2, 2012, the EPA issued a partial stay of the Utility MACT rule to give the EPA time to reconsider the rule. The EPA plans to issue the revised Utility MACT rule by March 2013. In the meantime, the legal challenges to the Utility MACT rule have been suspended pending the EPA's reissuance of the Utility MACT Rule.

On March 21, 2011 the EPA issued the Industrial Boiler MACT rule standards establishing emissions limits for various hazardous air pollutants typically emitted from industrial boilers, including coal-fired boilers. At the same time of issuance of the rule, the EPA issued a notice of intent to reconsider the rule to allow for additional public review and comment. On December 20, 2012, the EPA finalized the Industrial Boiler MACT rule after taking into consideration industry comments. The Industrial Boiler, MACT rule requires compliance by 2016 or 2018 depending on the type of boiler.

These new and proposed regulations will make it more costly to operate coal-fired plants and could make coal a less attractive fuel alternative in the planning and building of utility power plants and industrial boilers in the future. To the extent that any new and proposed requirements affect our customers, this could adversely affect our operations and results.

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Regional Haze Program

In 1999, the EPA promulgated a regional haze program designed to protect and to improve visibility at and around so-called Class I Areas, which are generally National Parks, National Wildemess Areas and International Parks. This program may restrict the construction of new coal-fired power plants whose operation may impair visibility at and around the Class I Areas. Moreover, the program requires certain existing coal-fired power plants to install additional control measures designed to limit haze-causing emissions, such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and particulate matter. States were required to submit Regional Haze State Implementation Plans ("SIPs") to the EPA by December 17, 2007. Many states did not meet the December 17, 2007 deadline, and on February 4, 2011, several environmental groups (including the Sierra Club and Environmental Defense Fund) notified the EPA that they intend to sue the EPA under the citizen suit provision of the Clean Air Act for failure to enforce the regional haze rule. In addition, the EPA issued a proposed rule on December 30, 2011 that would allow states subject to CSAPR to rely on the CSAPR trading program to meet some of the requirements in the regional haze program. However, as noted above, CSAPR has been invalidated by the courts but may be subject to additional legal proceedings. We are unable to predict the impact on the coal market of either the states' failure to submit Regional Haze SIPs by the deadline or the potential litigation of CSAPR.

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Initiatives to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Considerable and increasing government attention in the United States and other countries is being paid to reducing greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions, including carbon dioxide ("CO2") emissions from coal-fired power plants and methane emissions from mining operations. Although the United States has not ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ("UNFCCC"), which became effective for many countries in 2005 and establishes a binding set of emission targets for greenhouse gases, the United States is actively participating in various international initiatives within and outside of the UNFCCC process to negotiate developed and developing nation commitments for GHG emission reductions and related financing. Any international GHG agreement in which the United States participates, if at all, could adversely affect the price and demand for coal.

In addition to possible future U.S. treaty obligations, regulation of GHG in the United States could occur pursuant to new or amended federal or state legislation, including but not limited to regulatory changes under the Clean Air Act, Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act, state initiatives, or otherwise. At the federal level, Congress actively considered in the past, and may consider in the future, legislation that would establish a nationwide GHG emissions cap-and-trade or other market-based program to reduce GHG emissions. There are other types of legislative proposals that would promote clean energy that Congress has also considered in the past, and is currently considering. Many of these proposals would tend to favor fuels that have a lower carbon content than coal, but such proposals also incent the construction and development of carbon capture and sequestration plants as well as other advanced coal technologies. We cannot predict the financial impact of future GHG or clean energy legislation on our operations or our customers at this time.

The EPA also is implementing plans to regulate GHG emissions. In October 2009, the EPA published its final Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule, which requires power plants and other large sources of GHGs to file reports disclosing GHG emissions. In November 2011, the EPA issued an amendment delaying to April 1, 2013 the reporting deadline for underground coal mines and certain other source categories to file their first annual reports disclosing GHG emissions.

In December 2009, the EPA issued a Final Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for Greenhouse Gases under Section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act, wherein the EPA concluded that GHGs endanger the public health and welfare. In April 2010, the EPA issued, along with the Department of Transportation, a rule to regulate GHG emissions from new cars and trucks. This rule took effect in January 2011, and according to EPA, established GHG emissions as "regulated pollutants" under the Clean Air Act. As a consequence, and in conjunction with an EPA Final Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Title V Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule, it requires new and modified emission sources to meet Best Available Control Technology for GHG emissions.

On March 27, 2012, the EPA proposed a New Source Performance Standard rule that limits CO2 emissions from new fossil fuel burning power plants to 1,000 pounds of CO2 emissions for every one megawatt hour of power generated. This standard is achievable by most natural gas-fired power plants but is not economically achievable given current technology for coal-fired power generation. This rule, if effective, will likely prevent the construction of new coal-fired power, generation for the foreseeable future. Federal legislation that would variously suspend or eliminate EPA's regulatory authority over GHGs has been introduced in both the House and Senate.

In addition to federal GHG regulations, there are several new state programs to limit GHG emissions and others have been proposed. State and regional climate change initiatives are taking effect before federal action. Beginning January 1, 2009 the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a regional GHG cap-and-trade program calling for a ten percent reduction of emissions by 2018, was established by ten Northeastern states (Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont). In October 2011, the California Air Resources Board adopted regulations that establish a statewide cap and trade program to control GHG emissions. The program will take effect in 2013.

Predicting the economic effects of greenhouse gas legislation is difficult given the various alternatives proposed and the complexities of the interactions between economic and environmental issues. Coal-fired generators could switch to other fuels that generate less of these emissions, possibly reducing the construction of coal-fired power plants or causing some users of our coal to switch to a lower CO2 generating fuel, or more

generally reducing the demand for coal-fired electricity generation. This could result in an indeterminate decrease in demand for coal nationally, and various mechanisms proposed to limit GHG emissions could impact the price of coal and the cost of coal-fired generation. The majority of our coal supply agreements contain provisions that allow a purchaser to terminate its contract if legislation is passed that either restricts the use or type of coal permissible at the purchaser's plant or results in specified increases in the cost of coal or its use to comply with applicable ambient air quality standards. In addition, if regulation of GHG emissions does not exempt the release of coalbed methane, we may have to curtail coal production, pay higher taxes, or incur costs to purchase credits that permit us to continue operations as they now exist at our underground coal mines.

The Clean Water Act and Related Rules

The Clean Water Act of 1972 (the "CWA") and corresponding state laws affect coal mining operations by imposing restrictions on the discharge of certain pollutants into water and on dredging and filling wetlands. The CWA establishes in-stream water quality standards and treatment standards for wastewater discharge through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES"). Regular monitoring, as well as compliance with reporting requirements and performance standards, are preconditions for the issuance and renewal of NPDES permits that 'govern the discharge of pollutants into water. These requirements are complex, lengthy and becoming increasingly stringent as new regulations or amendments to existing regulations are adopted. In addition, legal challenges to regulations may impact their content and the timing of their implementation.

Section 404 Permitting

Permits under Section 404 of the CWA are required for coal companies to conduct dredging or filling activities in jurisdictional waters for the purpose of creating slurry ponds, water impoundments, refuse disposal areas, valley fills or other mining activities. Jurisdictional waters typically include ephemeral, intermittent, and perennial streams and may in certain instances include man-made conveyances that have a hydrologic connection to a stream or wetland. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) only has jurisdiction over the "navigable waters" of the United States, and outside these waters there is arguably no need to procure a 404 permit. The United States Supreme Court ruled in *Rapanos v. United States* in 2006 that upper reaches of streams which are intermittent or do not flow might not be jurisdictional waters' requiring 404 permits. The case did not involve disposal of mining refuse, but has implications for the mining industry. Subsequently, in June 2007 the COE and EPA issued a joint guidance document to attempt to develop a policy that will apply the jurisdictional standards imposed by the Supreme Court. The guidance requires a case-by-case analysis of whether the area to be filled has a sufficient nexus to downstream navigable waters so as to require 404 permits. Review and implementation of this guidance by the COE field offices remains inconsistent; the extent to which decisions made pursuant to this guidance will be challenged remains an open question.

The COE's issuance of 404 permits is subject to the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA"). NEPA defines the procedures by which a federal agency must administer its permitting programs. The law requires that a federal agency must take a "hard look" at any activity that may "significantly affect the quality of the human environment". The 'COE typically conducts an initial Environmental Assessment ("EA") to determine whether the project's effects are significant enough to require an Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS"), which involves a very lengthy data collection and review process. In most cases, the COE issues a Finding of No Significant Impact ("FONSI") at the conclusion of the EA and does not require an EIS to determine the impacts from impoundments, fills and other activities associated with coal mining. However, in some cases the full EIS process is being required for mining projects. Should a full EIS be required for every permit instead of, or in addition to, the less detailed EA, significant permitting delays could affect mining costs or cause operations not to be opened in the first instance, or to be idled or closed.

"The COE is empowered to issue nationwide permits for specific categories of filling activity that are determined to have minimal environmental adverse effects in order to save the cost and time of issuing individual permits under Section 404. Nationwide Permit 21 ("NWP 21") authorizes the disposal of dredge-and-fill material from mining activities into the waters of the United States. Over the last decade several citizens groups have sued the COE in federal court in West Virginia and Kentucky seeking to invalidate nationwide permits utilized by the COE and the coal industry for permitting most in-stream disturbances associated with coal mining, including excess spoil valley fills and refuse impoundments. The plaintiffs sought to enjoin the prospective approval of these nationwide permits and to enjoin some coal operators from additional

use of existing nationwide permit approvals until they obtain more detailed individual permits. These litigation challenges have been followed by significant policy changes by the COE. In June 2010, the COE suspended use of the NWP 21 within a six-state region, including Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. In February 2012, the COE reissued the NWP 21 permit with significant new limitations. The reissued NWP 21 permit only authorizes impacts to one-half acre of surface water and no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed. In addition, the construction of valley fills is not authorized in the permit. The new limitations in the NWP 21 permit may require us to undertake the more burdensome approach of obtaining individual Section 404 permits for new projects.

Since 2009, the federal Office of Surface Mining issued an advance notice of a proposed rulemaking on a new "stream protection rule" which would consider defining the term "material damage" to the hydrologic balance outside the permit area (which damage is prohibited under SMCRA), limiting or controlling operations which mined through or filled streams, and better defining the "approximate original contours" to which surface mines must ordinarily be restored. OSM hired outside contractors to conduct an EIS on the rulemaking effort. Their draft work identified several alternative rulemaking scenarios and the economic consequences of OSM's "preferred" scenario. Portions of their work was leaked to the public in early 2011 and predicted reductions in production and thousands of fewer mining jobs in Appalachia as a result of the preferred alternatives. Criticism of OSM's methodologies has caused it to slow its efforts and it has yet to issue a proposed rule, but OSM claims to still be developing a rule.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permits

The Clean Water Act ("CWA") requires that all of our operations obtain NPDES permits for discharges of water from all of our mining operations. NPDES permits for our operations normally contain limits for constitutes typically present in mining effluent, including iron, manganese, settleable solids and pH. Additionally, limits for other constitutes, including selenium and aluminum, may be required, depending on conditions at the site. Increasingly more restrictive limits are being added to NPDES permits in all states, which potentially could create requirements for treatment systems and higher costs to comply with permit conditions.

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When a water discharge occurs and one or more parameters are outside the approved limits permitted in an NPDES permit, these exceedances of permit limits are self-reported to the pertinent agency. The agency may impose penalties for each such release in excess of permitted amounts. If factors such as heavy rains or geologic conditions cause persistent releases in excess of amounts allowed under NPDES permits, costs of compliance can be material, fines may be imposed, or operations may have to be idled until remedial actions are possible. Additionally, the CWA has citizen suit provisions which allow individuals or organized groups to file suit against permit holders or the EPA or state agencies for failure to enforce all aspects of the CWA. Although we are aware of citizen suit actions against a small number of our permits, we do not think these actions are material to our business, and we believe the citizen suit actions lack merit. Similar actions have recently been filed against other companies.

The Clean Water Act has specialized sections that address NPDES permit conditions for discharges to waters in which state-issued water quality standards are violated and where the quality exceeds the levels established by those standards. For those waters where conditions violate state water quality standards, states or the EPA are required to prepare a Total Maximum Daily Load ("TMDL") by which new discharge limits are imposed on existing and future discharges in an effort to restore the water quality of the receiving streams. Likewise, when water quality in a receiving stream is better than required, states are required to adopt an "anti-degradation policy" by which further "degradation" of the existing water quality is reviewed and possibly limited. In the case of both the TMDL and anti-degradation review, the limits in our NPDES discharge permits could become more stringent, thereby potentially increasing our treatment costs and making it more difficult to obtain new surface mining permits. New standards may also require us to install expensive water treatment facilities or otherwise modify mining practices and thereby substantially increase mining costs. These increased costs may render some operations unprofitable.

In September 2009, the EPA announced it had identified 79 pending permit applications for Appalachian surface coal mining that warranted further review under an enhanced coordination process ("ECP") with the COE and the United States Department of the Interior entered into in June 2009. These included four of our permit applications, three of which we have abandoned while the remaining permit was issued to us in

July 2012. On October 17, 2012 two environmental groups, the Sierra Club and Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, filed suit against the COE in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky claiming that the COE unlawfully issued the Section 404 permit to us because the COE failed to perform an Environmental Impact Statement and failed to consider alleged adverse effects on human health and welfare from surface coal mines before issuing the Section 404 permit. The Section 404 permit and the outcome of this case, which cannot be determined at this time, are not material to our operations.

In conjunction with this ECP, EPA published guidance in a July 21, 2011 Final Memorandum entitled "Improving EPA Review of Appalachian Surface Coal Mining Operations Under the Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and the Environmental Justice Executive Order" ("EPA Mining Guidance"). The EPA Mining Guidance establishes threshold conductivity levels to be used as a basis for evaluating compliance with narrative water quality standards. Conductivity is a measure that reflects levels of various salts present in water. The EPA Administrator stated that these water quality standards may be difficult for most mining 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. M. F. K. operations to meet.

The ECP as well as the EPA Mining Guidance were challenged in court by the National Mining Association and by several states. On October 6, 2011, a federal court vacated the ECP. Likewise, the EPA Mining Guidance was vacated on July 31, 2012, by a federal district court.

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Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (commonly known as Superfund) and similar state laws create liabilities for the investigation and remediation of releases of hazardous substances into the environment and for damages to natural resources. Our current and former coal mining operations incur, and will continue to incur, expenditures associated with the investigation and remediation of facilities and environmental conditions, including underground storage tanks, solid and hazardous waste disposal and other matters under these environmental laws. We also must comply with reporting requirements under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act and the Toxic Substances Control Act.

The magnitude of the liability and the cost of complying with environmental laws with respect to particular sites cannot be predicted with certainty due to the lack of specific information available, the potential for new or changed laws and regulations, the development of new remediation technologies, and the uncertainty regarding the timing of remedial work. As a result, we may incur material liabilities or costs related to environmental matters in the future and such environmental liabilities or costs could adversely affect our results and financial condition. In addition, there can be no assurance that changes in laws or regulations would not result in additional costs and affect the manner in which we are required to conduct our operations.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

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N 1 1 The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and corresponding state laws and regulations affect coal mining operations by imposing requirements for the treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous wastes. Facilities at which hazardous wastes have been treated, stored or disposed of are subject to corrective action orders issued by the EPA and other potential obligations, which could adversely affect our results of operations or financial condition. 1 f (1.

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Item 1A. Risk Factors

Risks Related to the Coal Industry

Because the demand and pricing for coal is greatly influenced by consumption patterns of the domestic electricity generation industry and the worldwide steel industry, a reduction in the demand for coal by these industries would likely cause our revenues and profitability to decline significantly.

We derived 44% of our total revenues in 2012 and 56% of our total revenues in 2011, from our electric utility customers and the remaining 56% of our total revenues in 2012 and 44% of our total revenues in 2011 were derived from industrial and other customers, including those in the steel industry.

We compete with coal producers in the United States and overseas for domestic and international sales. Demand for our coal and the prices that we will be able to obtain primarily will depend upon coal consumption patterns of the electric utility industry and the worldwide steel industry. Consumption by the utility industry is affected by the demand for electricity, environmental and other governmental regulations, technological developments and the price of competing coal and alternative fuel supplies including natural gas, nuclear, oil and renewable energy sources, including hydroelectric power. In particular, coal fired electrical generation faces strong competition from natural gas as historically low natural gas prices have dramatically increased natural gas' share of electrical generation. Gas-fired electrical generation has the potential to continue displacing coal-fired electrical generation due in part to increased natural gas supply from shale formations resulting in lower natural gas prices and environmental regulations that tend to favor natural gas over coal.

Demand by the electricity industry is impacted by weather patterns, as well as overall economic activity and the associated demand for power by industrial users. Demand by the steel industry is primarily affected by economic growth and the demand for steel used in construction as well as appliances and automobiles. Prolonged decreases in global demand for electricity and steel production could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Due to economic and market conditions, our contracts for steam and metallurgical coal deliveries in 2013 provide lower sales prices than the average sales prices we received for deliveries of similar coal in 2012. While we manage our coal contracts on a composite basis to maximize the returns on our coal sold by moving coal to higher priced markets where possible (for example moving coal between the industrial coal market and the domestic utility market) there can be no assurances that pricing we receive on tons sold in 2013 and beyond will be reflective of the per-ton price of coal that we have received in prior periods.

Portions of our coal reserves possess quality characteristics that enable us to mine, process and market them as either metallurgical coal or high quality steam coal, depending on the prevailing conditions in the markets for metallurgical and steam coal. A decline in the metallurgical market relative to the steam market could cause us to shift coal from the metallurgical market to the steam market, potentially reducing the price we could obtain for this coal and adversely impacting our cash flows, results of operations or financial condition.

Any downward pressure on coal prices would likely cause our profitability to decline.

Electric utility deregulation is expected to provide incentives to generators of electricity to minimize their fuel costs and is believed to have caused electric generators to be more aggressive in negotiating prices with coal suppliers. To the extent utility deregulation causes our customers to be more cost-sensitive, deregulation may have a negative effect on our profitability.

Changes in the export and import markets for coal products could affect the demand for our coal, our pricing and our profitability.

We compete in a worldwide market. The pricing and demand for our products is affected by a number of factors beyond our control. These factors include:

- currency exchange rates;
- growth of economic development;
- price of alternative sources of electricity or steel;

- worldwide demand; and
- ocean freight rates.

Any decrease in the amount of coal exported from the United States, or any increase in the amount of coal imported into the United States, could have a material adverse impact on the demand for our coal, our pricing and our profitability. Ongoing uncertainty in European economies and slowing economies in China, India and Brazil have reduced and may continue to reduce near-term pricing and demand for coal exported from the United States.

Increased consolidation and competition in the U.S. coal industry may adversely affect our revenues and profitability.

During the last several years, the U.S. coal industry has experienced increased consolidation, which has contributed to the industry becoming more competitive. Consequently, many of our competitors in the domestic coal industry are major coal producers who have significantly greater financial resources than us. The intense competition among coal producers may impact our ability to retain or attract customers and may therefore adversely affect our future revenues and profitability.

If the coal industry experiences overcapacity in the future, our profitability could be impaired.

An increase in the demand for coal could attract new investors to the coal industry, which could spur the development of new mines, and result in added production capacity throughout the industry. Higher price levels of coal could also encourage the development of expanded capacity by new or existing coal producers. Any resulting increases in capacity could reduce coal prices and reduce our margins.

Fluctuations in transportation costs and the availability and dependability of transportation could affect the demand for our coal and our ability to deliver coal to our customers.

Increases in transportation costs could have an adverse effect on demand for our coal. Customers choose coal supplies based, primarily, on the total delivered cost of coal. Any increase in transportation costs would cause an increase in the total delivered cost of coal. That could cause some of our customers to seek less expensive sources of coal or alternative fuels to satisfy their energy needs. In addition, significant decreases in transportation costs from other coal-producing regions, both domestic and international, could result in increased competition from coal producers in those regions. For instance, coal mines in the western United States could become more attractive as a source of coal to consumers in the eastern United States, if the costs of transporting coal from the West were significantly reduced.

Our Central Appalachia mines generally ship coal via rail systems, ocean vessels and barges. During 2012, we shipped approximately 90% of our coal from our Central Appalachia mines via rail system, including coal that was transported by rail to export vessels. In the Midwest, we shipped approximately 53% of our produced coal by rail and the remainder by truck or barge. We believe that our 2013 transportation modes will continue to be comparable to those used in 2012. Our dependence upon railroads, third party trucking companies, ocean vessels and barges impacts our ability to deliver coal to our customers. Disruption of service due to weather-related problems, mechanical difficulties, strikes, lockouts, bottlenecks and other events could temporarily impair our ability to supply coal to our customers, resulting in decreased shipments. Decreased performance levels over longer periods of time could cause our customers to look elsewhere for their fuel needs, negatively affecting our revenues and profitability.

In past years, the major eastern railroads (CSX and Norfolk Southern) have experienced periods of increased overall rail traffic due to an expanding economy and shortages of both equipment and personnel. This increase in traffic could impact our ability to obtain the necessary rail cars to deliver coal to our customers and have an adverse impact on our financial results.

Shortages or increased costs of skilled labor in the coal regions that we operate may hamper our ability to achieve high labor productivity and competitive costs.

Coal mining continues to be a labor-intensive industry. In times of increased demand, many producers attempt to increase coal production, which historically has resulted in a competitive market for the limited supply of trained coal miners. In some cases, this market situation has caused compensation levels to increase, particularly for "skilled" positions such as electricians and mine foremen. To maintain current production levels, we may be forced to respond to increases in wages and other forms of compensation, and related recruiting efforts by our competitors. Any future shortage of skilled miners, or increases in our labor costs, could have an adverse impact on our labor productivity and costs and on our ability to expand production.

Government laws, regulations and other requirements relating to the protection of the environment, health and safety and other matters impose significant costs on us, and future requirements could limit our ability to produce coal at a competitive price.

We are subject to extensive federal, state and local regulations with respect to matters such as:

- employee health and safety;
- permitting and licensing requirements;
- air quality standards;
- water quality standards;
- plant, wildlife and wetland protection;
- blasting operations;
- the management and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous materials generated by mining operations;
- the storage of petroleum products and other hazardous substances;
- reclamation and restoration of properties after mining operations are completed;
- discharge of materials into the environment, including air emissions and wastewater discharge;
- surface subsidence from underground mining; and
- the effects of mining operations on groundwater quality and availability.

Complying with these requirements, including the terms of our permits, has had, and will continue to have, a significant effect on our costs of operations. We could incur substantial costs, including clean up costs, fines, civil or criminal sanctions and third party claims for personal injury or property damage as a result of violations of or liabilities under these laws and regulations.

The coal industry is also affected by significant legislation mandating specified benefits for retired miners. In addition, the utility industry, which is the most significant end user of coal, is subject to extensive regulation regarding the environmental impact of its power generating activities. Coal contains impurities, including sulfur, mercury, chlorine and other elements or compounds, many of which are released into the air when coal is burned. Stricter environmental regulations of emissions from coal-fired electric generating plants could increase the costs of using coal, thereby reducing demand for coal as a fuel source or the volume and price of our coal sales, or making coal a less attractive fuel alternative in the planning and building of utility power plants in the future.

New legislation, regulations and orders adopted or implemented in the future (or changes in interpretations of existing laws and regulations) may materially adversely affect our mining operations, our cost structure and our customers' operations or ability to use coal.

The majority of our coal supply agreements contain provisions that allow the purchaser to terminate its contract if legislation is passed that either restricts the use or type of coal permissible at the purchaser's plant or results in too great an increase in the cost of coal. These factors and legislation, if enacted, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Climate change initiatives could significantly reduce the demand for coal, increase our costs and reduce the value of our coal assets.

Global climate change continues to attract considerable public and scientific attention with widespread concern about the impacts of human activity, especially the emissions of greenhouse gases ("GHG"), such as carbon dioxide (CO2) and methane. Combustion of fossil fuels, such as the coal we produce, results in the creation of CO2 that is currently emitted into the atmosphere by coal end users, such as coal-fired electric generation power plants. Our underground mines emit methane, which must be expelled for safety reasons.

Considerable and increasing government attention in the United States and other countries is being paid to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including CO2 emissions from coal-fired power plants and methane emissions from mining operations. Although the United States has not ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ("UNFCCC"), which became effective for many countries in 2005 and establishes a binding set of emission targets for GHGs, the United States is actively participating in various international initiatives within and outside of the UNFCCC process to negotiate developed and developing nation commitments for GHG emission reductions and related financing. For example, in December 2009, approximately 190 countries participated in the UNFCC meetings in Copenhagen. The participants "took note" of a non-binding accord under which participating nations would report their commitments to reduce GHG emissions. Under this non-binding framework, the U.S. committed to cut GHG emissions by 17% below 2005 levels by 2020, 42% below 2005 levels by 2030, and 83% below 2005 levels by 2050. Any international GHG agreement in which the United States participates, if at all, could adversely affect the price and demand for coal.

U.S. legislative and regulatory action also may address GHG emissions. At the federal level, Congress actively considered in the past, and may consider in the future, legislation that would establish a nationwide GHG emissions cap-and-trade or other market-based program to reduce GHG emissions. The EPA also has commenced regulatory action that could lead to controls on CO2 from larger emitters such as coal-fired power plants and industrial sources. In advance of federal action, state and regional climate change initiatives, such as the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative of eastern states, the Western Regional Climate Action Initiative, and recently enacted legislation in California and other states are taking effect before federal action. In addition, some states and municipalities in the United States have adopted or may adopt in the future regulations on GHG emissions. Some states and municipal entities have commenced litigation in different jurisdictions seeking to have certain utilities, including some of our customers, reduce their emission of CO2. Apart from governmental regulation, certain large investment banks announced that they had adopted climate change guidelines for lenders. The guidelines require the evaluation of carbon risks in the financing of utility power plants which may make it more difficult for utilities to obtain financing for coal-fired plants.

Considerable uncertainty is associated with these climate change initiatives. The content of new treaties, legislation or regulation is not yet determined, and many of the new regulatory initiatives remain subject to review by the agencies or the courts. Predicting the economic effects of climate change legislation is difficult given the various alternatives proposed and the complexities of the interactions between economic and environmental issues. Any regulations on GHG emissions, however, are likely to impose significant emissions control expenditures on many coal-fired power plants and industrial boilers and could have the effect of making them unprofitable. As a result, these generators may switch to other fuels that generate less of these emissions, possibly reducing future demand for coal and the construction of coal-fired power plants. In this regard, many of our coal supply agreements contain provisions that allow a purchaser to terminate its contract if legislation is passed that either restricts the use or type of coal permissible at the purchaser's plant or results in specified increases in the cost of coal or its use to comply with applicable ambient air quality standards. Any switching of fuel sources away from coal, closure of existing coal-fired plants, or reduced construction of new plants could have a material adverse effect on demand for and prices received for our coal and a material adverse effect on

our results of operations, cash flows and financial condition. In addition, if regulation of GHG emissions does not exempt the release of coalbed methane, we may have to curtail coal production, pay higher taxes, or incur costs to purchase credits that permit us to continue operations as they now exist at our underground coal mines.

We are subject to the federal Clean Water Act and similar state laws which impose treatment, monitoring and reporting obligations.

The federal Clean Water Act and corresponding state laws affect coal mining operations by imposing restrictions on discharges into regulated waters. Permits requiring regular monitoring and compliance with effluent limitations and reporting requirements govern the discharge of pollutants into regulated waters. New requirements under the Clean Water Act and corresponding state laws could cause us to incur significant additional costs that adversely affect our operating results.

Regulations have expanded the definition of black lung disease and generally made it easier for claimants to assert and prosecute claims, which could increase our exposure to black lung benefit liabilities.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (Act) includes a black-lung provision that creates a rebuttable presumption that a miner with at least 15 years of service, with totally disabling pulmonary or respiratory lung impairment and negative radiographic chest x-ray evidence is disabled due to pneumoconiosis and is eligible for black lung benefits. The Act also makes it easier for widows of miners to become eligible for benefits. This legislation could significantly impact the Company's future payments for black lung benefits.

In recent years, additional legislation on black lung reform has been introduced but not enacted in Congress and in the Kentucky legislature. It is possible that additional legislation will be reintroduced for consideration by Congress. If any of the proposals included in this or similar legislation is passed, the number of claimants who are awarded benefits could significantly increase. Any such changes in black lung legislation, if approved, may adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Extensive environmental laws and regulations affect the end-users of coal and could reduce the demand for coal as a fuel source and cause the volume of our sales to decline.

The Clean Air Act and similar state and local laws extensively regulate the amount of sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, mercury and other compounds emitted into the air from electric power plants, which are the largest end-users of our coal. Compliance with such laws and regulations, which can take a variety of forms, may reduce demand for coal as a fuel source because they can require significant emissions control expenditures for coal-fired power plants to attain applicable ambient air quality standards, which may lead these generators to switch to other fuels that generate less of these emissions, to retire or reduce production from older coal-fired power plants and/or to decrease the construction of coal-fired power plants.

The EPA has adopted more stringent National Ambient Air Quality Standards for nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide, both of which are emitted from coal-fired combustion units. The EPA is considering whether to adopt a more stringent standard for ground-level ozone, to which emissions from coal combustion units can contribute. The demand for coal could be affected at electric generating facilities located in geographic areas that exceed the modified standards.

A regional haze program initiated by the EPA to protect and to improve visibility at and around national parks, national wilderness areas and international parks restricts the construction of new coal-fired power plants whose operation may impair visibility at and around federally protected areas and may require some existing coal-fired power plants to install additional control measures designed to limit haze-causing emissions.

The Clean Air Act also imposes standards on sources of hazardous air pollutants. The EPA's Utility MACT rule, if enacted into law would impose stringent acid gases, mercury and particulate matter emission limits on coal- and oil-fired electric utility steam generating units. The EPA's Industrial Boiler MACT rule limits emissions from industrial boilers, including those fueled by coal. These standards and future standards could have the effect of decreasing demand for coal. So-called multi-pollutant bills, which could regulate additional air pollutants, have been proposed by various members of Congress. If such initiatives are enacted into law, power plant operators could choose other fuel sources to meet their requirements, reducing the demand for coal.

On August 8, 2011, the EPA finalized the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR), which sets new power plant emission levels and could cause power plant operators to choose fuel sources other than coal. A Texas utility filed suit against the EPA contesting the legality of CSAPR. On August 21, 2012 the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ruled against the EPA and invalidated CSAPR, finding that the EPA had exceeded its statutory authority. On October 5, 2012, the EPA filed for rehearing of the case. The impact of CSAPR will depend on the final outcome of legal challenges and cannot be determined at this time.

As a result of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision on April 2, 2007 in Massachusetts, et al. v. EPA, 549 U.S. 497 (2007), finding that GHGs fall within the Clean Air Act definition of "air pollutant," the EPA was required to determine whether emissions of GHGs "endanger" public health or welfare. In December 2009, the EPA published an "Endangerment Finding" stating that current and projected concentrations of CO2 and five other GHGs in the atmosphere threaten the public's health and welfare. The EPA's Endangerment Finding was challenged in federal court by numerous states (see, Coalition for Responsible Regulation, Inc. et al. v. EPA); however, on June 26, 2012, the U.S. District Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ruled in favor of the EPA, validating the EPA's Endangerment Finding CO2 emissions. The EPA has recently completed several rulemaking actions indicating its intent to limit GHG emissions, including, among others, a final GHG reporting rule for certain major stationary source permitting programs, final regulations to control GHG emissions from light duty vehicles, proposed regulations limiting CO2 emissions from new, modified and reconstructed power plants, and a final "tailoring" rule explaining how it would implement the Clean Air Act's Title V and prevention of significant deterioration permitting programs with respect to GHG emissions from major stationary sources.

In recent legislative sessions, both houses of Congress have considered, but failed to enact, new legislation that could establish a national cap on, or other regulation of, carbon emissions and other GHGs. Recent proposals include a cap and trade system that would require the purchase of emission permits, which could be traded on the open market. These and other proposals would make it more costly to operate coal-fired plants and could make coal a less attractive fuel for future power plants. Any new or proposed requirements adversely affecting the use of coal could adversely affect our operations and results.

The permitting of new coal-fired power plants has also recently been contested by state regulators and environmental organizations based on concerns relating to GHG emissions. In several litigation cases, plaintiffs are seeking various remedies, including injunctive relief, against power plant owners. However, the risk of an adverse outcome has been mitigated by the June 20, 2011 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in Connecticut v. AEP. The Supreme Court reversed the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit which had allowed plaintiffs' claims that public utilities' GHG emissions created a "public nuisance" to go to trial. The Supreme Court held that the EPA's authority to regulate GHG emissions under the Clean Air Act displaces federal common law claims. The effect of these recent cases may also be mitigated in the 'event Congress adopts GHG legislation and because the EPA has finalized the adoption of GHG emission standards. Nevertheless, increased efforts to control GHG emissions by state, federal, judicial or international authorities could result in reduced demand for coal.

The EPA has issued a proposed rule to regulate the management of coal ash that results from the combustion of coal. The proposed rule would classify coal ash produced at electric power plants as a waste, thereby making it subject to significant restrictions on storage and disposal. In conjunction with the rulemaking, EPA has conducted assessments of the integrity of dams, impoundments, and other structures where coal ash from electric power plants is deposited. Although the rulemaking has been delayed, further scrutiny of coal ash management practices could result in reduced demand for coal.

We must obtain governmental permits and approvals for mining operations, which can be a costly and time consuming process and result in restrictions on our operations.

Numerous governmental permits and approvals are required for mining operations. Our operations are principally regulated under permits issued by state regulatory and enforcement agencies pursuant to the federal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA). Additionally, we often require permits under the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act. Regulatory authorities exercise considerable discretion in the timing and scope of permit issuance. Requirements imposed by these authorities may be costly and time consuming and may result in delays in the commencement or continuation of exploration or production operations. In addition, we often are required to prepare and present to federal, state and local authorities data pertaining to the effect or impact that proposed exploration for or production of coal might have on the environment. Further, the public may comment on and otherwise engage in the permitting process, including through intervention in the courts. Accordingly, the permits we need may not be issued, or, if issued, may not be issued in a timely fashion, or may involve requirements that festrict our ability to conduct our mining operations or to do so profitably.

In particular, permit issuance under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which is often required for valley fills, ponds or impoundments, refuse, road building, placement of excess material and other mine development activities, is facing increasingly stringent regulatory and administrative requirements and a series of court challenges that have resulted in increased costs and delays in the permitting process. Previously, a Section 404 permit could be either a simplified Nationwide Permit #21 (NWP 21) or a more complicated individual permit. Litigation respecting the validity of the NWP 21 permit program has been ongoing for several years. In 2010, the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) announced its decision to suspend the use of NWP 21 in a six state Appalachian region, including Kentucky and West Virginia, where we operate. Recently, the COE reissued the NWP 21 permit with significant new limitations on authorized impacts to surface water, including a prohibition against valley fills. Litigation respecting the issuance of certain Section 404 permits has also been ongoing for several years, focusing primarily on whether the COE's decision to issue such permits conformed to the requirements of the Clean Water Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act. The matters at issue in such litigation are such that a ruling for the plaintiffs could have an adverse impact on our planned surface mining operations.

In 2009, the EPA announced publicly that it will exercise its statutory right to more actively review Section 404 permitting actions by the COE. In the third quarter of 2009, the EPA announced that it would further review 79 surface mining permit applications, including four of our permits. These 79 permits were identified as likely to impact water quality and therefore required additional review under the Clean Water Act. We abandoned three of our permits and the fourth was issued to us in July 2012. On October 17, 2012 two environmental groups, the Sierra Club and Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, filed suit against the COE in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky claiming that the COE unlawfully issued the Section 404 permit to us because the COE failed to perform an Environmental Impact Statement and failed to consider alleged adverse effects on human health and welfare from surface coal mines before issuing the Section 404 permit. The Section 404 permit and the outcome of this case, which cannot be determined at this time, are not material to our operations.

More recently, the EPA announced acceptable levels for the conductivity of water in streams receiving discharge from permitted coal mining sites in a six-state area of Central Appalachia, including Kentucky and West Virginia. If such levels of conductivity are enforced as numerical limits, they could have a significant impact on our ability to secure Section 404 permits and have a material impact on our operations. The National Mining Association (NMA), on behalf of its member companies including coal producers such as ourselves, filed suit against the EPA and the COE contesting the legality of the enhanced review process and the imposition of such conductivity standard. The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia granted the NMA's motion for partial summary judgment and vacated the multi-criteria integrated resource assessment and the enhanced coordination process that were being applied to Section 404 permits. The court determined that in issuing the guidance, the EPA exceeded its statutory authority under the Clean Water Act. The court also determined those pronouncements to constitute legislative rules, and as such, to have been issued in violation of the Administrative Procedures Act because they were issued without public notice and an opportunity to submit comments. On July 31, 2012, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia issued its opinion on the remainder of the NMA's complaint and overturned the EPA's Final Guidance memorandum concerning conductivity of water in streams. The court held that the Final Guidance constituted final agency action and the EPA overstepped its authority under the Clean Water Act and SMCRA. 2.

Environmental groups have recently filed lawsuits against multiple mining companies, including us, for alleged discharges of selenium in violation of applicable permit levels at coal mining sites. The lawsuits have been filed under the citizen suit provisions of the federal Clean Water Act. In the lawsuits, the environmental groups contend that the mining companies should install treatment facilities to limit the discharge of selenium and pay civil penalties for the alleged violations. Some of the cases have been resolved through settlements between the environmental groups and the mining companies. We currently do not believe that any lawsuit brought against us related to these matters will have a material impact on our operations.

For a discussion of the Clean Water Act, see Item 1 "Business — Environmental and Other Regulatory Matters" for discussion related to the Clean Water Act.

We have significant reclamation and mine closure obligations. If the assumptions underlying our accruals are materially inaccurate, we could be required to expend greater amounts than anticipated.

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The SMCRA establishes operational, reclamation and closure standards for all aspects of surface mining as well as many aspects of underground mining. We accrue for the costs of current mine disturbance and of final mine closure, including the cost of treating mine water discharge where necessary. Under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles we are required to account for the costs related to the closure of mines and the reclamation of the land upon exhaustion of coal reserves. The fair value of an asset retirement obligation is recognized in the period in which it is incurred if a reasonable estimate of fair value can be made. The present value of the estimated asset retirement costs is capitalized as part of the carrying amount of the long-lived asset. The amounts recorded are dependent upon a number of variables, including the estimated future retirement costs, estimated proven reserves, assumptions involving profit margins, inflation rates, and the assumed credit-adjusted interest rates. Furthermore, these obligations are unfunded. If these accruals are insufficient or our liability in a particular year is greater than currently anticipated, our future operating results could be adversely affected.

Also, see "Critical Accounting Estimates — Reclamation and Mine Closure Obligation" for additional information regarding our accrued reclamation costs.

Our operations may adversely impact the environment which could result in material liabilities to us.

The processes required to mine coal may cause certain impacts or generate certain materials that might adversely affect the environment from time to time. The mining processes we use could cause us to become subject to claims for toxic torts, natural resource damages and other damages as well as for the investigation and clean up of soil, surface water, groundwater, and other media. Such claims may arise, for example, out of conditions at sites that we currently own or operate, as well as at sites that we previously owned or operated, or may acquire. Our liability for such claims may be joint and several, so that we may be held responsible for more than our share of the contamination or other damages, or even for the entire claim.

Certain coal that we mine needs to be cleaned at preparation plants, which generally requires coal refuse areas and/or slurry impoundments. Such areas and impoundments are subject to extensive regulation and monitoring. Slurry impoundments have been known to fail, releasing large volumes of coal slurry into nearby surface waters and property, resulting in damage to the environment and natural resources, as well as injuries to wildlife. We maintain coal refuse areas and slurry impoundments at a number of our mining complexes. If one of our impoundments were to fail, we could be subject to substantial chains for the resulting environmental impact and associated liability, as well as for fines and penalties.

Drainage flowing from or caused by mining activities can be acidic with elevated levels of dissolved metals, a condition referred to as acid mine drainage ("AMD"). We include our estimated exposure for AMD in our accrued reclamation costs. If these accruals are insufficient or our liability in a particular year is greater than currently anticipated, our future operating results could be adversely affected.

These and other similar unforeseen impacts that our operations may have on the environment, as well as exposures to certain substances or wastes associated with our operations, could result in costs and liabilities that could materially and adversely affect us and could have a material adverse impact on our cash flows, results of operations or financial condition.

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Foreign currency fluctuations could adversely affect the competitiveness of our coal abroad.

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We rely on customers in other countries for a portion of our sales, with shipments to countries in North America, South America, Europe, Asia and Africa. We compete in these international markets against coal produced in other countries. Coal is sold internationally in United States dollars. As a result, mining costs in competing producing countries may be reduced in United States dollar terms based on currency exchange rates, providing an advantage to foreign coal producers. Currency fluctuations among countries purchasing and selling coal could adversely affect the competitiveness of our coal in international markets.

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Terrorist attacks and threats, escalation of military activity in response to such attacks or acts of war may negatively affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Terrorist attacks and threats, escalation of military activity in response to such attacks or acts of war may negatively affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. Our business is affected by general economic conditions, fluctuations in consumer confidence and spending, and market liquidity, which can decline as a result of numerous factors outside of our control, such as terrorist attacks and acts of war. Future terrorist attacks against U.S. targets, rumors or threats of war, actual conflicts involving the United States or its allies, or military or trade disruptions affecting our customers could cause delays or losses in transportation and deliveries of coal to our customers, decreased sales of our coal and extension of time for payment of accounts receivable from our customers. Strategic targets such as energy-related assets may be at greater risk of future terrorist attacks than other targets in the United States. In addition, disruption or significant increases in energy prices could result in government-imposed price controls. It is possible that any, or a combination, of these occurrences could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Risks Related to Our Operations

We have experienced operating losses in recent years and may experience losses in the future.

We experienced operating losses in 2012 and 2011. We must continue to carefully manage our business, including the management of our contracts and our production costs. Although we seek to balance the open portion of our contracts to achieve optimal revenues over the long term, the market price of coal is affected by many factors that are outside of our control. We have experienced an increase in production costs in recent years. Our profitability in the future will be impacted by the price levels that we achieve on future long term contracts. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that we will be able to achieve profitability in the future.

The level of our indebtedness could adversely affect our ability to repay or refinance our existing debt and our financial condition and results of operations.

Our total consolidated long-term debt as of December 31, 2012 was \$546.4 million (net of discounts on our convertible notes of \$69.7 million). Our level of indebtedness could result in the following:

- it could affect our ability to satisfy our outstanding obligations, including repaying principal on our 2015 Convertible Senior Notes when they mature in 2015;
- it could limit our ability to refinance our indebtedness on commercially reasonable terms, or terms acceptable to us or at all;
- a substantial portion of our cash flows from operations will have to be dedicated to interest and principal payments and may not be available for operations, working capital, capital expenditures, expansion, acquisitions or general corporate or other purposes;
- it may impair our ability to obtain additional financing in the future;
- it may limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and industry; and
- it may make us more vulnerable to downturns in our business, our industry or the economy in general.

Our operations may not generate sufficient cash to allow us to pay principal and interest on our existing debt or to refinance such debt as necessary, as they will be impacted by economic conditions and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. If we fail to make a payment on our debt, this could cause us to be in default on our outstanding indebtedness. If we fail to obtain financing in the future on favorable terms, it could have an adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. In addition, we may incur additional indebtedness in the future, and, as a result, the related risks that we now face, including those described above, could intensify.

We may fail to realize the growth prospects and cost savings anticipated as a result of the IRP Acquisition.

The success of the April 2011 IRP Acquisition will depend, in part, on our ability to realize the anticipated business opportunities and growth prospects from combining our businesses with those of IRP. We may never realize these business opportunities and growth prospects. Integrating operations is complex and requires

significant efforts and expenditures. Our management might have its attention diverted while trying to integrate operations and corporate and administrative infrastructures. We might experience increased competition that limits our ability to expand our business, and we might not be able to capitalize on expected business opportunities, including retaining current customers. If any of these factors limit our ability to integrate the operations successfully or on a timely basis, the expectations of future results of operations from the IRP Acquisition might not be met.

It is possible that the integration process could result in the loss of key employees, the disruption of each company's ongoing businesses, tax costs or inefficiencies, or inconsistencies in standards, controls, information technology systems, procedures and policies, any of which could adversely affect our ability to maintain relationships with clients, employees or other third parties or our ability to achieve the anticipated benefits of the IRP Acquisition and could harm our financial performance.

The loss of, or significant reduction in, purchases by our largest customers could adversely affect our revenues.

In 2012, US Steel, Steel Authority of India Limited and Georgia Power Company were our largest customers, representing approximately 13%, 13%, and 12% of our total revenues, respectively. The execution of a substantial coal supply agreement is frequently the basis on which we undertake the development of coal reserves required to be supplied under the contract. We could be materially adversely affected to the extent that we are unable to replace these expiring coal supply agreements with agreements providing similar profit margins.

Many of our coal supply agreements contain provisions that permit adjustment of the contract price upward or downward at specified times. Failure of the parties to agree on a price under those provisions may allow either party to either terminate the contract or reduce the coal to be delivered under the contract. Coal supply agreements also typically contain force majeure provisions allowing temporary suspension of performance by the customer or us for the duration of specified events beyond the control of the affected party. Most coal supply agreements contain provisions requiring us to deliver coal meeting quality thresholds for certain characteristics such as:

- British thermal units (Btus);
- sulfur content;
- ash content;
- grindability;
- ash fusion temperature;
- reflectance; and
- volatility.

In some cases, failure to meet these specifications could result in economic penalties, including price adjustments, the rejection of deliveries or termination of the contracts. In addition, all of our contracts allow our customers to renegotiate or terminate their contracts in the event of changes in regulations or other governmental impositions affecting our industry that increase the cost of coal beyond specified limits. Further, we have been required in the past to make other pricing adjustments to comply with contractual requirements relating to the sulfur content of coal sold to our customers, and may be required to do so in the future.

The operating profits we realize from coal sold under supply agreements depend on a variety of factors. In addition, price adjustments and other provisions may increase our exposure to short term coal price volatility provided by those contracts.

Certain of our contracts are fixed in quantity but are priced on a quarterly or semi-annual basis. Our operating results are impacted by these changes in prices. A reduction in prices will result in a decrease to our profit margins.

In addition, our ability to receive payment for coal sold and delivered under these contracts depends on the continued creditworthiness of our customers. The bankruptcy of any of our customers could materially and adversely affect our financial position.

Our financial condition may be adversely affected if we are required by some of our customers or vendors to provide performance assurances for certain contracts.

Our customers and our vendors could require us to provide performance assurances if we experience a material adverse change or if they believe our creditworthiness has become unsatisfactory. Performance assurances are generally provided by the posting of a letter of credit, prepayment, cash collateral, other security, or a guaranty from a creditworthy guarantor. As of December 31, 2012 some electric utilities have required certain of our subsidiaries to post deposits or make twice-monthly payments. None of our customers have requested that we provide performance assurances. If we are required to post additional performance assurances on some or all of our contracts, there could be a material adverse impact on our cash flows, results of operations or financial condition.

Our operating results will be negatively impacted if we are unable to balance our mix of contract and spot sales.

We have implemented a sales plan that includes long term contracts (one year or greater) and spot sales/short term contracts (less than one year). We have structured our sales plan based on the assumptions that demand will remain adequate to maintain current shipping levels and that any disruptions in the market will be relatively short-lived. If we are unable to maintain our planned balance of contract sales with spot sales, or our markets become depressed for an extended period of time, our volumes and margins could decrease, negatively affecting our operating results.

Our ability to operate our company effectively could be impaired if we lose senior executives or fail to employ needed additional personnel.

The loss of senior executives could have a material adverse effect on our business. There may be a limited number of persons with the requisite experience and skills to serve in our senior management positions. We may not be able to locate or employ qualified executives on acceptable terms. In addition, as our business develops and expands, we believe that our future success will depend greatly on our continued ability to attract and retain highly skilled and qualified personnel. We might not continue to be able to employ key personnel, or to attract and retain qualified personnel in the future. Failure to retain senior executives or attract key personnel could have a material adverse effect on our operations and financial results.

Underground mining is subject to increased regulation, and may require us to incur additional cost.

Underground coal mining is subject to ever increasing federal and state regulatory control relating to mine safety and health and to ever increasing enforcement activities intended to compel compliance with such laws and regulations. Within the last few years the industry has seen enactment of the federal MINER Act and subsequent additional legislation and regulation imposing significant new safety initiatives and the Dodd-Frank Act imposing new mine safety information reporting requirements. Various states also have enacted their own new laws and regulations imposing additional requirements related to mine safety. These new laws and regulations have and will continue to cause us to incur substantial additional costs, which will adversely impact our operating performance.

The U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), periodically notifies certain coal mines that a potential pattern of violations may exist based upon an initial statistical screening of violation history and pattern criteria review by MSHA. In the past, certain of our mines have received notices that a potential pattern of violations might exist. Upon receipt of such a notification, we conduct a comprehensive review of the operation that received the notification and prepare and submit to MSHA a plan designed to enhance employee safety at the mine through better education, training, mining practices, and safety management. Following implementation of the plan, MSHA conducts a complete inspection of the mine and further evaluates the situation and then advises the operator whether a Pattern of Violation (POV) exists and

whether further action will be taken. The failure to remediate the situation resulting in a finding that a POV does exist at a mine could have a significant impact on our operations, including the permanent or temporary closure of our mines.

On April 12, 2011, MSHA notified our subsidiary Bledsoe Coal Corporation that a POV exists at its Abner Branch Rider Mine. As a result, if MSHA finds any violation of a mandatory health or safety standard that could significantly and substantially contribute to the cause and effect of a coal or other mine safety or health hazard, MSHA shall require all persons in the areas affected by such violation, except those persons referred to in Section 104(c) of the Mine Act, to be withdrawn from, and to be prohibited from entering such area until MSHA determines the violation has been abated. A POV can be terminated when 1) an inspection of the entire mine is completed and no significant and substantial health or safety violations are found, or 2) no withdrawal order is issued by MSHA in accordance with Section 104(e)(1) of the Mine Act within 90 days of the issuance of the pattern notice. On November 30, 2012 we idled the Abner Branch mine due to market conditions.

In 2010, a U.S. House of Representatives committee approved a mine safety bill which would give MSHA additional powers to temporarily close mines, mandate additional safety training and impose larger penalties on companies and their executives. A comparable bill introduced in the US Senate failed to receive the necessary votes for passage. If reintroduced and subsequently enacted, this or a similar bill could further increase our costs and impact operating performance.

Unexpected decreases in availability of raw materials or increases in raw material costs could significantly impair our operating results.

Our operations are dependent on reliable supplies of mining equipment, replacement parts, explosives, diesel fuel, tires, magnetite and steel-related products (including roof bolts). If the cost of any mining equipment or key supplies increases significantly, or if they should become unavailable due to higher industry-wide demand or less production by suppliers, there could be an adverse impact on our cash flows, results of operations or financial condition.

Coal mining is subject to conditions or events beyond our control, which could cause our quarterly or annual results to deteriorate.

Our coal mining operations are conducted in underground and surface mines. These mines are subject to conditions or events beyond our control that could disrupt operations, affect production and the cost of mining at particular mines for varying lengths of time and have a significant impact on our operating results. These conditions or events have included:

- variations in thickness of the layer, or seam, of coal;
- variations in geological conditions;
- amounts of rock and other natural materials intruding into the coal seam;
- equipment failures and unexpected major repairs;
- unexpected maintenance problems; --
- unexpected departures of one or more of our contract miners;
- fires and explosions from methane and other sources;
- accidental mine water discharges or other environmental accidents;
- other accidents or natural disasters; and
- weather conditions,

Mining in Central Appalachia is complex due to geological characteristics of the region.

The geological characteristics of coal reserves in Central Appalachia, such as depth of overburden and coal seam thickness, make them complex and costly to mine. As mines become depleted, replacement reserves may not be available when required or, if available, may not be capable of being mined at costs comparable to those

characteristic of the depleting mines. In addition, as compared to mines in other regions permitting, licensing and other environmental and regulatory requirements are more costly and time consuming to satisfy. These factors could materially adversely affect the mining operations and cost structures of, and customers' ability to use coal produced by, operators in Central Appalachia, including us.

Our future success depends upon our ability to acquire or develop additional coal reserves that are economically recoverable.

Our recoverable reserves decline as we produce coal. Since we attempt, where practical, to mine our lowest-cost reserves first, we may not be able to mine all of our reserves at a similar cost as we do at our current operations. Our planned development and exploration projects might not result in significant additional reserves, and we might not have continuing success developing additional mines. For example, our construction of additional mining facilities necessary to exploit our reserves could be delayed or terminated due to various factors, including unforeseen geological conditions, weather delays or unanticipated development costs. Our ability to acquire additional coal reserves in the future also could be limited by restrictions under our existing or future debt facilities, competition from other coal companies for attractive properties or the lack of suitable acquisition candidates.

In order to develop our reserves, we must receive various governmental permits. We have not yet applied for the permits required or developed the mines necessary to mine all of our reserves. In addition, we might not continue to receive the permits necessary for us to operate profitably in the future. We may not be able to negotiate new leases from the government or from private parties or obtain mining contracts for properties containing additional reserves or maintain our leasehold interests in properties on which mining operations are not commenced during the term of the lease.

We face significant uncertainty in estimating our recoverable coal reserves, and variations from those estimates could lead to decreased revenues and profitability.

Forecasts of our future performance are based on estimates of our recoverable coal reserves. Estimates of those reserves initially were based on studies conducted by Marshall Miller & Associates, Inc. in 2004 for our CAPP reserves at that time, 2010 for the CAPP reserved acquired from IRP and 2005 and 2006 for our Midwest reserves in accordance with industry-accepted standards which we have updated for current activity using similar methodologies. A number of sources of information were used to determine recoverable reserves estimates, including:

- currently available geological, mining and property control data and maps;
- our own operational experience and that of our consultants;
- historical production from similar areas with similar conditions;
- previously completed geological and reserve studies;
- the assumed effects of regulations and taxes by governmental agencies; and
- assumptions governing future prices and future operating costs.

Reserve estimates will change from time to time to reflect, among other factors:

- mining activities;
- new engineering and geological data;
- acquisition or divestiture of reserve holdings; and
- modification of mining plans or mining methods.

Therefore, actual coal tonnage recovered from identified reserve areas or properties, and costs associated with our mining operations, may vary from estimates. These variations could be material, and therefore could result in decreased profitability.

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Defects in title or loss of any leasehold interests in our properties could limit our ability to mine these properties or result in significant unanticipated costs.

We conduct substantially all of our mining operations on properties that we lease. The loss of any lease could adversely affect our ability to mine the associated reserves. Because we generally do not obtain title insurance or otherwise verify title to our leased properties, our right to mine some of our reserves has been in the past, and may again in the future be, adversely affected if defects in title or boundaries exist. In order to obtain leases or rights to conduct our mining operations on property where these defects exist, we have had to, and may in the future have to, incur unanticipated costs. In addition, we may not be able to successfully negotiate new leases for properties containing additional reserves. Some leases have minimum production requirements. Failure to meet those requirements could result in losses of prepaid royalties and, in some rare cases, could result in a loss of the lease itself.

Factors beyond our control could impact the amount and pricing of coal supplied by our independent contractors and other third parties.

In addition to coal we produce from our Company-operated mines, we have mines that typically are operated by independent contract mine operators, and we purchase coal from third parties for resale. For 2013, we anticipate approximately 15% of our total production will come from mines operated by independent contract mine operators and from third party purchased coal sources. Operational difficulties, changes in demand for contract mine operators from our competitors and other factors beyond our control could affect the availability, pricing and quality of coal produced for us by independent contract mine operators. Disruptions in supply, increases in prices paid for coal produced by independent contract mine operators or purchased from third parties, or the availability of more lucrative direct sales opportunities for our purchased coal sources could increase our costs or lower our volumes, either of which could negatively affect our profitability. . .

Our operations could be adversely affected if we are unable to obtain required surety bonds.

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Federal and state laws require bonds to secure our obligations to reclaim lands used for mining, to pay federal and state workers' compensation and to satisfy other miscellaneous obligations. Certain insurance companies have informed us, along with other participants in the coal industry, that they no longer will provide surety bonds for workers' compensation and other post-employment benefits without collateral. We have satisfied our obligations under these statutes and regulations by providing letters of credit, cash collateral or other assurances of payment. However, letters of credit can be significantly more costly to us than surety bonds. The issuance of letters of credit under our Revolver also reduces amounts that we can borrow under our Revolver. If we are unable to secure surety bonds for these obligations in the future, and are forced to secure letters of credit indefinitely, our profitability may be negatively affected. On May 1, 2012, the Federal Office of Surface Mining Reclamation notified the state of Kentucky that it believes Kentucky's bonding program is insufficient. The resolution of this issue could cause bonding costs for new or existing operations to increase.

Our work force could become unionized in the future, which could adversely affect the stability of our production and reduce our profitability.

Our company owned mines are currently operated by union-free employees. However, our subsidiaries' employees have the right at any time under the National Labor Relations Act to form or affiliate with a union. Any unionization of our subsidiaries' employees, or the employees of third-party contractors who mine coal for us, could adversely affect the stability of our production and reduce our profitability. The current administration has indicated that it will support legislation that may make it easier for employees to unionize.

We have significant unfunded obligations for long-term employee benefits for which we accrue based upon assumptions, which, if incorrect, could result in us being required to expend greater amounts than anticipated.

We are required by law to provide various long term employee benefits. We accrue amounts for these obligations based on the present value of expected future costs. We employed an independent actuary to complete estimates for our workers' compensation and black lung (both state and federal) obligations.

We use a valuation method under which the total present and future liabilities are booked based on actuarial studies. Our independent actuary updates these liability estimates annually. However, if our assumptions are incorrect, we could be required to expend greater amounts than anticipated. All of these obligations are unfunded. In addition, the federal government and the governments of the states in which we operate consider changes in workers' compensation laws from time to time. Such changes, if enacted, could increase our benefit expenses and payments.

See "Critical Accounting Estimates — Workers' Compensation and Coal Miners' Pneumoconiosis" for additional information regarding our workers' compensation and black lung obligations.

We may be unable to adequately provide funding for our pension plan obligations based on our current estimates of those obligations.

We provide benefits under a defined benefit pension plan that was frozen in 2007. If future payments are insufficient to fund the pension plan adequately to cover our future pension obligations, we could incur cash expenditures and costs materially higher than anticipated. The pension obligation is calculated annually and is based on several assumptions, including then prevailing conditions, which may change from year to year. In any year, if our assumptions are inaccurate, we could be required to expend greater amounts than anticipated.

See "Critical Accounting Estimates — Defined Benefit Pension" for additional information regarding our pension plan obligations.

Substantially all of our assets are subject to security interests.

Substantially all of our cash, receivables, inventory and other assets are subject to various liens and security interests under our debt instruments. If one of these security interest holders becomes entitled to exercise its rights as a secured party, it would have the right to foreclose upon and sell, or otherwise transfer, the collateral subject to its security interest, and the collateral accordingly would be unavailable to us and our other creditors, except to the extent, if any, that other creditors have a superior or equal security interest in the affected collateral or the value of the affected collateral exceeds the amount of indebtedness in respect of which these foreclosure rights are exercised.

We may be unable to comply with restrictions imposed by the terms of our indebtedness, which could result in a default under these instruments.

Our debt instruments impose a number of restrictions on us. A failure to comply with these restrictions could adversely affect our ability to borrow under our Revolver or result in an event of default under our other debt instruments. Our Revolver contains financial covenants that require us to maintain a minimum Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio and limits on our capital expenditures.

The Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio covenant under our Revolver is only applicable if the sum of our unrestricted cash plus our availability under our Revolver falls below \$35 million and would remain in effect until the sum of our unrestricted cash and availability under our Revolver exceeds \$35 million for 90 consecutive days. If measured, we do not project that our actual Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio during 2013 would meet the minimum Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio required by the Revolver of 1.10 to 1.00. Our Revolver limits the capital expenditures that we may make or agree to make in any fiscal year, but such limitation only will apply if the sum of our unrestricted cash plus our availability under our Revolver falls below \$50 million for a period of 5 consecutive days and would remain in effect until the sum of our unrestricted cash and availability under our Revolver exceeds \$50 million for 90 consecutive days. As of December 31, 2012, our unrestricted cash was \$127.4 million and the unused availability under our Revolver was \$8.5 million.

Additional detail regarding the terms of our Revolver, including these covenants and the related definitions, can be found in our debt agreements, as amended, that have been filed as exhibits to our SEC filings.

In the event of a default, our lenders could terminate their commitments to us and declare all amounts borrowed, together with accrued interest and fees, immediately due and payable. If this were to occur, we might not be able to pay these amounts or we might be forced to seek amendments to our debt agreements which could make the terms of these agreements more onerous for us and require the payment of amendment or waiver fees.

Failure to comply with these restrictions, even if waived by our lenders, also could adversely affect our credit ratings, which could increase our costs of debt financings and impair our ability to obtain additional debt financing. While the lenders have, to date, waived any covenant violations and amended the covenants, there is no guarantee they will continue to do so if future violations occur.

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and the second Changes in our credit ratings could adversely affect our costs and expenses.

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Any downgrade in our credit ratings could adversely affect our ability to borrow and result in more restrictive borrowing terms, including increased borrowing costs, more restrictive covenants and the extension of less open credit. This, in turn, could affect our internal cost of capital estimates and therefore impact operational decisions. The second sec

Inability to satisfy contractual obligations may adversely affect our profitability.

From time to time, we have disputes with our customers over the provisions of long term contracts relating to, among other things, coal quality, pricing, quantity and delays in delivery. In addition, we may not be able to produce sufficient amounts of coal to meet our commitments to our customers. Our inability to satisfy our contractual obligations could result in our need to purchase coal from third party sources to satisfy those obligations or may result in customers initiating claims against us. We may not be able to resolve all of these disputes in a satisfactory manner, which could result in substantial damages or otherwise harm our relationships with customers.

We may be unable to exploit opportunities to diversify our operations.

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Our future business plan may consider opportunities other than underground and surface mining in eastern Kentucky, southern West Virginia and southern Indiana. We may consider opportunities to expand both surface and underground mining activities in areas that are outside of eastern Kentucky, southern West Virginia and southern Indiana. We may also consider opportunities in other energy-related areas that are not prohibited by our debt instruments. If we undertake these diversification strategies and fail to execute them successfully; our financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected.

There are risks associated with our acquisition strategy, including our inability to successfully complete acquisitions, our assumption of liabilities, dilution of your investment, significant costs and additional • * * No Constant financing required.

We may explore opportunities to expand our operations through strategic acquisitions of other coal mining companies. Risks associated with our current and potential acquisitions, including the recent acquisition of IRP, include the disruption of our ongoing business, problems retaining the employees of the acquired business, assets acquired proving to be less valuable than expected, the potential assumption of unknown or unexpected liabilities, costs and problems, the inability of management to maintain uniform standards, controls, procedures and policies, the difficulty of managing a larger company, the risk of becoming involved in labor, commercial or regulatory disputes or litigation related to the new enterprises and the difficulty of integrating the acquired operations and personnel into our existing business. .

We may choose to use shares of our common stock or other securities to finance a portion of the consideration for future acquisitions, either by issuing them to pay a portion of the purchase price or selling additional shares to investors to raise cash to pay a portion of the purchase price. If shares of our common stock do not maintain sufficient market value or potential acquisition candidates are unwilling to accept shares of our common stock as part of the consideration for the sale of their businesses, we will be required to raise capital through additional sales of debt or equity securities, which might not be possible, or forego the acquisition opportunity, and our growth could be limited. In addition, securities issued in such acquisitions may dilute the holdings of our current or future shareholders. . . .

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Our currently available cash may not be sufficient to finance any additional acquisitions.

We believe that our cash on hand, the availability under our Revolver and cash generated from our operations may not provide sufficient cash to fund any future acquisitions. Accordingly, we may need to conduct additional debt or equity financings in order to fund any such additional acquisitions, unless we issue shares of our common stock as consideration for those acquisitions. If we are unable to obtain any such financings, we may be required to forego future acquisition opportunities.

Surface mining is subject to increased regulation, and may require us to incur additional costs.

Surface mining is subject to numerous regulations related, among others, to blasting activities that can result in additional costs. For example, when blasting in close proximity to structures, additional costs are incurred in designing and implementing more complex blast delay regimens, conducting pre-blast surveys and blast monitoring, and the risk of potential blast-related damages increases. Since the nature of surface mining requires ongoing disturbance to the surface, environmental compliance costs can be significantly greater than with underground operations. In addition, the COE imposes stream mitigation requirements on surface mining operations. These regulations require that footage of stream loss be replaced through various mitigation processes, if any ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial streams are filled due to mining operations. In 2008, the U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Surface Mining imposed regulatory requirements applicable to excess spoil placement, including the requirement that operators return as much spoil as possible to the excavation created by the mine. These regulations may cause us to incur significant additional costs, which could adversely impact our operating performance.

We are subject to various legal proceedings, which may have an adverse effect on our business.

We are party to a number of legal proceedings incidental to our normal business activities, including a large number of workers' compensation claims. While we cannot predict the outcome of the proceedings, there is always the potential that the costs of defending litigation in an individual matter or the aggregation of many matters could have an adverse effect on our cash flows, results of operations or financial position.

Our ability to use net operating loss carryforwards may be subject to limitation

Section 382 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, imposes an annual limit on the amount of net operating loss carryforwards that may be used to offset taxable income when a corporation has undergone significant changes in its stock ownership or equity structure. Our ability to use net operating losses is limited by prior changes in our ownership, and may be further limited by issuances of common stock, in connection with the conversion of the existing convertible senior notes or by the consummation of other transactions. As a result, as we earn net taxable income, our ability to use net operating loss carryforwards to offset U.S. federal taxable income may become subject to limitations, which could potentially result in increased future tax liabilities for us.

Changes in federal or state income tax laws, particularly in the area of percentage depletion, could cause our financial position and profitability to deteriorate.

The federal government has been reviewing the income tax laws relating to the coal industry regarding percentage depletion benefits. If the percentage depletion tax benefit was reduced or eliminated, our cash flows, results of operations or financial condition could be materially impacted.

Risks Relating to our Common Stock

The market price of our common stock has been volatile and difficult to predict, and may continue to be volatile and difficult to predict in the future, and the value of your investment may decline.

The market price of our common stock has been volatile in the past and may continue to be volatile in the future. The market price of our common stock will be affected by, among other things:

- variations in our quarterly operating results;
- changes in financial estimates by securities analysts;

- sales of shares of our common stock by our officers and directors or by our shareholders;
- changes in general conditions in the economy or the financial markets;
- changes in accounting standards, policies or interpretations;
- other developments affecting us, our industry, clients or competitors; and
- the operating and stock price performance of companies that investors deem comparable to us.

Any of these factors could have a negative effect on the price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Global Select Market, make it difficult to predict the market price for our common stock in the future and cause the value of your investment to decline.

We do not intend to pay cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future.

We do not anticipate paying cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. In addition, covenants in our Revolver and our 2019 Senior Notes restrict our ability to pay cash dividends and may prohibit the payment of dividends and certain other payments.

Provisions of our articles of incorporation, bylaws and shareholder rights agreement could discourage potential acquisition proposals and could deter or prevent a change in control.

Some provisions of our articles of incorporation and bylaws, as well as Virginia statutes, may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control. These provisions may make it more difficult for other persons, without the approval of our Board of Directors, to make a tender offer or otherwise acquire substantial amounts of our common stock or to launch other takeover attempts that a shareholder might consider to be in such shareholder's best interest. These provisions could limit the price that some investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock.

We have a shareholder rights agreement which, in certain circumstances, including a person or group acquiring, or the commencement of a tender or exchange offer that would result in a person or group acquiring, beneficial ownership of more than 20% of the outstanding shares of our common stock, would entitle each right holder, other than the person or group triggering the plan, to receive, upon exercise of the right, shares of our common stock having a then-current fair value equal to twice the exercise price of a right.

This shareholder rights agreement provides us with a defensive mechanism that decreases the risk that a hostile acquirer will attempt to take control of us without negotiating directly with our Board of Directors. The shareholder rights agreement may discourage acquirers from attempting to purchase us, which may adversely affect the price of our common stock.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 2. Properties

As of December 31, 2012, we owned approximately 14,100 acres of land. Our mineral rights are primarily controlled through leases. In a mining context, control of a property is typically divided into three categories:

- mineral rights, which allows the controlling party to remove the minerals on the property;
- surface rights, which allows the controlling party to use and disturb the surface of the property; and
- fee control, which includes both mineral and surface rights.

Our rights with respect to properties that we lease vary from lease to lease, but encompass mineral rights, surface rights, or both.

The coal properties that we control in Central Appalachia are located primarily in eastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia. The coal properties that we control in the Midwest are part of the Illinois Coal basin and are located in southwest Indiana.

The terms of our leases can vary significantly, including the following provisions:

- length of term;
- renewal requirements;
- minimum royalties;
- recoupment provisions;
- tonnage royalty rates;
- minimum tonnage royalty rates;
- wheelage rates;
- usage fees; and
- other factors.

Our leases typically provide for periodic royalty payments, subject to specified annual minimums. The annual minimums are typically based on the forecasted tonnage of coal to be produced on the leased property over the term of the lease. Payments made pursuant to these minimums for years in which periodic royalty payments do not meet the minimums are typically recoupable against future periodic production royalties paid within a fixed period of time. We typically are responsible for the payment of property taxes due on the properties we have under lease.

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For a discussion of our coal reserves see Item 1 Business "Reserves."

Our corporate headquarters is located at 901 E. Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia and is occupied pursuant to a lease that expires in 2014.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

We are parties to a number of legal proceedings incidental to our normal business activities, including a large number of workers' compensation claims. While we cannot predict the outcome of these proceedings, in our opinion, any liability arising from these matters individually and in the aggregate should not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, cash flows or results of operations.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Information concerning mine safety and health 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 is included in Exhibit 95 to this report.

PART II

Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Market Information

Our common stock trades on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the ticker symbol "JRCC". The table below sets forth the high and low closing sales prices for our common stock for the periods indicated, as reported by Nasdaq.

| | First Quarter | Second Quarter | Third Quarter | Fourth Quarter |
|--|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 | | · . | 4. ¹⁴⁴ | |
| High | \$ 7.79 | 5.37 | 3.63 | 5.43 |
| Low | \$ 5.10 | 1.94 | 1.71 | 2.12 |
| Low Fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 | | | | |
| High | \$26.84 | 25.14 | 21.85 | 11.44 |
| Low | \$19.89 | 18.68 | 6.37 | 5.55 |

Recent Sales or Purchases of Unregistered Securities

We did not sell or purchase any unregistered securities during 2012.

Holders

As of December 31, 2012, there were 153 record holders of our common stock.

Dividends

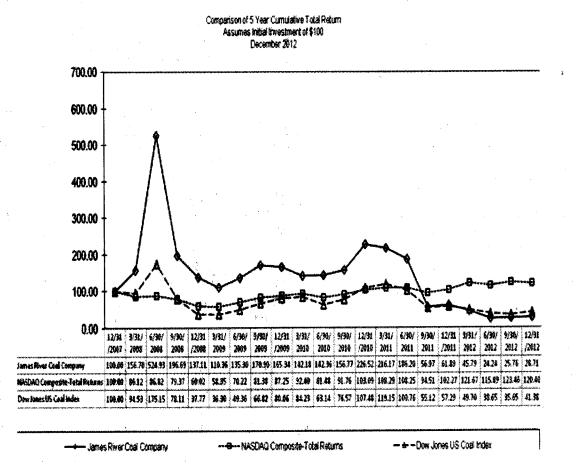
We did not pay any cash dividends on our common stock during the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 or 2010. We do not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Any future determination as to the payment of cash dividends will depend upon such factors as earnings, capital requirements, our financial condition, restrictions in financing agreements and other factors deemed relevant by the Board of Directors. In addition, covenants in our Revolver and our 2019 Senior Notes restrict our ability to pay cash dividends and may prohibit the payment of dividends and certain other payments.

Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

Please refer to note 7 of our December 31, 2012 consolidated financial statements for securities authorized to be issued under our 2004 and 2012 Equity Incentive Plans.

Stock Performance Graph

Set forth below is a line graph comparing the percentage change in the cumulative total shareholder return of James River Coal Company's Common Stock against the cumulative total return of the NASDAQ Composite Index and the Dow Jones U.S. Coal Index on a quarterly basis for the period commencing on December 31, 2007 and ending on December 31, 2012. You are cautioned against drawing any conclusions from the data contained in this graph, as past results are not necessarily indicative of future performance. The indices used are included for comparative purposes only and do not indicate an opinion of management that such indices are necessarily an appropriate measure of the relative performance of our stock.



Prepared by Zacks Investment Research, Inc. Used with permission. All rights reserved. Copyright 1980-2013 Index Data: Copyright NASDAQ OMX, Inc. Used with permission. All rights reserved. Index Data: Copyright Dow Jones, Inc. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

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Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The following table presents our selected consolidated financial and operating data as of and for each of the periods indicated. The selected consolidated financial data is derived from our audited consolidated financial statements. The selected consolidated financial and operating data should be read in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our consolidated financial statements and related notes.

On April 18, 2011, we acquired International Resource Partners LP and its subsidiary companies (collectively IRP). Our financial position and supplemental operating data prior to 2011 and our results of operations for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 do not include the financial results for IRP.

| | Year Ended December 31, | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|--|--|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | | |
| | (in | thousands, exc | ept for per sha | re information) | | | |
| Consolidated Statement of Operations: | | | | · | | | |
| Revenues | | | | | | | |
| Coal sales revenue | \$1,018,433 | 1,105,370 | 698,949 | 678,562 | 566,310 | | |
| Freight and handling revenue | 81,176 | 72,285 | 2,167 | 2,996 | 2,197 | | |
| Total Revenues | 1,099,609 | 1,177,655 | 701,116 | 681,558 | 568,507 | | |
| Cost of coal sold | 911,681 | 905,482 | 512,348 | 505,892 | 525,691 | | |
| Freight and handling Costs | 81,176 | 72,285 | 2,167 | 2,996 | 2,197 | | |
| Depreciation, depletion, and amortization | 131,779 | 108,914 | 64,368 | 62,078 | 70,277 | | |
| Gross profit (loss) | (25,027) | 90,974 | 122,233 | 110,592 | (29,658) | | |
| Selling, general, and administrative expenses | 59,922 | 57,078 | 38,347 | 39,720 | 34,992 | | |
| Goodwill impairment | 26,492 | | <u> </u> | | | | |
| Acquisition costs | · · · · | 8,504 | | | | | |
| Operating income (loss) | (111,441) | 25,392 | 83,886 | 70,872 | (64,650) | | |
| Interest expense | 52,666 | 50,096 | 29,943 | 17,057 | 17,746 | | |
| Interest income | (799) | (494) | (683) | (60) | (469) | | |
| (Gain) loss on debt transactions | (25,187) | 740 | | 1,643 | 15,618 | | |
| Miscellaneous (income) expense, net | 366 | (812) | 27 | (281) | (1,279) | | |
| Income tax expense (benefit) | 419 | 14,951 | (23,566) | 1,559 | (273) | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$ (138,906) | (39,089) | 78,165 | 50,954 | (95,993) | | |
| Basic earnings (loss) per common share: | \$ (3.99) | (1.19) | 2.82 | 1.85 | (3.91) | | |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per common share: | \$ (3.99) | (1.19) | 2.82 | 1.85 | (3.91) | | |
| | | | | | | | |

| | December 31, | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---------|---|----------|--|--|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | | |
| | 21 - F | (in thousands) | | 1. A. | | | |
| Consolidated Balance Sheet Data: | and the second sec | 1970 - 19700 - 19700 - 19700 - 1970 - 1970 - 1970 - 1970 - 1970 - 1970 - | | | | | |
| Working capital (deficit) (a) | \$ 151,478 | 227,022 | 191,625 | 109,998 | (54,961) | | |
| Property, plant, and equipment, net | 855,217 | 909,294 | 385,652 | 354,088 | 344,848 | | |
| Total assets | 1,204,121 | 1,404,582 | 784,569 | 669,312 | 463,546 | | |
| Long term debt, including current portion | 546,407 | 582,193 | 284,022 | 278,268 | 168,000 | | |
| Total shareholders' equity | 254,627 | 396,662 | 247,383 | 170,342 | 65,238 | | |

| · · · · | :*** | r 31 | · . | | |
|---|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 |
| A second sec second second sec | 2 | (| in thousands) | | |
| Consolidated Statement of Cash Flow Data: | | | | • | |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating | e | | 8 | | |
| activities | \$ 32,448 | 163,772 | 169,062 | 27,559 | (1,576) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (80,925) | (654,314) | (95,344) | (72,010) | (73,589) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing | | | | | í |
| activities | (23,848) | 509,877 | (1,273) | 149,058 | 73,076 |
| | | Year E | Inded Decembe | er 31 | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | . 2008 |
| | (in thous | ands. Except to | ns, per ton and | number of emp | oloyees) |
| Supplemental Operating Data: | • . | | | | |
| Tons sold | 11,728 | 11,801 | 8,919 | 9,623 | 11,383 |
| Tons produced (includes purchased tons) | 11,494 | 11,859 | 8,910 | 9,877 | 11,355 |
| Coal sales revenue per ton sold | \$ 86.84 | 93.67 | 78.37 | 70.51 | 49.7 ⁵ |
| Number of employees | 2,124 | 2,405 | 1,7 46 | 1,736 | 1,751 |
| Capital expenditures | \$81,556 | 138,455 | 95,426 | 72,159 | 74,697 |

(a) Working capital is current assets less current liabilities

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation

The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes and "Selected Financial Data" included elsewhere in this filing. This discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements as a result of numerous factors, including the risks discussed in "Risk Factors" in this filing. For more on forward looking statements, see the section entitled "Forward Looking Statements" at the beginning of this report.

Overview

We mine, process and sell thermal and metallurgical coal through eight active mining complexes located throughout eastern Kentucky, southern West Virginia and southern Indiana. The majority of our metallurgical coal was obtained in the April 18, 2011 acquisition (the IRP Acquisition) of International Resource Partners LP and its subsidiary companies (collectively IRP). We have two reportable business segments based on the coal basins in which we operate (Central Appalachia (CAPP) and the Midwest (Midwest)). IRP is included in our CAPP segment. We derived 44% of our total revenues in 2012 from coal sales to electric utility customers and the remaining 56% from coal sales (including metallurgical coal) to industrial and other customers. In 2012, our mines produced 9.5 million tons of coal (including 0.4 million tons of contract coal) and we purchased another 2.0 million tons for resale. Of the 9.5 million tons produced from Company mines, approximately 64% came from underground mines, while the remaining 36% came from surface mines. In 2012, we generated total revenues of \$1.1 billion and had a net loss of \$138.9 million.

CAPP Segment

In Central Appalachia, our thermal coal sales are primarily to customers in the southern portion of the South Atlantic region of the United States. The South Atlantic Region includes the states of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. Our metallurgical coal is sold primarily to steel companies in North America, South America, Europe, Asia and Africa. Approximately 41% of our total revenues in the CAPP segment in 2012 were derived from sales made outside the United States, including Brazil, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, India and the United Kingdom. In 2012, our CAPP mines produced 7.2 million tons of coal (including 0.4 million tons of contract coal) and we purchased another 2.0 million tons for resale. Of the 7.2 million tons produced from CAPP company mines, 76% came from Company operated underground mines. In 2012, we shipped 9.4 million tons of coal and generated coal sale revenues of \$915.4 million from our CAPP segment. In 2012, US Steel, Steel Authority of India Limited and Georgia Power Company were our largest customers, representing approximately 13%, 13%, and 12% of our total revenues, respectively. No other CAPP customer accounted for more than 10% of our total revenues.

As of December 31, 2012, we estimate that we controlled approximately 299.7 million tons of proven and probable coal reserves in our CAPP segment. Based on our most recent analysis prepared by Marshall Miller & Associates, Inc. ("MM&A") as of March 31, 2004 and December 31, 2010, we estimate that these reserves have an average heat content of 13,200 Btu per pound and an average sulfur content of 1.2%. At current production levels, we believe these reserves would support more than 30 years of production.

Midwest Segment

In the Midwest, the majority of our coal is sold in the East North Central Region, which includes the states of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin. In 2012, our Midwest mines produced approximately 2.3 million tons of coal. Of the Midwest tons produced, 71% came from Company operated surface mines. In 2012, we shipped 2.3 million tons of coal and generated coal sale revenues of \$103.1 million from our Midwest segment. No Midwest customer accounted for more than 10% of our total revenues.

As of December 31, 2012, we estimate that we controlled approximately 42.0 million tons of proven and probable coal reserves in our Midwest segment. Based on our most recent analyses prepared by MM&A as of February 1, 2005 and April 11, 2006, we estimate that these reserves have an average heat content of 12,000 Btu per pound and average sulfur content of 3.2%. At current production levels, we believe these reserves would support more than 15 years of production.

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Reserves

MM&A prepared a detailed study of our CAPP reserves as of March 31, 2004 based on all of our geologic information, including our updated drilling and mining data. MM&A also prepared a detailed study as of December 31, 2010 for the reserves obtained in the IRP Acquisition (which was based in part on previous evaluations of the properties). For our Midwest reserves, MM&A prepared a detailed study as of February 1, 2005 for the reserves obtained in the acquisition of Triad Mining, Inc. and as of April 11, 2006 for certain additional reserves acquired in the second quarter of 2006 in the Midwest. The MM&A studies were planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance of the subject demonstrated reserves. In connection with the studies, MM&A prepared reserve maps and had certified professional geologists develop estimates based on data supplied by us, Triad and IRP using standards accepted by government and industry. We have used MM&A's March 31, 2004 study of the CAPP reserves and the December 31, 2010 study of the reserves acquired from IRP as the basis for our current internal estimate of our CAPP reserves and MM&A's February 1, 2005 and April 11, 2006 studies as the basis for our current internal estimate of our Midwest reserves.

Reserves for these purposes are defined by SEC Industry Guide 7 as that part of a mineral deposit which could be economically and legally extracted or produced at the time of the reserve determination. The reserve estimates were prepared using industry-standard methodology to provide reasonable assurance that the reserves are recoverable, considering technical, economic and legal limitations. Although MM&A has reviewed our reserves and found them to be reasonable (notwithstanding unforeseen geological, market, labor or regulatory issues that may affect the operations), MM&A's engagement did not include performing an economic feasibility study for our reserves. In accordance with standard industry practice, we have performed our own economic feasibility analysis for our reserves. It is not generally considered to be practical, however, nor is it standard industry practice, to perform a feasibility study for a company's entire reserve portfolio. In addition, MM&A did not independently verify our control of our properties, and has relied solely on property information supplied by us. Reserve acreage, average seam thickness, average seam density and average mine and wash recovery percentages were verified by MM&A to prepare a reserve tonnage estimate for each reserve. There are numerous uncertainties inherent in estimating quantities and values of economically recoverable coal reserves as discussed in "Critical Accounting Estimates — Coal Reserves".

Based on the MM&A reserve studies and the foregoing assumptions and qualifications, and after giving effect to our operations from the respective dates of the studies through December 31, 2012, we estimate that, as

of December 31, 2012, we controlled approximately 299.7 million tons of proven and probable coal reserves in the CAPP region and 42.0 million tons in the Midwest region. The following table provides additional information regarding changes to our reserves for the year ended December 31, 2012 (in millions of tons):

| | CAPP | Midwest | Total |
|---|--------|---------|--------|
| Proven and Probable Reserves, as of December 31, 2011 (1) | 322.4 | 40.4 | 362.8 |
| Coal Extracted | (7.2) | (2.3) | (9.5) |
| Acquisitions (2) | 0.2 | 3.9 | 4.1 |
| Adjustments (3) | (0.6) | | (0.6) |
| Divesture (4) | (15.1) | | (15.1) |
| Proven and Probable Reserves, as of December 31, 2012 (1) | 299.7 | 42.0 | 341.7 |

- (1) Calculated in the same manner, and based on the same assumptions and qualifications, as used in the MM&A studies described above, but these estimates have not been reviewed by MM&A. Proven reserves have the highest degree of geologic assurance and are reserves for which (a) quantity is computed from dimensions revealed in outcrops, trenches, workings, or drill holes; grade and/or quality are computed from the results of detailed sampling and (b) the sites for inspections, sampling and measurement are spaced so closely and the geologic character is so well defined that size, shape, depth and mineral content of reserves are well-established. Probable reserves have a moderate degree of geologic assurance and are reserves for which quantity and grade and/or quality are computed from information similar to that used for proven reserves, but the sites for inspection, sampling and measurement are farther apart or are otherwise less adequately spaced. The degree of assurance, although lower than that for proven reserves, is high enough to assume continuity between points of observation. This reserve information reflects recoverable tonnage on an as-received basis with 5.5% moisture.
- (2) Represents estimated reserves on leases entered into or properties acquired during the relevant period. We calculated the reserves in the same manner, and based on the same assumptions and qualifications, as used in the MM&A studies described above, but these estimates have not been reviewed by MM&A.
- (3) Represents changes in reserves due to additional information obtained from exploration activities, production activities or discovery of new geologic information. We calculated the adjustments to the reserves in the same manner, and based on the same assumptions and qualifications, as used in the MM&A studies described above, but these estimates have not been reviewed by MM&A.
- (4) Represents changes in reserves due to expired or transferred leases. In 2012 the Company transferred leases with estimated reserves of approximately 15.0 million tons and related reclamation liabilities to a third party.

Key Performance Indicators

We manage our business through several key performance metrics that provide a summary of information in the areas of sales, operations, and general and administrative costs.

In the sales area, our long-term metrics are the volume-weighted average remaining term of our contracts and our open contract position for the next several years. During periods of high prices, we may seek to lengthen the average remaining term of our contracts and reduce the open tonnage for future periods. In the short-term, we closely monitor the Average Selling Price per Ton (ASP), and the mix between our spot sales and contract sales.

In the operations area, we monitor the volume of coal that is produced by each of our principal sources, including company mines, contract mines, and purchased coal sources. For our company mines, we focus on both operating costs and operating productivity. We closely monitor the cost per ton of our mines against our budgeted costs and against our other mines.

EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are also measures used by management to measure operating performance. We define EBITDA as net income (loss) plus interest expense (net), income tax expense (benefit) and depreciation, depletion and amortization. We regularly use EBITDA to evaluate our performance as compared to other companies in our industry that have different financing and capital structures and/or tax rates. In addition, we use EBITDA in evaluating acquisition targets. EBITDA is not a recognized term under U.S generally accepted accounting principles (US GAAP) and is not an alternative to net income, operating income or any

other performance measures derived in accordance with US GAAP or an alternative to cash flow from operating activities as a measure of operating liquidity. Adjusted EBITDA is used in calculating compliance with our debt covenants and adjusts EBITDA for certain items as defined in our debt agreements, including stock compensation, acquisition costs and certain bank fees.

Trends and Uncertainties In Our Business

Coal prices continue to suffer from a mixture of lower natural gas prices, increased government regulation and the global economic slowdown.

Historically low natural gas prices have increased natural gas' share of electricity production. Production of natural gas from non-traditional shale sources has resulted in growing natural gas inventories and lower prices. In recent months, the price of natural gas has rebounded from its April 2012 low of \$1.95 per MMBtu to an average of \$3.34 per MMBtu in December 2012. The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) estimates that the 2013 average natural gas spot price will be \$3.68 per MMBtu. By comparison, the average spot price for natural gas in 2008 was \$8.86 per MMBtu.

Natural gas prices are expected to increase due to reductions in the number of natural gas rigs operating, which was 417 as of December 7, 2012, compared to 811 at the beginning of 2012, curbed production from less-profitable "dry" natural gas wells, and increased consumption in the eastern part of the United States where a more normal winter is expected after an unseasonably warm 2011 — 2012 winter.

The EIA forecasts that the year-over-year gains for natural gas' share of electricity generation should slow and then reverse as higher natural gas prices, along with record coal inventories, encourage utilities to increase their utilization of coal-fired power plants. Coal's share of electricity generation is forecasted to rise by 5% in 2013, in comparison to a 10.4% decline for natural gas. Nonetheless, use of natural gas for power generation will remain high by historical standards.

The weakness in the U.S. domestic coal market has been partially offset by strong U.S. coal exports. According to the EIA, in 2011, the U.S. exported 107 million short tons of coal, the highest since 1991, and is forecasted to have exported 124 million short tons in 2012. The EIA expects 2013 exports to decline but remain above 100 million short tons.

The Central Appalachia region, which accounts for all of our shipments to international markets, has been the primary beneficiary of the export market, largely due to Central Appalachia's production of metallurgical coal. While we anticipate that the demand for metallurgical coal will continue to be strong in the future, recent uncertainty in Europe and slowing economies in China, India and Brazil have reduced near-term pricing and demand.

In response to the lower prices and weaker demand for both steam and metallurgical coal, a number of publicly traded Central Appalachia producers have announced production cuts and layoffs. Because the Central Appalachia production market is fragmented with numerous small operators, it is difficult to quantify the total of Central Appalachia production cuts. To address the weak market for coal, we have managed our production by idling five underground mines, two preparation plants and one load out and reducing production at three surface mines. These and previous changes will reduce our annual production capacity by 3 million tons and impact approximately 400 employees and contractors.

In addition to coal prices and demand, our profitability is affected by our production costs, which have increased in recent years. We expect the higher costs to continue for the next several years, due to a number of factors, including increased governmental regulations, high prices in worldwide commodity markets, and a highly competitive market for a limited supply of skilled mining personnel. See Item 1A "Risk Factors" for additional information on factors beyond our control that could affect our production costs.

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Results of Operations

Year Ended December 31, 2012 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2011

The following table shows selected operating results for 2012 and 2011 (in thousands, except per ton amounts):

| | • | | | | |
|--|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|--------|
| | 2012 | | 2011 | | Change |
| | Total | Per Ton | Total | Per Ton | Total |
| Volume Shipped (tons) | 11,728 | | 11,801 | | -1% |
| Coal sales revenue | \$1,018,433 | \$86.84 | \$1,105,370 | \$93.67 | -8% |
| Freight and handling revenue | 81,176 | 6.92 | 72,285 | 6.13 | 12% |
| Cost of coal sold | 911,681 | 77.74 | 905,482 | 76.73 | 1% |
| Freight and handling costs | 81,176 | 6.92 | 72,285 | 6.13 | 12% |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 131,779 | 11.24 | 108,914 | 9.23 | 21% |
| Gross profit (loss) | (25,027) | (2.13) | 90,974 | 7.71 | -128% |
| Selling, general and administrative | 59,922 | 5.11 | 57,078 | 4.84 | 5% |
| Interest Expense | 52,666 | 4.49 | 50,096 | 4.25 | 5% |

Volume and Revenues by Segment

The following tables show volume and revenue information by segment (in thousands, except per ton amounts).

| | Year ended I | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------|--------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | Change |
| Volume shipped (tons) | | | |
| CAPP tons | | | |
| Steam | 5,787 | 7,166 | -19% |
| Metallurgical | 3,614 | 2,155 | 68% |
| Total CAPP tons | 9,401 | 9,321 | 1% |
| Midwest steam tons | 2,327 | 2,480 | -6% |
| Total volume shipped | 11,728 | 11,801 | -1% |

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| | 20 | 12 | 2011 | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | Change |
|------------------------------------|------------|---------|------------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| | Total | Per Ton | Total | Per Ton | Total |
| Revenues Coal sales revenue | | | | | |
| CAPP steam | \$ 476,101 | 82.27 | \$ 651,016 | 90.85 | -27% |
| CAPP metallurgical | 439,254 | 121.54 | 348,972 | 161.94 | 26% |
| Total CAPP coal sales revenue | 915,355 | 97.37 | 999,988 | 107.28 | -8% |
| Midwest steam | 103;078 | 44.30 | 105,382 | 42.49 | -2% |
| Total coal sales revenue | 1,018,433 | 86.84 | 1,105,370 | 93.67 | -8% |
| Freight and handling revenue | · · · | | | | |
| CAPP | 78,983 | 8.40 | 69,778 | 7.49 | 13% |
| Midwest | 2,193 | 0.94 | 2,507 | 1.01 | -13% |
| Total freight and handling revenue | 81,176 | 6.92 | 72,285 | 6.13 | 12% |
| Total revenue | 1,099,609 | 93.76 | 1,177,655 | 99.79 | -7% |

Total tons shipped decreased by 1% in 2012 as compared to 2011. In the CAPP and Midwest region steam coal shipments decreased by 19% and 6%, respectively, which was attributed to lower demand. In the CAPP region metallurgical coal shipments increased 68% in 2012 as compared to 2011 primarily due to the increase in

metallurgical coal shipments that resulted from the IRP acquisition in April 2011. Coal sales revenue decreased 8% in 2012 as compared to 2011. The decrease in coal sales revenue was primarily related to a lower average sales price in the CAPP region for both steam and metallurgical coal.

Freight and handling revenue consists of shipping and handling costs invoiced to coal customers and paid to third-party carriers. These revenues are directly offset by freight and handling costs.

Operating and Other Costs

The following tables show selected costs in total and by segment (in thousands, except per ton amounts).

| | 201 | 2 | 2011 | | Change |
|--|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|--------|
| | Total | Per Ton | Total | Per Ton | Total |
| Volume shipped (tons) | 11,728 | | 11,801 | | 14 C |
| Cost of coal sold | \$911,681 | 77.74 | \$905,482 | 76.73 | 1% |
| Freight and handling costs | 81,176 | 6.92 | 72,285 | 6.13 | 12% |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 131,779 | 11.24 | 108,914 | 9.23 | 21% |
| Selling, general and administrative | 59,922 | 5.11 | 57,078 | 4.84 | 5% |
| Goodwill impairment | 26,492 | 2.26 | · · · · · | | NA |
| Acquisition costs | | | 8,504 | 0.72 | NA |

| | 2012 | | | 2011 | | | |
|--|-----------|---------|-----------|-------------|---------|-----------|--|
| | CAPP | Midwest | Corporate | CAPP | Midwest | Corporate | |
| Cost of coal sold | \$821,278 | 90,403 | | 811,573 | 93,909 | | |
| Per ton | 87.36 | 38.85 | — | 87.07 | 37.87 | | |
| Freight and handling costs | 78,983 | 2,193 | _ | 69,778 | 2,507 | | |
| Per ton | 8.40 | 0.94 | | 7.49 | 1.01 | | |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 116,598 | 15,113 | 68 | 96,455 | 12,407 | 52 | |
| Per ton | 12.40 | 6.49 | — | 10.35 | 5.00 | | |

Our cost per ton of coal sold in the CAPP region increased from \$87.07 per ton in the 2011 to \$87.36 per ton in the 2012 period. Overall, there was an increase in the cost per ton of our steam coal operations which was offset by a decrease in the per ton costs of our metallurgical coal operations in 2012 as compared to 2011. The cost per ton was also impacted by an increase in metallurgical coal shipments during 2012 as compared to 2011. Our steam coal operations were responsible for 65% and 72% of total production in 2012 and 2011, respectively. Our steam coal operations' costs increased \$2.05 per ton in 2012 as compared to 2011. The increase in the steam coal operations' costs increased \$2.07 per ton increase in labor costs and a \$1.01 per ton increase in trucking and preparation costs, offset by a reduction in sales related costs of \$1.34 per ton. Our metallurgical coal operations' costs decreased by \$7.47 per ton, which is primarily due to a decrease in the price of purchased metallurgical coal. Our costs continue to be impacted by lower productivity due to increased federal and state regulatory scrutiny, a decrease in tons produced in response to market conditions and an increase in commodity prices. For more detail regarding the increased regulatory activity see "Part II — Item 1A — Risk Factors — Underground mining is subject to increased regulation, and may require us to incur additional cost."

Our cost per ton of coal sold in the Midwest increased \$0.98 per ton to \$38.85 per ton in the 2012 as compared to 2011. The major components of this increase include an increase in variable costs of \$0.61 per ton and labor and benefit costs of \$0.99 per ton offset by a decrease in trucking costs of \$0.93 per ton.

Freight and handling costs

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Freight and handling costs increased due to a higher volume of metallurgical shipments in 2012 as compared to the same period in 2011. The Company had no metallurgical shipments prior to the IRP Acquisition in April 2011.

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Depreciation, depletion and amortization

Depreciation, depletion and amortization increased from \$108.9 million in 2011 to \$131.8 million in 2012. In 2012 the CAPP region, depreciation, depletion and amortization increased \$20.1 million to \$116.6 million as compared to 2011, which is due to the increase in the asset base as a result of the IRP Acquisition offset by \$7.9 million decrease in amortization on contracts acquired from IRP. In the Midwest, depreciation, depletion and amortization increased \$2.7 million to \$15.1 million which is primarily due to a higher asset base on buildings, machinery and equipment in the 2012 period as compared to 2011.

Selling, general and administrative

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased from \$57.1 million in the 2011 period to \$59.9 million in the 2012 period, which is primarily due to increased selling, general and administrative expenses as a result of the IRP Acquisition in April 2011.

Goodwill impairment.

In 2012, the goodwill associated with our Midwest segment was determined to be impaired and the full amount was expensed. See Item 15 of Part IV, "Financial Statements - Note 3 - Goodwill Impairment."

Acquisition costs

In 2011, costs of \$8.5 million were incurred related to the IRP Acquisition.

Interest Expense

Interest expense increased from \$50.1 million in 2011 to \$52.7 million in 2012. The increase was the result of the issuance of our 2018 Convertible Senior Notes and 2019 Senior Notes in March 2011, offset by the redemption in full of our 2012 Senior Notes in June 2011 and the reduction of interest as the result of our \$61.3 million repurchases of our outstanding debt in 2012. These debt transactions are described below in Liquidity and Capital Resources. Interest expense for 2012 and 2011 includes \$16.9 million and \$14.7 million, respectively, related to the amortization of debt discounts and debt issuance costs.

Income Taxes

Our effective tax rate in 2012 was (0.3%) and our effective tax rate in 2011 was (61.9%).

For 2012, our effective income tax rate was impacted primarily by the amount of the valuation allowance recorded.

For 2011, our effective income tax rate was impacted primarily by a valuation allowance and the effects of percentage depletion. In 2011, in connection with the completion of our forecasts which considered the decline in coal prices and market demand that occurred towards the end of 2011, and after weighing all positive and negative evidence, we concluded that it was not more likely than not to realize a portion of our gross deferred tax assets and as a result a valuation allowance of \$37.3 million was recorded. Percentage depletion is an income tax deduction that is limited to a percentage of taxable income from each of our mining properties. Because percentage depletion can be deducted in excess of cost basis in the properties, it creates a permanent difference and directly impacts the effective tax rate. Fluctuations in the effective tax rate may occur due to the varying levels of profitability (and thus, taxable income and percentage depletion) at each of our mine locations.

The criteria for recording a valuation allowance are described in "Critical Accounting Estimates --- Income Taxes." We recorded a \$85.9 million and \$37.2 million valuation allowance against our gross deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

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Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2010

The following table shows selected operating results for 2011 and 2010 (in thousands, except per ton ŢĹ. amounts): 14 g 12

| | Year Ended December 31, | | | | 1999 - S. 1999 - | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|--|--|-----------|--|--------|
| | 2011 | | 2010 | | 2011 2010 | | 2011 2010 | | Change |
| | Total | Per Ton | Total | Per Ton | Total | | | | |
| Volume Shipped (tons) | 11,801 | | 8,919 | | 32% | | | | |
| Coal sales revenue | \$1,105,370 | \$93.67 | \$698,949 | \$78.37 | 58% | | | | |
| Freight and handling revenue | 72,285 | 6.13 | 2,167 | 0.24 | 3236% | | | | |
| Cost of coal sold | 905,482 | 76.73 | 512,348 | 57.44 | 77% | | | | |
| Freight and handling costs | 72,285 | 6.13 | 2,167 | 0.24 | 3236% | | | | |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 108,914 | 9.23 | 64,368 | 7.22 | 69% | | | | |
| Gross profit | 90,974 | 7.71 | 122,233 | 13.70 | -26% | | | | |
| Selling, general and administrative | 57,078 | 4.84 | 38,347 | 4.30 | 49% | | | | |

Volume and Revenues by Segment

The following tables show volume and revenue information by segment (in thousands, except per ton amounts). A State of the second sec

| | Year ended D | | |
|---|--------------|-------|--------|
| the second se | 2011 | 2010 | Change |
| Volume shipped (tons) | | | |
| CAPP tons | | | |
| Steam | 7,166 | 6,109 | 17% |
| Metallurgical | 2,155 | | NA |
| Total CAPP tons | 9,321 | 6,109 | 53% |
| Midwest steam tons | 2,480 | 2,810 | -12% |
| Total volume shipped | 11,801 | 8,919 | 32% |
| | | | |

| | 201 | 1 | 2010 | Change | |
|------------------------------------|------------|---------|-----------|---|----------------|
| | Total | Per Ton | Total | Per Ton | Total |
| Revenues | | | 2 . · · | 4 8 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - | |
| Coal sales revenue | | | , · · · | | ÷. |
| CAPP steam | \$ 651,016 | 90.85 | \$585,064 | 95.77 | 11% |
| CAPP metallurgical | 348,972 | 161.94 | | · · · · · | |
| Total CAPP coal sales revenue | 999,988 | 107.28 | 585,064 | 95.77 | 71% |
| Midwest steam | 105,382 | 42.49 | 113,885 | 40.53 | -7% |
| Total coal sales revenue | 1,105,370 | 93.67 | 698,949 | 78.37 | 58% |
| Freight and handling revenue | 1 | | | | |
| САРР | 69,778 | | — . | | , — |
| Midwest | 2,507 | | 2,167 | | 16% |
| Total freight and handling revenue | 72,285 | | 2,167 | 50 | 3236% |
| Total revenue | 1,177,655 | | 701,116 | | 68% |

Total tons shipped increased by 32% in 2011 as compared to 2010. Coal sales revenue increased 58% in 2011 as compared to 2010. The increase in tons shipped and coal sales revenue (including the change in mix to include metallurgical coal) was primarily related to contracts acquired in the IRP Acquisition and additional tons produced from the properties acquired in the IRP Acquisition. The overall increase in tons was partially offset by a decrease in tons shipped in our Midwest Region in 2011 as compared to 2010.

Freight and handling revenue consists of shipping and handling costs invoiced to coal customers and paid to third-party carriers. These revenues are directly offset by freight and handling costs.

Operating and Other Costs

The following tables show selected costs in total and by segment (in thousands, except per ton amounts).

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| | 2011 | | 2010 | | Change |
|--|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|--------|
| | Total | Per Ton | Total | Per Ton | Total |
| Volume shipped (tons) | 11,801 | | 8,919 | | |
| Cost of coal sold | \$905,482 | 76.73 | \$512,348 | 57.44 | 77% |
| Freight and handling costs | 72,285 | 6.13 | 2,167 | 0.24 | 3236% |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 108,914 | 9.23 | 64,368 | 7.22 | 69% |
| Selling, general and administrative | 57,078 | 4.84 | 38,347 | 4.30 | 49% |
| Acquisition costs | 8,504 | 0.72 | | | NA |
| Interest expense | 50,096 | 4.25 | 29,943 | 3.36 | 67% |

| | | 2011 | | | 2010 | |
|--|-----------|---------|-----------------|----------------|---------|-----------|
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | CAPP | Midwest | Corporate | CAPP | Midwest | Corporate |
| Cost of coal sold | \$811,573 | 93,909 | · | 419,564 | 92,784 | · ! |
| Per ton | | 37.87 | | 68.68 | 33.02 | |
| Freight and handling costs | 69,778 | 2,507 | | · · · <u>·</u> | 2,167 | |
| Per ton | | 1.01 | | — | 0.77 | · · · |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 96,455 | 12,407 | 52., | 53,467 | 10,840 | 61 |
| Per ton | | 5.00 | , . | 8.75 | 3.86 | |

The cost of coal sold, excluding depreciation, depletion and amortization, increased from \$512.3 million in 2010 to \$905.5 million in 2011. Our cost per ton of coal sold in the CAPP region increased from \$68.68 per ton in 2010 to \$87.07 per ton in the 2011. Our costs in the CAPP region are impacted by increased costs as a result of the IRP Acquisition. Generally, the mines acquired from IRP have more metallurgical coal than our legacy operations. These metallurgical coal mines produce higher coal sales revenue but are more costly to mine. Our costs were also impacted by an increase in metallurgical coal purchased that is used to blend with our metallurgical coal production to meet quality requirements under our sales contracts. The impact of the change in our mix to additional metallurgical coal production is approximately \$9.92 per ton. The remaining increase of \$8.47 over the prior year is primarily due to an increase in our labor and benefit costs of \$1.79 per ton, variable costs of \$3.88 per ton and preparation plants and raw trucking costs of \$1.59 at our mines that do not produce metallurgical coal. Our costs continue to be impacted by lower productivity due to increase in commodity prices. For more detail regarding the increased regulatory activity see "Part II — Item 1A — Risk Factors — Underground mining is subject to increased regulation, and may require us to increased increase."

Our cost per ton of coal sold in the Midwest increased \$4.85 per ton to \$37.87 per ton in the 2011 period as compared to the 2010 period. The major components of this increase include an increase in the trucking and preparation costs of \$1.75 per ton, variable costs of \$1.23 per ton and labor and benefit costs of \$1.06 per ton.

Freight and handling costs

In 2011, freight and handling costs increased due an increase in export shipments of metallurgical coal primarily from operations acquired from IRP.

Depreciation, depletion and amortization

Depreciation, depletion and amortization increased from \$64.4 million in 2010 to \$108.9 million in 2011. In the CAPP region, depreciation, depletion and amortization increased \$43.0 million to \$96.5 million, which is due to the increase in the asset base as a result of the IRP Acquisition and \$5.9 million of amortization on contracts acquired from IRP. In the Midwest, depreciation, depletion and amortization increased \$1.6 million to \$12.4 million.

Selling, general and administrative

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased from \$38.3 million in the 2010 period to \$57.1 million in the 2011 period, which is primarily due to increased selling, general and administrative expenses as a result of the IRP Acquisition.

Acquisition costs

In 2011, costs of \$8.5 million were incurred related to the IRP Acquisition.

Interest Expense

Interest expense increased from \$29.9 million in 2010 to \$50.1 million in 2011. The increase in our interest expense was the result of the issuance of our 2018 Convertible Senior Notes and 2019 Senior Notes in March 2011, offset by the redemption in full of our 2012 Senior Notes in June 2011. These debt transactions are described below in Liquidity and Capital Resources. Interest expense for 2011 and 2010 includes \$14.7 million and \$8.1 million, respectively, related to the amortization of debt discounts and debt issuance costs.

Income Taxes

Our effective tax rate in 2011 was an expense of 61.9% and our effective tax rate in 2010 was a benefit of 43.2%. For 2011, our effective income tax rate was impacted primarily by a valuation allowance and the effects of percentage depletion. In 2011, in connection with the completion of our forecasts which considered the decline in coal prices and market demand that occurred towards the end of 2011, and after weighing all positive and negative evidence, we concluded that it was not more likely than not to realize a portion of our gross deferred tax assets and as a result a valuation allowance of \$37.3 million was recorded. For 2010, our effective tax rate was reduced from the statutory federal rate of 35% primarily as the result of the reversal of our income tax valuation allowance (60.9%) and by percentage depletion (20.4%).

The criteria for recording a valuation allowance are described in "Critical Accounting Estimates — Income Taxes." As of December 31, 2011; we had recorded a \$37.3 million valuation allowance against our gross deferred tax assets. Percentage depletion is an income tax deduction that is limited to a percentage of taxable income from each of our mining properties. Because percentage depletion can be deducted in excess of cost basis in the properties, it creates a permanent difference and directly impacts the effective tax rate. Fluctuations in the effective tax rate may occur due to the varying levels of profitability (and thus, taxable income and percentage depletion) at each of our mine locations.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The following chart reflects the components of our debt as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 | |
|--|-----------|-----------|--|
| 2019 Senior Notes | \$270,000 | \$275,000 | |
| 2015 Convertible Senior Notes, net of discount | 120,629 | 140,372 | |
| 2018 Convertible Senior Notes, net of discount | | 166,821 | |
| Revolver | | | |
| Total long-term debt | | \$582,193 | |

2019 Senior Note, 2018 Convertible Senior Notes and 2015 Convertible Senior Notes

During 2012, we repurchased \$61.3 million of our outstanding debt, consisting of \$5.0 million principal amount of the 2019 Senior Notes, \$25.0 million principal amount of the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes and \$31.3 million principal amount of the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes. The debt repurchases were made at a cost of \$23.8 million, plus accrued interest of \$0.8 million, in open market purchases. The repurchases resulted in a gain of \$25.2 million, which includes the write-off of \$1.0 million of financing costs.

There have been no changes to the terms of our 2019 Senior Notes, 2018 Convertible Senior Notes or 2015 Convertible Senior Notes during 2012. See Item 15 of Part IV, "Financial Statements — Note 4 — Long Term Debt and Interest Expense" for a description of our 2019 Senior Notes, 2018 Convertible Senior Notes and 2015 Convertible Senior Notes.

Revolving Credit Agreement

There have been no changes to the terms of our Revolver under our Revolving Credit Agreement during 2012. See Item 15 of Part IV, "Financial Statements — Note 4 — Long Term Debt and Interest Expense" for a description of our Revolving Credit Agreement.

As of December 31, 2012, we had used \$60.8 million of the \$69.3 million then available under the Revolver to secure outstanding letters of credit.

We were in compliance with all of the financial covenants under our outstanding debt instruments as of December 31, 2012. We cannot assure you that we will remain in compliance in subsequent periods. If necessary, we will consider seeking a waiver or other alternatives to remain in compliance with the covenants. For more detail regarding the covenants under our indebtedness, see Part I — Item 1A — Risk Factors — "We may be unable to comply with restrictions imposed by the terms of our indebtedness, which could result in a default under these instruments."

Liquidity

As of December 31, 2012, we had total liquidity of approximately \$135.9 million, consisting of \$8.5 million of unused borrowing capacity under the Revolver and \$127.4 million of cash and cash equivalents (excluding restricted cash and short term investments). As of December 31, 2012, we had used \$60.8 million of the availability under the Revolver to secure outstanding letters of credit.

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Our primary source of cash is expected to be sales of coal to our utility, industrial and steel customers. The price of coal received can change dramatically based on market factors and will directly affect this source of cash. Our primary uses of cash include the payment of ordinary mining expenses to mine coal, capital expenditures, scheduled debt and interest payments and benefit payments. Ordinary mining expenses are driven by the cost of supplies, including steel prices and diesel fuel. Benefit payments include payments for workers' compensation and black lung benefits paid over the lives of our employees as the claims are submitted. We are required to pay these when due, and are not required to set aside cash for these payments. We have posted surety bonds secured by letters of credit or issued letters of credit with state regulatory departments to guarantee these payments. We believe that our Revolver provides us with the ability to meet the necessary bonding requirements.

We currently project that in 2013 our capital expenditures will be approximately \$70 million, cash interest on our long term debt to be approximately \$34 million and fees under our Revolver for letters of credit will total approximately \$4 million. We expect that such expenditures will exceed cash generated by operations and will need to be funded through cash on hand; however we expect that cash on hand will be sufficient throughout 2013 to meet our debt covenants. Our cash position beyond 2013 will depend on numerous factors such as the market for our coal, capital expenditures, commodity costs and absent improvements to current market conditions, we would likely need to secure additional sources of liquidity to meet our cash requirements.

We believe that currently available cash, cash generated from operations and borrowings under our Revolver will be sufficient to meet our working capital requirements, anticipated capital expenditures and scheduled debt payments throughout 2013. Nevertheless, our ability to satisfy our working capital requirements

and debt service obligations (including refinancing debt that matures in 2015), or fund planned capital expenditures, will substantially depend upon our future operating performance, debt covenants, and financial, business and other factors, some of which are beyond our control.

In the event that the sources of cash described above are not sufficient to meet our future cash requirements, we will need to reduce certain planned expenditures, seek additional financing, or both. We may seek to raise funds through additional debt financing or the issuance of additional equity securities. If such actions are not sufficient, we may need to limit our growth, sell assets or reduce or curtail some of our operations to levels consistent with the constraints imposed by our available cash flow, or any combination of these options. Our ability to seek additional debt or equity financing may be limited by our existing and any future financing arrangements, economic and financial conditions, or all three. In particular, our existing 2019 Senior Notes, 2015 Convertible Senior Notes, 2018 Convertible Senior Notes and Revolver restrict our ability to incur additional indebtedness. We cannot provide assurance that any reductions in our planned expenditures or in our expansion would be sufficient to cover shortfalls in available cash or that additional debt or equity financing would be available on terms acceptable to us, if at all.

Our projected capital expenditures for 2013 of \$70 million primarily consist of capital expenditures for normal mining activities including new and replacement mine equipment. Our projected capital expenditures for 2013 also include approximately \$10 million for safety mandates and new mine and infrastructure development.

Net cash from operating activities reflects net income (loss) adjusted for non-cash charges and changes in net working capital (including non-current operating assets and liabilities). Net cash provided by operating activities was \$32.4 million and \$163.8 million in 2012 and 2011, respectively. During 2012, our net loss of \$138.9 million was adjusted by non cash charges of \$161.5 million. During 2012, our net loss, as adjusted for non cash charges was decreased by a \$9.8 million decrease in cash from our operating assets and liabilities. The \$9.8 million change in our operating assets and liabilities for 2012 includes a \$27.4 million decrease in inventories, \$17.7 million decrease in accounts receivables and a \$37.7 million decrease in accounts payable. During 2011, our net loss of \$39.1 million was adjusted by non cash charges of \$148.2 million. During 2011, our net loss, as adjusted for non cash charges was increased by a \$54.7 million increase in cash from changes in our operating assets and liabilities. The \$54.7 million change in our operating assets and liabilities for 2011 includes a \$69.0 million decrease in receivables and a \$14.0 million increase in inventory.

Net cash used in investing activities decreased by \$573.4 million to \$80.9 million in 2012 as compared to 2011, which includes a payment for the IRP Acquisition net of cash acquired, of \$516.0 million in 2011. Capital expenditures for property, plant and equipment decreased \$56.8 million to \$81.6 million in 2012 as compared to 2011. Capital expenditures primarily consisted of new and replacement mine equipment and various projects to improve the production and efficiency of our mining operations. Additionally, during 2012 and 2011, our capital expenditures for property, plant and equipment included approximately \$10.9 million and \$37.5 million, respectively, for safety mandates and new mine and infrastructure development.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$23.8 million in 2012 and consists of repayment of debt. Net cash provided by financing activities was \$509.9 million in 2011 and consists of \$491.2 million of net proceeds from the issuance of the 2019 Senior Notes and the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes, net of debt issuance costs; \$170.5 million of net proceeds from the issuance of common stock, which were offset by \$150.0 million used to repay the 2012 Senior Notes; and \$1.9 million of costs in connection with the amendments and restatements to the Revolver.

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Contractual Obligations

The following is a summary of our contractual obligations and commitments as of December 31, 2012:

| | Payment Due by Period (in thousands) | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|-----------|------------|--|
| Contractual Obligations | Total | 2013 | 2014-2015 | 2016-2017 | Thereafter | |
| Long term debt (1) | \$ 616,140 | | 141,170 | · · | 474,970 | |
| Cash interest on long term debt and fees under our Revolver for letters of credit (2) | 202,492 | 38,020 | 74,041 | 55,335 | 35,096 | |
| Operating lease obligations (3) | 7,438 | 3,753 | 3,685 | _ | · · | |
| Royalty obligations (4) | 209,636 | 25,641 | 45,266 | 41,206 | 97,523 | |
| Purchase obligations (5) | <u></u> \$1,035,706 | 67,414 | <u></u> 264,162 | 96,541 | 607,589 | |

(1) Consists of our 2019 Senior Notes and our 2015 and 2018 Convertible Senior Notes.

- (2) Consists of interest payments on our 2019 Senior Notes and our 2015 and 2018 Convertible Senior Notes. Also includes a charge associated with outstanding letters of credit fees under the Revolver through the Revolver's maturity (assumes the full amount of the Revolver capacity is used for letters of credit). No replacement facilities are shown to replace the 2019 Senior Notes, 2015 and 2018 Convertible Senior Notes or Revolver upon expiration of those facilities.
- (3) See Note 11 in the notes to the consolidated financial statements for additional information on leases.
- (4) Royalty obligations include minimum royalty's payable on leased coal rights. Certain coal leases do not have set expiration dates but extend until completion of mining of all merchantable and mineable coal reserves. For purposes of this table, we have generally assumed that minimum royalties on such leases will be paid for a period of ten years. Certain coal leases require payment based on minimum tonnage; for these contracts an average sales price of \$73.50 per ton was used to project the future commitment. See Note 12 in the notes to the consolidated financial statements for additional information on royalty obligations.
- (5) Purchase obligations do not include agreements to purchase coal with vendors that are less than 3 months in length, do not include quantities or minimum tonnages, or monthly purchase orders.

Additionally, we have liabilities relating to pension, workers' compensation, black lung, and mine reclamation and closure. As of December 31, 2012, the undiscounted payments related to these items are estimated to be:

| | • | Pa | yments Due by Years (In | Thousands) | · · · |
|-----|----------------|-------|-------------------------|--|--------------|
| | /ithin Year | | 2–3 Years | | 4–5 Years |
| \$2 | 0,090 | 2 · · | 42,502 | an a | • 42,884 |

Our determination of these noncurrent liabilities is calculated annually and is based on several assumptions, including then prevailing conditions, which may change from year to year. In any year, if our assumptions are inaccurate, we could be required to expend greater amounts than anticipated. Moreover, in particular for periods after 2013, our estimates may change from the amounts included in the table, and may change significantly, if our assumptions change to reflect changing conditions. These assumptions are discussed in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements and in the Critical Accounting Estimates in Management's Discussion and Analysis.

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Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

In the normal course of business, we are a party to certain off-balance sheet arrangements, including guarantees, operating leases, indemnifications, and financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk, such as bank letters of credit and performance or surety bonds. Liabilities related to these arrangements are not reflected in our consolidated balance sheets, and, except for the operating leases, we do not expect any material impact on our cash flow, results of operations or financial condition from these off-balance sheet arrangements.

We use surety bonds to secure reclamation, workers' compensation and other miscellaneous obligations. At December 31, 2012, we had \$144.7 million of outstanding surety bonds with third parties. These bonds were in

place to secure obligations as follows: post-mining reclamation bonds of \$99.8 million, workers' compensation bonds of \$40.3 million, wage payment, collection bonds, and other miscellaneous obligation bonds of \$4.6 million. Surety bond costs have increased over time and the market terms of surety bonds have generally become less favorable. To the extent that surety bonds become unavailable, we would seek to secure obligations with letters of credit, cash deposits, or other suitable forms of collateral.

We also use cash collateral accounts and bank letters of credit to secure our obligations for post-mining reclamation, workers' compensation programs, various insurance contracts and other obligations. As of December 31, 2012, we had \$60.8 million of letters of credit outstanding. The letters of credit are issued under our Revolver.

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Critical Accounting Estimates

Overview

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition, results of operations, liquidity and capital resources are based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with U.S generally accepted accounting principles (US GAAP). US GAAP require estimates and judgments that affect reported amounts for assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. The estimates and judgments we make in connection with our consolidated financial statements are based on historical experience and various other factors we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. Note 1 of the notes to the consolidated financial statements lists and describes our significant accounting policies. The following critical accounting policies have a material effect on amounts reported in our consolidated financial statements.

Business Combinations

We account for our business combinations under the acquisition method of accounting. The total cost of acquisitions is allocated to the underlying identifiable net tangible and intangible assets based on their respective estimated fair values. Determining the fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed requires management's judgment, with assistance of third party valuation services, and often involves the use of significant estimates and assumptions with respect to the timing and amounts of future cash inflows and outflows, discount rates, market prices and asset lives, among other items.

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Workers' Compensation

 $(x_{i+1}, x_{i+1}) \in \mathbf{A}_{i+1} \times \{x_{i+1}, x_{i+1}\}$

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We are liable under various state statutes for providing workers' compensation benefits. Except as indicated, we are self insured for workers' compensation at our Kentucky operations, with specific excess insurance purchased from independent insurance carriers to cover individual traumatic claims in excess of the self-insured limits. For the period June 2002 to June 2005, workers compensation coverage was insured through a third party insurance company using a large risk rating plan. Our operations in Indiana are insured through a third party insurance company using a large risk rating plan. Our operations in West Virginia are fully insured with a guaranteed cost policy through a third party insurance company for both Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability coverage.

We accrue for the present value of certain workers' compensation obligations as calculated annually by an independent actuary based upon assumptions for work-related injury and illness rates, discount rates and future trends for medical care costs. The discount rate is based on interest rates on bonds with maturities similar to the estimated future cash flows. The discount rate used to calculate the present value of these future obligations was 2.8% at December 31, 2012. Significant changes to interest rates result in substantial volatility to our consolidated financial statements. If we were to decrease our estimate of the discount rate from 2.8% to 2.3%, all other things being equal, the present value of our workers' compensation obligation would increase by approximately \$2.7 million. A change in the law, through either legislation or judicial action, could cause these assumptions to change. If the estimates do not materialize as anticipated, our actual costs and cash expenditures could differ materially from that currently estimated. Our estimated workers' compensation liability as of December 31, 2012 was \$76.9 million.

Coal Miners' Pneumoconiosis

We are required under the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, as amended, as well as various state statutes, to provide pneumoconiosis (black lung) benefits to eligible current and former employees and their dependents. We provide for federal and state black lung claims through a self-insurance program for our operations in Kentucky. For the period between June 2002 and June 2005, all black lung liabilities were insured through a third party insurance company using a large risk rating plan. Our operations in Indiana are insured through a third party insurance company using a large risk rating plan. Our operations in West Virginia are fully insured with a guaranteed cost policy through a third party insurance company.

An independent actuary calculates the estimated pneumoconiosis liability annually based on assumptions regarding disability incidence, medical costs, mortality, death benefits, dependents and interest rates. The discount rate is based on interest rates on high quality corporate bonds with maturities similar to the estimated future cash flows. The discount rate used to calculate the present value of these future obligations was 3.9% at December 31, 2012. Significant changes to interest rates result in substantial volatility to our consolidated financial statements. If we were to decrease our estimate of the discount rate by 0.5% to 3.4%, all other things being equal, the present value of our black lung obligation would increase by approximately \$5.2 million. A change in the law, through either legislation or judicial action, could cause these assumptions to change. If these estimates prove inaccurate, the actual costs and cash expenditures could vary materially from the amount currently estimated. Our estimated pneumoconiosis liability as of December 31, 2012 was \$65.3 million.

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Defined Benefit Pension

We have in place a non-contributory defined benefit pension plan under which all benefits were frozen in 2007. The estimated cost and benefits of our non-contributory defined benefit pension plans are determined annually by independent actuaries, who, with our review and approval, use various actuarial assumptions, including discount rate and expected long-term rate of return on pension plan assets. In estimating the discount rate, we look to rates of return on high-quality, fixed-income investments with comparable maturities. At December 31, 2012, the discount rate used to determine the obligation was 3.8%. Significant changes to interest rates result in substantial volatility to our consolidated financial statements. If we were to decrease our estimate of the discount rate from 3.8% to 3.3%, all other things being equal, the present value of our projected benefit obligation would increase by approximately \$7.4 million. The expected long-term rate of return on pension plan assets is based on long-term historical return information and future estimates of long-term investment returns for the target asset allocation of investments that comprise plan assets. The expected long-term rate of return on plan assets used to determine expense was 7.5% for the period ended December 31, 2012. Significant changes to these rates would introduce volatility to our pension expense. Our accrued pension obligation as of December 31, 2012 was \$35.3 million.

Reclamation and Mine Closure Obligation

The Surface Mining Control Reclamation Act of 1977 establishes operational, reclamation and closure standards for all aspects of surface mining as well as many aspects of underground mining. Our asset retirement obligation liabilities consist of spending estimates related to reclaiming surface land and support facilities at both surface and underground mines in accordance with federal and state reclamation laws. Our total reclamation and mine-closing liabilities are based upon permit requirements and our engineering estimates related to these requirements. US GAAP requires that asset retirement obligations be initially recorded as a liability based on fair value, which is calculated as the present value of the estimated future cash flows. Our management and engineers periodically review the estimate of ultimate reclamation liability and the expected period in which reclamation work will be performed. In estimating future cash flows, we considered the estimated current cost of reclamation and applied inflation rates and a third party profit. The third party profit is an estimate of the approximate markup that would be charged by contractors for work performed on our behalf. The discount rate is our estimate of our credit adjusted risk free rate. The estimated liability can change significantly if actual costs vary from assumptions or if governmental regulations change significantly. The actual costs could be different due to several reasons, including the possibility that our estimates could be incorrect, in which case our liabilities would differ. If we perform the reclamation work using our personnel rather than hiring a third party, as assumed under US GAAP, then the costs should be lower. If governmental regulations change, then the costs of reclamation will be impacted. US GAAP recognizes that the recorded liability could be different than the final

cost of the reclamation and addresses the settlement of the liability. When the obligation is settled, and there is a difference between the recorded liability and the amount paid to settle the obligation, a gain or loss upon settlement is included in earnings. Our asset retirement obligation as of December 31, 2012 was \$104.8 million.

Contingencies

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We are the subject of, or a party to, various suits and pending or threatened litigation involving governmental agencies or private interests. We have accrued the probable and reasonably estimable costs for the resolution of these claims based upon management's best estimate of potential results, assuming a combination of litigation and settlement strategies. Management does not believe that the outcome or timing of current legal or environmental matters will have a material impact on our financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows. See the notes to the consolidated financial statements for further discussion on our contingencies.

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Deferred tax assets and liabilities are required to be recognized using enacted tax rates for the effect of temporary differences between the book and tax bases of recorded assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets are also required to be reduced by a valuation allowance if it is more likely than not that some portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. In evaluating the need for a valuation allowance, we take into account various factors, including the expected level of future taxable income. We have also considered tax planning strategies in determining the deferred tax asset that will ultimately be realized. If actual results differ from the assumptions made in the evaluation of the amount of our valuation allowance, we record a change in valuation allowance through income tax expense in the period such determination is made.

We have a valuation allowance of \$85.9 million against our gross deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2012.

Coal Reserves

There are numerous uncertainties inherent in estimating quantities and values of economically recoverable coal reserves. Many of these uncertainties are beyond our control. As a result, estimates of economically recoverable coal reserves are by their nature uncertain. Information about our reserves consists of estimates based on engineering, economic and geological data initially assembled by our staff and analyzed by Marshall Miller & Associates, Inc. (MM&A). The reserve information has subsequently been updated by our staff. The updates to the reserves have been calculated in the same manner, and based on similar assumptions and qualifications, as used in the MM&A studies described above, but these updates to the reserve estimates have not been reviewed by MM&A. A number of sources of information were used to determine accurate recoverable reserves estimates, including:

- all currently available data;
- our own operational experience and that of our consultants;
- historical production from similar areas with similar conditions;
- previously completed geological and reserve studies;
- the assumed effects of regulations and taxes by governmental agencies; and
- assumptions governing future prices and future operating costs.

Reserve estimates will change from time to time to reflect, among other factors:

- mining activities;
- new engineering and geological data;
- acquisition or divestiture of reserve holdings; and
- modification of mining plans or mining methods.

e politica de la Recencia de la composición de la composición de la composición de la composición de la compos A de la composición de Each of these factors may in fact vary considerably from the assumptions used in estimating reserves. For these reasons, estimates of the economically recoverable quantities of coal attributable to a particular group of properties, and classifications of these reserves based on risk of recovery and estimates of future net cash flows may vary substantially. Actual production, revenue and expenditures with respect to reserves will likely vary from estimates, and these variances could be material. In particular, a variance in reserve estimates could have a material adverse impact on our annual expense for depreciation, depletion and amortization and on our annual calculation for potential impairment. For a further discussion of our coal reserves, see "Reserves."

Evaluation of Goodwill for Impairment

Goodwill represents the excess of purchase price and related costs over the value assigned to the net tangible and identifiable intangible assets of businesses acquired. Goodwill is not amortized but is tested for impairment annually, or if certain circumstances indicate a possible impairment may exist. Impairment testing is performed at a reporting unit level.

Our goodwill is contained in the Midwest Segment. We performed our annual goodwill impairment test during the fourth quarter of 2012 using a two-step approach. Step one compared the fair value of equity for this reporting unit to its carrying value. We considered the market and income approaches in addition to the market capitalization method, to estimate the fair value of equity for the reporting unit. The market capitalization approach is based on allocating the Company's market capitalization to the Company's reporting units based on financial and production matrices. The market approach was based on a guideline public companies and guideline transactions within the coal industry. Under the guideline public company approach, certain operating metrics from a selected group of publicly traded comparable companies were used to estimate the fair value of equity for the Midwest reporting unit. Under the transaction method, recent merger and acquisition transactions for comparable companies were used to estimate the fair value of equity of the Midwest reporting unit. The income approach was based on a discounted cash flow method in which expected future net cash flows were discounted to present value, using an appropriate after-tax weighted average cost of capital. Given the market's view concerning the long term uncertainties in the coal industry and the lack of comparable market transactions in the tested segment, it was concluded that the fair value of the equity for the reporting unit should be weighted more towards the market capitalization approach which resulted in the carrying value exceeding the fair value of the equity for the tested reporting unit.

In step two of the goodwill impairment test, we compared the carrying value of goodwill to its implied fair value. In estimating the implied fair value of goodwill at the reporting unit, we assigned the fair value of the reporting unit to all of the assets and liabilities associated with the reporting unit as if the reporting unit had been acquired in a business combination.

As a result of the goodwill impairment test, we wrote off \$26.5 million of goodwill in the Midwest segment to reduce the carrying value of the goodwill to its implied fair value. Subsequent to this write-off, we have no remaining goodwill.

Evaluation of Long-Lived Assets for Impairment

Long-lived assets, such as property, plant, and equipment are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset or asset group may not be recoverable. Events that trigger a test for recoverability include material adverse changes in projected revenues and expenses, significant underperformance relative to historical or projected future operating results, and significant negative industry or economic trends. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized for the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the fair value of the asset. We did not recognize any impairment charges on long-lived assets during the periods presented.

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Changes in assumptions or estimates could materially affect the determination of whether an impairment exists in our long-lived assets. The following assumptions are key to our future cash flows expected to be generated by the tested assets:

• We make assumptions about coal production, sales price for unpriced coal, cost to mine the coal and estimated residual value of property, plant and equipment. These assumptions are key inputs for developing our cash flow projections. These projections are derived using our internal operating budget and are developed on a mine by mine basis. These projections are updated annually and reviewed by the Board of Directors. Historically, variances between our projections and actual results have been with regard to assumptions for future coal production, sales prices of coal and costs to mine the coal. These factors are based on our best knowledge at the time we prepare our budgets but can vary significantly due to regulatory issues, unforeseen mining conditions, change in commodity prices, availability and costs of labor and changes in supply and demand. While we make our best estimates at the time we prepare our budgets it is reasonably likely that these estimates will change in future budgets, due to the changing nature of the coal environment;

Economic Projections — Assumptions regarding general economic conditions are included in and affect the assumptions used in our impairment tests. These assumptions include, but are not limited to, supply and demand for coal, inflation, interest rates, and prices of raw materials (commodities); and

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Item 15 of Part IV, "Financial Statements — Note 1 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Other Information — Recent Accounting Pronouncements.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

At December 31, 2012, all \$546.4 million of our outstanding debt has a fixed interest rate and is not sensitive to changes in the general level of interest rates. Our Revolver has floating interest rates based on our option of either the base rate or LIBOR rate. As of December 31, 2012, we had no borrowings outstanding under the Revolver. We currently do not use interest rate swaps to manage this risk. A 100 basis point (1.0%) increase in the average interest rate for our floating rate borrowings would increase our annual interest expense by approximately \$0.1 million for each \$10 million of borrowings under the Revolver.

We manage our commodity price risk through the use of long-term coal supply agreements, rather than through the use of derivative instruments. As of March 6, 2013, our commitments for 2013 and 2014 follow.

| | 2013 | | 2014 | |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------------|-------|
| (Tons in millions) | Tons | Price | Tons | Price |
| Central Appalachia | · | | | |
| Commited, priced | 5,012 | 81.39 | 300 | 75.75 |
| Commited, unpriced | 264 | N/A | | |
| Midwest | | | 1 | |
| Commited, priced | 2,544 | 45.04 | 900 | 47.64 |

All of our transactions are denominated in U.S. dollars, and, as a result, we do not have material exposure to currency exchange-rate risks.

We are not engaged in any foreign currency exchange rate or commodity price-hedging transactions and we have no trading market risk.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

See Financial Statements beginning on page F-1.

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosures None.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

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Pursuant to Rule 13a-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), the Company carried out an evaluation, with the participation of the Company's management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and Chief Accounting Officer ("CAO") (the Company's principal financial and accounting officer), of the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined under Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, the Company's CEO and CAO concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that the Company files or submits under the Exchange Act, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including the Company's CEO and CAO, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Our internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect transactions and dispositions of assets; (2) provide reasonable assurances that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and our board of directors; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on our financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012. In making this assessment, management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in Internal Control-Integrated Framework. Based on management's assessment and those criteria, management has concluded that the Company maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012.

The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012 has been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report set forth in the Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm in Part II, Item 9A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders James River Coal Company:

We have audited James River Coal Company and subsidiaries' (the Company's) internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed 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. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, James River Coal Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of James River Coal Company and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2012, and our report dated March 7, 2013 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Richmond, VA March 7, 2013

Item 9B. Other Information

None.

PART III

Item 10. Director, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

The information contained under the headings "Election of Directors", "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" "Board Matters" and "Management" in the definitive Proxy Statement used in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the Company's 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, to be filed with the Commission, is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information contained under the headings "Compensation Committee Report," "Executive Compensation," "Equity Compensation Plans," and "Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation" in the definitive Proxy Statement used in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the Company's 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, to be filed with the Commission, is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

The information contained under the headings "Principal Shareholders and Securities Ownership of Management," and "Equity Compensation Plans" in the definitive Proxy Statement used in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the Company's 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, to be filed with the Commission, is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions and Director Independence

The information contained under the heading "Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation" in the definitive Proxy Statement used in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the Company's 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, to be filed with the Commission, is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The information contained under the heading "Independent Registered Public Accountants" in the definitive Proxy Statement used in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the Company's 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, to be filed with the Commission, is hereby incorporated herein by reference.



Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

(a) The following documents are filed as part of this Report:

1. Financial Statements

The following financial statements and related report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm are incorporated in Item 8 of this report:

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2012 and 2011

Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

2. Financial Statement Schedules

None.

3. Exhibits

The following exhibits are required to be filed with this Report by Item 601 of Regulation S-K:

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|-------------------|---|
| 2.1 | Second Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization Under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code of the Registrant and its Subsidiaries, dated as of April 20, 2004, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 2 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed August 13, 2004 |
| 2.2 | Stock Purchase Agreement by and among James River Coal Company, Triad Mining, Inc. and the Stockholders of Triad Mining, Inc. dated as of March 30, 2005, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 2.2 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed April 19, 2005 |
| 2.3 | Purchase Agreement By and Between Lightfoot Capital Partners, LP, International Industries, Inc., International Resource Partners GP LLC, Kayne Anderson Energy Development Company and Tortoise Capital Resources Corporation and James River Coal Company and International Resource Partners GP LLC as Agent, dated March 6, 2011, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed March 7, 2011 |
| 3.1 | Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed August 6, 2010 |
| 3.2 | Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed January 27, 2012 |
| 4.1 | Specimen common stock certificate, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed August 13, 2004 |
| 4.2 | Rights Agreement between the Registrant and SunTrust Bank as Rights Agent, dated as of May 25, 2004, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed August 13, 2004 |

| Exhibit | |
|--|---|
| Number | Description |
| 4.3 | Amendment No. 1 to Rights Agreement between the Registrant and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., successor to SunTrust Bank, as Rights Agent, dated as of November 3, 2006, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed November 9, 2006 |
| 4.4 | Amendment No. 2 to Rights Agreement between the Registrant and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., successor to SunTrust Bank, as Rights Agent, dated as of August 2, 2007, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed August 9, 2007 |
| 4.5 | Amendment No. 3 to Rights Agreement between Registrant and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., successor to SunTrust Bank, as Rights Agent, dated as of November 3, 2009, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Amendment No. 1 to Form 8-A filed November 3, 2009 |
| 4.6 | Form of rights certificate, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed January 24, 2005 |
| 4.10 (1) | Indenture related to the 4.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2015, dated as of November 20, 2009, between the Registrant and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (including the form of 4.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2015), incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed November 25, 2009 |
| 4.11 | Indenture relating to the 3.125% Convertible Senior Notes, dated as of March 29, 2011, between the Registrant and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (including the form of 3.125% Convertible Senior Notes due 2018), incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 29, 2011 |
| 4.12 | Indenture relating to the 7.785% Senior Notes, dated as of March 29, 2011, between James River Escrow Inc. and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (including the form of 7.785% Senior Notes due 2019), incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed March 29, 2011 |
| 4.13 | Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of March 29, 2011, between James River Escrow Inc., and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and UBS Securities LLC, as Representatives of the Initial Purchasers, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed March 29, 2011 |
| 10.1 | Registration Rights Agreement by and among the Registrant and the Shareholders identified therein, dated May 6, 2004, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed August 13, 2004 |
| 10.4* | Employment Agreement between the Registrant and Peter T. Socha, dated as of May 7, 2004, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed August 13, 2004 |
| 10.4a* | Amendment to Employment Agreement between the Registrant and Peter T. Socha, dated as of December 31, 2008, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.4a to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed February 27, 2009 |
| 10.4b* | Amendment to Employment Agreement between the Registrant and Peter T. Socha, dated as of March 1, 2013 (filed herewith) |
| 10.5* | 2004 Equity Incentive Plan of the Registrant, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed August 13, 2004 |
| 10.5a* | Amendment to the James River Coal Company 2004 Equity Incentive Plan, incorporated herein by reference to Appendix B to the Registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement on Form DEF 14A filed April 30, 2009 |
| 10.6 | 2012 Equity Incentive Plan of the Registrant, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed August 9, 2012 |

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| Exhibit Number | Description |
|-------------------|--|
| 10.7 | Form of Indemnification Agreement between the Registrant and its officers and directors incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Registrant's Registration Statement or Form S-1 filed August 13, 2004 |
| 10.8 | Registration Rights Agreement between the Registrant and the Shareholders named therein, dated as of May 31, 2005, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Registrant's Annua Report on Form 10-K filed March 16, 2006 |
| 10.9* | Severance and Retention Plan, effective as of March 13, 2006, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.12 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed August 9, 2006 |
| 10.9a* | Amendment to Severance and Retention Plan dated as of December 31, 2008, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.15a to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed February 27, 2009 |
| 10.10 | Second Amended and Restated Revolving Credit Agreement by and among James River Coal Company, James' River Coal Service Company, Leeco, Inc., Triad Mining, Inc., Triad Underground Mining, LLC, Bledsoe Coal Corporation, Johns Creek Elkhorn Coal Corporation, Bell County Coal Corporation, James River Coal Sales, Inc., Bledsoe Coal Leasing Company, Blue Diamond Coal Company, McCoy Elkhorn Coal Corporation, Chafin Branch Coal Company, LLC, Hampden Coal Company, LLC, Laurel Mountain Resources, LLC, Logan & Kanawha Coal Coal Leasing Company, LLC, Laurel Mountain Resources, LLC, Logan & Kanawha Coal |
| | Co., LLC, Rockhouse Creek Development, LLC, and Snap Creek Mining, LLC, as Borrowers, the other Credit Parties thereto from time to time, as Guarantors, the Lenders party thereto from time to time, and General Electric Capital Corporation, as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent, GE Capital Markets, Inc., and UBS Securities LLC, as Joint Lead Arrangers and Joint Bookrunners, and UBS Securities LLC, as Documentation Agent, dated as of June 30, 2011, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed July 7, 2011 |
| 10.11* | James River Coal Company Amended and Restated Annual Incentive Compensation Plan (Revised Incentive Plan), incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed November 8, 2011 |
| 12.1 | Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges |
| 21 | Subsidiaries of the Registrant |
| 23.1 | Consent of Marshall Miller & Associates, Inc. (filed herewith) |
| 23.2 | Consent of KPMG LLP (filed herewith) |
| 24 | Power of Attorney (see signature page) |
| 31.1 | Certification of Peter T. Socha, President and Chief Executive Officer of James River Coal Company, pursuant to rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) of the Exchange Act, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (filed herewith) |
| 31.2 | Certification of Samuel M. Hopkins, II, Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer of James River Coal Company, pursuant to rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) of the Exchange Act, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (filed herewith) |
| 32.1 | Certification of Peter T. Socha, President and Chief Executive Officer of James River Coal Company, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (filed herewith) |
| 32.2 | Certification of Samuel M. Hopkins, II, Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer of James River Coal Company, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (filed herewith) |
| | Mine Safety Disclosures (filed herewith) |
| 95 | while Safety Disclosures (med herewith) |
| 95 101.INS | XBRL Instance Document |

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|-------------------|---|
| 101.CAL | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase |
| 101.DEF | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase |
| 101.LAB | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase |
| 101.PRE | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase |

* Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

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INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Audited Financial Statements

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders James River Coal Company:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of James River Coal Company and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2012. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of James River Coal Company and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2012, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), James River Coal Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), and our report dated March 7, 2013 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Richmond, VA March 7, 2013

Consolidated Balance Sheets (in thousands, except share data)

| | December 31, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 127,386 | 1 99, 711 |
| Trade receivables | 89,816 | 107,557 |
| Inventories: | | |
| Coal | ' 26,598 | 52,717 |
| Materials and supplies | 16,699 | 17,800 |
| Total inventories | 43,297 | 70,517 |
| Prepaid royalties | 8,623 | 8,465 |
| Other current assets | 9,127 | 11,461 |
| Total current assets | 278,249 | 397,711 |
| Property, plant, and equipment, net | 855,217 | 909,294 |
| Goodwill (note 3) | | 26,492 |
| Restricted cash and short term investments (note 1) | 36,558 | 29,510 |
| Other assets | 34,097 | 41,575 |
| Total assets | \$1,204,121 | 1,404,582 |
| | <u>\$1,201,121</u> | |
| Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity | | • |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 72,861 | 110,557 |
| Accrued salaries, wages, and employee benefits | 10,996 | 12,996 |
| Workers' compensation benefits | 9,900 | 9,200 |
| Black lung benefits | 2,508 | 2,512 |
| Accrued taxes | 8,382 | 7,563 |
| Other current liabilities | 22,124 | 27,861 |
| Total current liabilities | 126,771 | 170,689 |
| Long-term debt, less current maturities | 546,407 | 582,193 |
| Other liabilities: | • | |
| Noncurrent portion of workers' compensation benefits | 66,953 | 60,721 |
| Noncurrent portion of black lung benefits | 62,834 | 56,152 |
| Pension obligations | 35,325 | 29,121 |
| Asset retirement obligations | 99,177 | 94,654 |
| Other | 12,027 | 14,390 |
| Total other liabilities | 276,316 | 255,038 |
| Total liabilities | 949,494 | 1,007,920 |
| Commitments and contingencies (note 12) | | |
| Shareholders' equity: | | |
| Preferred stock, \$1.00 par value. Authorized 10,000,000 shares | | |
| Common stock, \$.01 par value. Authorized 100,000,000 shares; issued and | | |
| outstanding 35,866,549 and 35,671,953 shares as of December 31, 2012 | | |
| and December 31, 2011 | 359 | 357 |
| Paid-in-capital | 546,289 | 541,362 |
| Accumulated deficit | (236,588) | (97,682) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (55,433) | (47,375) |
| Total shareholders' equity | 254,627 | 396,662 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$1,204,121 | 1,404,582 |
| | | |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Consolidated Statements of Operations (in thousands, except per share data)

| a What is a start of the start | Yea | r Ended Decembe | г 31, |
|---|-------------------|------------------|----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Revenues | | | |
| Coal sales revenue | \$1,018,433 | 1,105,370 | 698,949 |
| Freight and handling revenue | 81,176 | 72,285 | 2,167 |
| Total revenue | 1,099,609 | 1,177,655 | 701,116 |
| Cost of sales: | | | |
| Cost of coal sold | 911,681 | 905,482 | 512,348 |
| Freight and handling costs | 81,176 | 72,285 | 2,167 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 131,779 | 108,914 | 64,368 |
| Total cost of sales | 1,124,636 | 1,086,681 | 578,883 |
| Gross profit (loss) | (25,027) | 90,974 | 122,233 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 59,922 | 57,078 | 38,347 |
| Goodwill impairment (note 3) | 26,492 | | <u> </u> |
| Acquisition costs (note 2) | <u> </u> | 8,504 | |
| Total operating income (loss) | (111,441) | 25,392 | 83,886 |
| Interest expense | 52,666 | 50,096 | 29,943 |
| Interest income | (799) | (494) | (683) |
| (Gain) loss on debt transactions (note 4) | (25,187) | 740 | |
| Miscellaneous (income) expense, net | 366 | (812) | 27 |
| Total other expense, net | 27,046 | 49,530 | 29,287 |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | (138,487) | (24,138) | 54,599 |
| Income tax expense (benefit) | 419 | 14,951 | (23,566) |
| Net income (loss) | \$ (138,906) | (39,089) | 78,165 |
| Earnings (loss) per common share (note 13) | | $e^{-i\omega t}$ | |
| Basic earnings (loss) per common share | <u>\$ (3.99</u>) | (1.19) | 2.82 |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per common share | \$ (3.99) | (1.19) | 2.82 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) (in thousands)

| 4 A 2 | Year | Ended Decembe | r 31, |
|--|-------------|---------------|----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Net income (loss) | \$(138,906) | (39,089) | 78,165 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) | ** | | |
| Amortization of pension actuarial amount | 3,342 | 791 | 783 |
| Amortization of black lung actuarial amount | 1,544 | 568 | 412 |
| Pension actuarial liability adjustment | (9,548) | (19,640) | (168) |
| Black lung actuarial liability adjustment | (3,396) | (10,087) | (10,320) |
| Tax impact of adjustments to accumulated other | | | |
| comprehensive income | | | 3,540 |
| Other comprehensive loss | (8,058) | (28,368) | (5,753) |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | \$(146,964) | (67,457) | 72,412 |

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See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders? Equity (in thousands)

| 2010 - A ri Constant 2010 - C | Common stock shares | Common stock par value | Paid-in- capital | Retained earnings (accumulated deficit) | Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | Total |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|-----------|
| Balances, December 31, 2009 | 27,545 | \$275 | 320,079 | (136,758) | (13,254) | 170,342 |
| Net income | _ | | , | 78,165 | e ja m eter | 78,165 |
| Other comprehensive loss | | _ | | | (5,753) | (5,753) |
| Issuance of restricted stock awards, | | | | | ingu in ang ting | |
| net of forfeitures | 284 | 3 | (3) | | an a | a 1. – |
| Repurchase of shares for tax | | | | | a de la composición de las | |
| withholding | (55) | | (844) | | | (844) |
| Exercise of stock options | 5 | — | 73 | | · · · · · · | . 73 |
| Stock based compensation | | | 5,400 | | | 5,400 |
| Balances, December 31, 2010 | 27,779 | 278 | 324,705 | (58,593) | (19,007) | 247,383 |
| Net loss | — | — | — | (39,089) | | (39,089) |
| Other comprehensive loss | — | — | — | · | (28,368) | (28,368) |
| Issuance of common stock, net of | | | | | | |
| offering costs of \$9,171 | 7,648 | 76 | 170,469 | | | 170,545 |
| Equity component of convertible debt offering, net of offering costs of \$2,117 and deferred taxes of \$24,427 | | | 42,174 | | | 42,174 |
| Issuance of restricted stock awards, | | | , | | | , |
| net of forfeitures | 307 | 3 | (3) | <u></u> | | _ |
| Repurchase of shares for tax | | | | | | |
| withholding | (62) | | (1,266) | | | (1,266) |
| Stock based compensation | | | 5,283 | | _ | 5,283 |
| Balances, December 31, 2011 | 35,672 | 357 | 541,362 | (97,682) | (47,375) | 396,662 |
| Net loss | | | _ | (138,906) | | (138,906) |
| Other comprehensive loss | | | | | (8,058) | (8,058) |
| Issuance of restricted stock awards, | | | | | | |
| net of forfeitures | 288 | 3 | (3) | _ | | |
| Repurchase of shares for tax | | | | | | |
| withholding | (93) | (1) | (289) | | | (290) |
| Stock based compensation | | | 5,219 | | | 5,219 |
| Balances, December 31, 2012 | 35,867 | \$359 | 546,289 | (236,588) | (55,433) | 254,627 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (in thousands)

| (in thousands) | | <u>.</u> | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| | Veer | Ended December | • 31 |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$(138,906) | (39,089) | 78,165 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | <u> </u> | |
| provided by operating activities | | | ÷ |
| Depreciation, depletion, and amortization | 131,779 | 108,914 | 64,368 |
| Accretion of asset retirement obligations | 5,279 | 4,477 | 3,334 |
| Amortization of debt discount and issue costs | 16,905 | 14,684 | 8,066 |
| Stock-based compensation | 5,219 | 5,283 | 5,400 |
| Deferred income tax expense (benefit) | 62 | 14,139 | (22,236) |
| Loss (gain) on sale or disposal of property, plant, | 200 - 17 1 7 | | |
| and equipment | 992 | (59) | 307 |
| Goodwill impairment | 26,492 | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |
| (Gain) loss on debt transactions | (25,187) | 740 | _ |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | (,, | | |
| Receivables | 17,741 | 69,043 | (16,681) |
| Inventories | 27,401 | (13,967) | (3,680) |
| Prepaid royalties and other current assets | 2,176 | (104) | (2,433) |
| Restricted cash and short term investments | (7,048) | (6,010) | 38,542 |
| Other assets | 3,767 | .566 | (2,060) |
| Accounts payable | (37,696) | (3,145) | 10,828 |
| Accrued salaries, wages, and employee benefits | (2,000) | 892 | 762 |
| Accrued taxes | 529 | (889) | (303) |
| Other current liabilities | (4,514) | 7,497 | 1,066 |
| Workers' compensation benefits | 6,932 | 4,977 | 5,609 |
| Black lung benefits | 4,826 | 3,420 | 3,018 |
| Pension obligations | (2) | (1,696) | (2,244) |
| Asset retirement obligations | (1,884) | (5,204) | (809) |
| Other liabilities | (415) | (697) | 43 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 32,448 | 163,772 | 169,062 |
| | | | |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | (01 556) | (100 455) | (05 40()) |
| Additions to property, plant, and equipment | (81,556) | (138,455) | (95,426) |
| Payment for acquisition, net of cash acquired | | (515,962) | |
| Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment | 631 | 103 | 82 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (80,925). | (654,314) | (95,344) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | a di serie d | . 1 . · | • |
| Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt | uni de la <u>Li</u> ster | 505,000 | · · · |
| Repayment of long-term debt | (23,848) | (150,000) | |
| Net proceeds from issuance of common stock | 91 9 <u></u> | 170,545 | · · · |
| Debt issuance costs | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | (15,668) | (1,346) |
| Proceeds from exercise of stock options | <u> </u> | · ` | 73 |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | (23,848) | 509,877 | (1,273) |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | (72,325) | 19,335 | 72,445 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 199,711 | 180,376 | 107,931 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ 127,386 | 199,711 | 180,376 |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | |
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See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Other Information

Description of Business and Principles of Consolidation

James River Coal Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries (collectively, the Company) mine, process and sell thermal and metallurgical coal through eight active mining complexes located throughout eastern Kentucky, southern West Virginia and southern Indiana. Substantially all coal sales and account receivables relate to the utility industry, steel industry and industrial markets.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of James River Coal Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Cash and Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash and Short Term Investments

Cash and cash equivalents are stated at cost. Cash equivalents consist of highly-liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased.

Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and short term investments are stated at cost. Cash equivalents consist of highly-liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased. Restricted cash and short term investments consist of cash, cash equivalents and investments in bonds and certificates of deposit. The Company intends to hold all investments held as restricted cash until maturity. The restricted cash and short term investments are maintained in collateral accounts which provide the Company additional capacity under the Revolver to support its outstanding letters of credit (note 4) and to support the issuance of surety bonds.

Trade Receivables

Trade receivables are recorded at the invoiced amount and do not bear interest. The Company evaluates the need for an allowance for doubtful accounts based on review of historical write off experience. The Company has determined that no allowance is necessary for trade receivables as of December 31, 2012 and 2011. The Company does not have any off-balance sheet credit exposure related to its customers.

Inventories

Inventories of coal and materials and supplies are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined using the average cost for coal inventories and the first-in, first-out method for materials and supplies. Coal inventory costs include labor, supplies, equipment cost, depletion, royalties, black lung tax, reclamation tax and preparation plant cost.

Asset Retirement Obligations

The Company's asset retirement obligation liabilities primarily consist of spending estimates related to reclaiming surface land and support facilities at both surface and underground mines in accordance with federal and state reclamation laws. Asset retirement obligations are initially recorded as a liability based on fair value, which is calculated as the present value of the estimated future cash flows, in the period in which it is incurred. The estimate of ultimate reclamation liability and the expected period in which reclamation work will be performed is reviewed periodically by the Company's management and engineers. In estimating future cash flows, the Company considers the estimated current cost of reclamation and applies inflation rates and a third party profit. The third party profit is an estimate of the approximate markup that would be charged by contractors for work performed on behalf of the Company. When the liability is initially recorded, the offset is capitalized by increasing the carrying amount of the related long-lived asset. Over time, the liability is accreted to its present value each period, and the capitalized cost is depreciated over the useful life of the related asset. Accretion expense is included in cost of produced coal. To the extent there is a difference between the liability recorded and the cost incurred, a gain or loss upon settlement is recognized. The following table sets forth the changes in the Company's asset retirement obligations at December 31, 2012 and 2011 (in thousands):

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Other Information - (continued)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|-----------|---------|
| Asset retirement obligations at beginning of year | \$101,516 | 48,389 |
| Liabilities assumed in acquisition | | 50,858 |
| Liabilities incurred | 2,995 | 2,937 |
| Liabilities disposed | (3,336) | (426) |
| Revisions in estimated cash flows | 486 | 127 |
| Accretion expense | 5,279 | 4,477 |
| Liabilities settled | (2,124) | (4,846) |
| Asset retirement obligations at end of year | 104,816 | 101,516 |
| Less amount included in other current liabilities | (5,639) | (6,862) |
| Total non-current liability | \$ 99,177 | 94,654 |

Property, Plant, and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 are as follows (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|------------|-----------|
| Property, plant, and equipment, at cost: | | |
| Land | \$ 10,112 | 9,930 |
| Mineral rights | 614,672 | 618,605 |
| Buildings, machinery and equipment | 652,565 | 635,055 |
| Mine development costs | 60,314 | 56,555 |
| Total property, plant, and equipment | 1,337,663 | 1,320,145 |
| Less accumulated depreciation, depletion, and amortization | 482,446 | 410,851 |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | \$ 855,217 | 909,294 |

Expenditures for maintenance and repairs are charged to expense, and the costs of mining equipment rebuilds and betterments that extend the useful life are capitalized. Depreciation is provided principally using the straight-line method based upon estimated useful lives, generally ten to twenty years for buildings and one to seven years for machinery and equipment. Mine development costs are capitalized and amortized by the units of production method over estimated total recoverable proven and probable reserves. Amortization of mineral rights is provided by the units of production method over estimated total recoverable proven and probable reserves.

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Impairment of Long-lived Assets

Long-lived assets, such as property, plant, and equipment are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset or asset group may not be recoverable. Events that trigger a test for recoverability include material adverse changes in projected revenues and expenses, significant underperformance relative to historical or projected future operating results, and significant negative industry or economic trends. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized for the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the fair value of the asset. The Company did not recognize any impairment charges on long-lived assets during the periods presented.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Other Information - (continued)

Prepaid Royalties

Lease rights to coal lands are often acquired in exchange for royalty payments. Prepaid royalties represent prepayments made to lessors under terms of mineral lease agreements that are recoupable against future production. Prepaid amounts expected to be recouped within one year are classified as a current asset. As mining occurs on these leases, the prepayment is offset against earned royalties and is included in the cost of coal sold. The Company regularly reviews recoverability of prepaid royalties and establishes or adjusts the allowance for prepaid royalties as necessary using the specific identification method. In instances where prepaid royalty payments are not expected to be offset against future production royalties, the Company establishes a provision for losses on the advance payments. Prepaid royalty balances are charged off against the provision when the lease rights are either terminated or expire.

The following table sets forth the changes in the Company's allowance for prepaid royalties (in thousands):

| Allowance for prepaid royalties at December 31, 2009 | \$ (7,725) |
|--|------------|
| Provision for non-recoupable prepaid royalties | (41) |
| Write-offs of prepaid royalties | 262 |
| Allowance for prepaid royalties at December 31, 2010 | (7,504) |
| Provision on acquired leases | (888) |
| Provision for non-recoupable prepaid royalties | (4,510) |
| Write-offs of prepaid royalties | 729 |
| Allowance for prepaid royalties at December 31, 2011 | (12,173) |
| Provision for non-recoupable prepaid royalties | (3,656) |
| Write-offs of prepaid royalties | 1,364 |
| Allowance for prepaid royalties at December 31, 2012 | \$(14,465) |

Deferred Financing Costs

Deferred financing costs are the costs to obtain new debt financing or amend existing financing agreements and are deferred and amortized to interest expense over the life of the related indebtedness or credit facility using either the effective interest method or the straight-line method if it approximates the effective interest method. Unamortized deferred financing costs are included in other assets in the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Revenue Recognition

Revenues include sales to customers of Company-produced coal and coal purchased from third parties. The Company recognizes revenue from the sale of Company-produced coal and coal purchased from third parties at the time delivery occurs and risk of loss passes to the customer, which is either upon shipment or upon customer receipt of coal based on contractual terms. Also, the sales price must be determinable and collection reasonably assured.

Freight and handling revenue consists of shipping and handling costs invoiced to coal customers and paid to third-party carriers. These revenues are directly offset by freight and handling costs.

Income Taxes

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax basis and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Other Information - (continued)

The Company evaluates its deferred tax assets to determine the necessity of a valuation allowance. A valuation allowance is required if it is more likely than not that some portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. In evaluating the need for a valuation allowance, the Company takes into account various factors, including the expected level of future taxable income. The Company also considers tax planning strategies in determining the deferred tax asset that will ultimately be realized.

Our effective income tax rate is impacted by the amount of the valuation allowance recorded and percentage depletion. Percentage depletion is an income tax deduction that is limited to a percentage of taxable income from each of our mining properties. Because percentage depletion can be deducted in excess of the cost bases of the properties, it creates a permanent difference and directly impacts the effective tax rate. Fluctuations in the effective tax rate may occur between fiscal periods due to the varying levels of profitability (and thus, taxable income and percentage depletion) at each of our mine locations.

The Company records interest and penalties, if any, associated with income taxes as a component of income tax expense.

Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

The accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) at December 31, 2012, includes a \$37.3 million actuarial loss on the Company's pension plan, a \$21.7 million actuarial loss on its black lung obligation and a \$3.6 million tax benefit associated with the items included in accumulated comprehensive income (loss). The accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) at December 31, 2011, includes a \$31.1 million actuarial loss on the Company's pension plan, a \$19.8 million actuarial loss on its black lung obligation and a \$3.5 million tax benefit associated with the items included in accumulated comprehensive income (loss).

Workers' Compensation

The Company is liable under various state statutes for providing workers' compensation benefits. Except as indicated, the Company is self insured for workers' compensation for its Kentucky operations, with specific excess insurance purchased from independent insurance carriers to cover individual traumatic claims in excess of the self-insured limits, For the period June 2002 to June 2005, workers compensation coverage was insured through a third party insurance company using a large risk rating plan. The Company's operations in Indiana are insured through a third party insurance company using a large risk rating plan. The Company's West Virginia operations are fully insured with a guaranteed cost policy through a third party insurance company for both workers' compensation and employers' liability coverage.

The Company accrues for workers' compensation benefits by recognizing a liability when it is probable that the liability has been incurred and the cost can be reasonably estimated. The Company provides information to independent actuaries, who after review and consultation with the Company with regards to actuarial assumptions, including the discount rate, prepare an estimate of the liabilities for workers' compensation benefits.

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Black Lung Benefits

The Company is responsible under the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969, as amended, and various states' statutes for the payment of medical and disability benefits to employees and their dependents resulting from occurrences of coal worker's pneumoconiosis disease (black lung). The Company provides coverage for federal and state black lung claims through its self-insurance programs for its operations in Kentucky. For the period between June 2002 and June 2005, all black lung liabilities were insured through a third party insurance company using a large risk rating plan. The Company's operations in Indiana are insured through a third party insurance with a guaranteed cost policy through a third party insurance company.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Other Information - (continued)

The Company uses the service cost method to account for its self-insured black lung obligation. The liability measured under the service cost method represents the discounted future estimated cost for former employees either receiving or projected to receive benefits, and the portion of the projected liability relative to prior service for active employees projected to receive benefits. The periodic expense for black lung claims under the service cost method represents the service cost, which is the portion of the present value of benefits allocated to the current year, interest on the accumulated benefit obligation, and amortization of unrecognized actuarial gains and losses. Actuarial gains and losses are included as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) and are amortized over the average remaining work life of the workforce.

Annual actuarial studies are prepared by independent actuaries using certain assumptions to determine the liability. The calculation is based on assumptions regarding disability incidence, medical costs, mortality, death benefits, dependents, and interest rates. These assumptions are derived from actual Company experience and industry sources. and a stand of the second stand of the second 福兰市 法公司部分 1 2412 M - D

Health Claims

The Company is self-insured for certain health care coverage. The cost of this self-insurance program is accrued based upon estimates of the costs for known and anticipated claims. The Company recorded an estimated amount to cover known claims and claims incurred but not reported of \$2.4 million and \$2.3 million as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, which is included in accrued salaries, wages, and employee ന് പ്രതിനം പ്രസ്ഥാനം നിയ്യാന് പ്രസംഗത്തിന് പ്രതിഷ്ഠിന് പ്രസിക്തിനും പ്രതിപ്പിന്നു. പ്രക്തിയ പ്രതിഷ്ഠിന് പ്രതിക്കുന്നും പ്രതിഷ്ഠിന്റെ പ്രതിഷേണ്ട് പ്രതിപ്പെടുന്നു. കോണം പ benefits.

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Other Current Liabilities

Other current liabilities at December 31, 2012 and 2011 are as follows (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 | 9 - 1 , , |
|--|----------|--------|------------------|
| Accred interest and the second s | \$ 7,944 | 8,396 | • • |
| Accrued royalties | 5,989 | 10,655 | ÷ . |
| Current portion of asset retirement obligation | 5,639 | 6,862 | • |
| Other | 2,552 | 1,948 | |
| Other State of the state of the | \$22,124 | 27,861 | |
| and the second | | | |

Equity-Based Compensation Plan

The Company's stock compensation expense is based on estimated grant-date fair values. Compensation expense is adjusted for estimated forfeitures and is recognized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the award. The Company's estimated future forfeiture rates are based on its historical experience. na ann an Anna an Anna an Anna ann an Anna ann an Anna ann an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna an Anna an A Anna an Anna an

Use of Estimates

Management of the Company has made a number of estimates and assumptions relating to the reporting of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities in order to prepare these consolidated financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (U.S. GAAP). Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the allocation of the purchase price in the IRP Acquisition (note 2) to acquired assets and liabilities, asset impairments, allowance for non-recoupable prepaid royalties, the valuation allowance for deferred tax assets, asset retirement obligations and amounts accrued related to the Company's workers' compensation, black lung, pension and health elaim obligations. Actual results could differ from these estimates. Although the second sec

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Other Information - (continued)

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In 2012, the Company adopted new accounting guidance that eliminates the option to report other comprehensive income and its components in the consolidated statement of changes in shareholders' equity and comprehensive income. The Company now presents the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income and the components of other comprehensive income in two separate but consecutive statements. The adoption of this new financial presentation guidance concerns presentation only and has been retrospectively applied to all prior periods presented.

(2) International Resource Partners Acquisition

On April 18, 2011, the Company completed the acquisition of a 100 percent interest in International Resource Partners LP and its subsidiary companies (collectively IRP) for \$516.0 million in an all-cash transaction (the IRP Acquisition). The base purchase price of \$475.0 million was increased by the cash acquired and any working capital (as defined in the agreement) that exceeded \$18.5 million. IRP did not have any debt at the time of the closing of the IRP Acquisition. The purchase price allocation was finalized in 2011. The IRP Acquisition was treated as a purchase of assets for tax purposes.

Prior to the acquisition, IRP was a privately held fully integrated coal company focused on producing and marketing high quality metallurgical and steam coal in Central Appalachia. IRP produced and sold various grades of metallurgical and steam coal from underground and surface mining operations in southern West Virginia and eastern Kentucky. IRP's customer base consisted of domestic steel and coke producers, international steel producers and domestic electric utilities. At the acquisition date, IRP operated nine mines, including five underground mines and four surface mines.

As of the date of the IRP Acquisition, IRP controlled approximately 136 million tons of coal reserves and resources, consisting of approximately 61 million tons of metallurgical coal and an estimated 75 million tons of steam coal. The coal reserves and resources acquired from IRP include 85.5 million of proven and probable reserves. IRP leases a substantial portion of its coal reserves and resources from various third-party landowners.

The purchase price was allocated to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on estimated fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed. The purchase price allocation (net of cash acquired) was as follows (in thousands):

| Trade and other accounts receivable | \$116,630 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Inventories | 17,373 |
| Other current assets | 2,830 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 487,359 |
| Other noncurrent assets | 14,352 |
| Total assets | 638,544 |
| | |
| Accounts payable, principally trade | 56,402 |
| Other current liabilities | 0,019 |
| Asset retirement obligations | 50,858 |
| Other noncurrent liabilities | 6,703 |
| Total liabilities | 122,582 |
| Net assets acquired, excluding cash | <u>\$515,962</u> |
| | |

The following unaudited pro forma information has been prepared for illustrative purposes only. The pro forma information assumes the IRP Acquisition and the financing transactions that were completed to affect the IRP Acquisition occurred on January 1, 2010. The financing transactions include the issuance of the 2019 Senior

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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(2) International Resource Partners Acquisition – (continued)

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Notes, the issuance of the 2018 Convertible Notes and the amendments to the Revolving Credit Agreement (all as described in note 4), as well as the redemption of \$150 million of 2012 Senior Notes and the issuance of 7.6 million shares of common stock. The unaudited pro forma results have been prepared based on estimates and assumptions that we believe are reasonable; however, they are not necessarily indicative of the consolidated results of operations had the IRP Acquisition and the related financing transactions occurred at the beginning of each of the periods presented or of future results of operations.

| | Year Ended | December 31, |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | 2011 | 2010 |
| | (in tho | usands) |
| otal revenues | | |
| As reported | \$1,177,655 | 701,116 |
| Pro forma | 1.401.835 | 1,191,452 |
| let income (loss) | | -, |
| As reported | (39,089) | 78,165 |
| Pro forma | (9,216) | -96.222 |

For the year ended December 31, 2011, costs of \$8.5 million were incurred related to the IRP Acquisition. The acquisition costs include \$3.8 million of commitment fees associated with \$375.0 million of committed bridge financing.

(3) Goodwill and Goodwill Impairment

Goodwill represents the excess of purchase price and related costs over the value assigned to the net tangible and identifiable intangible assets of businesses acquired. Goodwill is not amortized but is tested for impairment annually, or if certain circumstances indicate a possible impairment may exist. Impairment testing is performed at a reporting unit level.

The Company's goodwill is contained in the Midwest Segment. The Company performed its annual goodwill impairment test during the fourth quarter of 2012 using a two-step approach. Step one compared the fair value of equity for this reporting unit to its carrying value. The Company considered the market and income approaches in addition to the market capitalization method, to estimate the fair value of equity for the reporting unit. The market capitalization approach is based on allocating the Company's market capitalization to the Company's reporting units based on financial and production matrices. The market approach was based on a guideline public companies and guideline transactions within the coal industry. Under the guideline public company approach, certain operating metrics from a selected group of publicly traded comparable companies were used to estimate the fair value of equity for the Midwest reporting unit. Under the transaction method, recent merger and acquisition transactions for comparable companies were used to estimate the fair value of equity of the Midwest reporting unit. The income approach was based on a discounted cash flow method in which expected future net cash flows were discounted to present value, using an appropriate after-tax weighted average cost of capital. Given the market's view concerning the long term uncertainties in the coal industry and the lack of comparable market transactions in the tested segment, it was concluded that the fair value of the equity for the reporting unit should be weighted more towards the market capitalization approach which resulted in the carrying value exceeding the fair value of the equity for the tested reporting unit.

In step two of the goodwill impairment test, the Company compared the carrying value of goodwill to its implied fair value. In estimating the implied fair value of goodwill at the reporting unit, the Company assigned the fair value of the reporting unit to all of the assets and liabilities associated with the reporting unit as if the reporting unit had been acquired in a business combination.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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(3) Goodwill and Goodwill Impairment – (continued)

As a result of the goodwill impairment test, the Company wrote off \$26.5 million of goodwill in the Midwest segment to reduce the carrying value of the goodwill to its implied fair value. Subsequent to this 1997 - 19 write-off the Company had no remaining goodwill.

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(4) Long Term Debt and Interest Expense

Long-term debt is as follows at December 31, 2012 and 2011 (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|-----------|----------------------|
| 2019 Senior Notes | \$270,000 | \$275,000 |
| 2015 Convertible Senior Notes, net of discount | 120,629 | 140,372 |
| 2018 Convertible Senior Notes, net of discount | 155,778 | 166,821 |
| Revolver | \$546,407 | \$582,193 |
| Scheduled maturities of long-term debt are as follows (in thousands): | | |
| Year ended December 31: | | |
| 2013 to 2014 | ••••• | \$ ·· |
| 2015 | | 141,170 |
| 2016 to 2017 | | |
| Thereafter | •••• | 474,970 |
| | | \$616,140 |
| andra and an | | |

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In 2011, the Company issued \$275.0 million of senior notes due on April 1, 2019 (the 2019 Senior Notes). During 2012, the Company repurchased \$5.0 million principal amount of the 2019 Senior Notes at a cost of \$2.6 million, plus accrued interest of \$0.1 million, in open market purchases. The repurchase of the 2019 Senior Notes, resulted in a gain of \$2.3 million, which includes the write-off of \$0.1 million of unamortized ÷ * . financing costs.

The 2019 Senior Notes are unsecured and accrue interest at 7.875% per annum. Interest payments on the 2019 Senior Notes are required semi-annually. The Company may redeem the 2019 Senior Notes, in whole or in part, at any time on or after April 1, 2015 at redemption prices ranging from 103'938% beginning April 1, 2015 to 100% beginning on April 1, 2017. In addition, at any time prior to April 1, 2014, the Company may redeem up to 35% of the principal amount of the 2019 Senior Notes with the net cash proceeds of a public equity offering at a redemption price of 107.875%, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date.

The 2019 Senior Notes limit the Company's ability, among other things, to pay cash dividends. In addition, if a change of control occurs (as defined in the Indenture), each holder of the 2019 Senior Notes will have the right to require the Company to repurchase all or a part of the 2019 Senior Notes at a price equal to 101% of their principal amount, plus any accrued interest to the date of repurchase.

The Company incurred approximately \$6.7 million of costs in connection with the issuance of the 2019 Senior Notes. The costs, net of amortization and write-offs due to repurchases, are included in other assets on the accompanying balance sheets. an an Dùr

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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(4) Long Term Debt and Interest Expense – (continued)

2015 Convertible Senior Notes

In 2009, the Company issued \$172.5 million of 4.5% convertible senior notes due on December 1, 2015 (the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes). During 2012, the Company repurchased \$31.3 million principal amount of the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes at a cost of \$13.3 million, plus accrued interest of \$0.4 million, in open market purchases. The repurchase of the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes resulted in a gain of \$12.6 million, which includes the write-off of \$0.5 million of unamortized financing costs.

The 2015 Convertible Senior Notes are shown net of a \$20.5 million and a \$32.1 million discount as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The discount on the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes relates to the proceeds that were allocated to the equity component of the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes at issuance, resulting in an effective interest rate of 10.2%. The 2015 Convertible Senior Notes are unsecured and are convertible under certain circumstances and during certain periods at an initial conversion rate of 38.7913 shares of the Company's common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes, representing an initial conversion price of approximately \$25.78 per share of the Company's stock. Interest on the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes is paid semi-annually.

None of the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes are currently eligible for conversion. The 2015 Convertible Senior Notes are convertible at the option of the holders (with the length of time the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes are convertible being dependent upon the conversion trigger) upon the occurrence of any of the following events: A 4 . 48

- At any time from September 1, 2015 until December 1, 2015;
- If the closing sale price of the Company's common stock for each of 20 or more trading days in a period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the last trading day of the immediately preceding calendar quarter exceeds 130% of the conversion price of the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes in effect on the last trading day of the immediately preceding calendar quarter; • . 1. .
- If the trading price of the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes for each trading day during any five consecutive business day period, as determined following a request of a holder of Notes, was equal to or less than 97% of the "Conversion Value" of the 2015 Convertible Senior Notes on such trading day; or
- If the Company elects to make certain distributions to the holders of its common stock or engage in certain corporate transactions.

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2018 Convertible Senior Notes

and the second of the share of the second The second sec In 2011, the Company issued \$230.0 million of 3.125% convertible senior notes due on March 15, 2018 (the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes). During 2012, the Company repurchased \$25.0 million principal amount of the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes at a cost of \$8.0 million, plus accrued interest of \$0.3 million, in open market purchases. The repurchase of the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes resulted in a gain of \$10.3 million, which includes the write-off of \$0.5 million of unamortized financing costs. na serie de la companya de

The 2018 Convertible Senior Notes are shown net of a \$49.2 million and a \$63.2 million discount as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The discount on the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes relates to the proceeds that were allocated to the equity component of the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes at issuance, resulting in an effective interest rate of 8.9%. The 2018 Convertible Senior Notes are unsecured and are convertible under certain circumstances and during certain periods at an initial conversion rate of 32.7332 shares of the Company's common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of 2018 Convertible Senior Notes, representing an initial conversion price of approximately \$30.55 per share of the Company's stock. Interest payments on the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes are required semi-annually.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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(4) Long Term Debt and Interest Expense – (continued)

None of the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes are currently eligible for conversion. The 2018 Convertible Senior Notes are convertible at the option of the holders (with the length of time the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes are convertible being dependent upon the conversion trigger) upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

- At any time from December 15, 2017 until March 15, 2018;
 - If the closing sale price of the Company's common stock for each of 20 or more trading days in a period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the last trading day of the immediately preceding calendar quarter exceeds 130% of the conversion price of the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes in effect on the last trading day of the immediately preceding calendar quarter;

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- If the trading price of the 2018 Convertible Senior Notes for each trading day during any five consecutive business day period, as determined following a request of a holder of 2018 Convertible Senior Notes, was equal to or less than 97% of the "Conversion Value" of the Notes on such trading day; or
- If the Company elects to make certain distributions to the holders of its common stock or engage in certain corporate transactions.

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Revolving Credit Agreement

The following is a summary of the significant terms of the Company's Revolving Credit Agreement (the Revolver).

| Maturity | June 30, 2015 |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Interest Rate | Company's option of Base Rate (a) plus 2.25% or LIBOR plus 3.25% per annum. |
| Maximum Availability | Lesser of \$100.0 million or the borrowing base (b) |
| Periodic Principal Payments | None |

- (a) Base rate is the higher of (1) the Federal Fund Rate plus 0.5%, (2) the prime rate and (3) a three month LIBOR rate plus a percentage as defined in the agreement.
- (b) The Revolver's borrowing base is based on the sum of 90% of the Company's eligible accounts receivable plus 65% of the eligible inventory (not to exceed \$40.0 million) less reserves from time to time set by the administrative agent. The eligible accounts receivable and inventories are further adjusted as specified in the Revolver and the eligible inventory currently excludes certain inventories of our subsidiaries in West Virginia. The Company's borrowing base can also be increased by 95% of any cash collateral that the Company maintains in a cash collateral account.

The Revolver provides that the Company can use the Revolver availability to issue letters of credit. The Revolver provides for a 3.5% fee on any outstanding letters of credit issued under the Revolver and a 0.5% fee on the unused portion of the Revolver. Subject to certain exceptions as provided for in the Revolver, the Company is required to make certain mandatory prepayments on outstanding loans and to cash collateralize outstanding letters of credit from certain asset sales, casualty events, incurrence of indebtedness and equity issuances and extraordinary receipts. The Revolver includes financial covenants that require the Company to maintain a minimum Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio of 1.10 to 1.00 and limit capital expenditures, each as defined by the agreement. The minimum Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio is only applicable if the sum of the Company's unrestricted cash plus the availability under the Revolver falls below \$35.0 million and would remain in effect until the sum of the Company's unrestricted cash plus the availability under the Revolver falls below \$35.0 million and would remain in effect and to 1.00. The limit on capital expenditures is only applicable if the Company's unrestricted cash plus the availability under the Revolver falls below \$35.0 million and would remain the availability under the Revolver falls below \$35.0 million and would remain in effect until the sum of the Company's unrestricted cash plus the availability under the Revolver falls below \$35.0 million and would remain in effect until the sum of the Company's unrestricted cash plus the availability under the Revolver falls below \$35.0 million and would remain in effect until the sum of the Company's unrestricted cash plus the availability under the Revolver exceeds \$35.0 million for 90 consecutive days. Our actual Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio for year ended December 31, 2012 was -0.74 to 1.00. The limit on capital expenditures is only applicable if the Company's unrestricted cash plus the availability under the Revolver falls below

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(4) Long Term Debt and Interest Expense – (continued)

in effect until the Company's unrestricted cash plus the availability under the Revolver exceeds \$50.0 million for 90 consecutive days. These financial covenants were not applicable for the year ended December 31, 2012, as our unrestricted cash plus the availability under the Revolver exceeded the measurement thresholds.

As of December 31, 2012, the Company had used \$60.8 million of the \$69.3 million then available under the Revolver to secure outstanding letters of credit. As of December 31, 2012, the Company had \$28.1 million of cash in a restricted cash collateral account to ensure that the Company has adequate capacity under the Revolver to support its outstanding letters of credit.

Prior Debt Agreements

In the second quarter of 2011, the Company redeemed all \$150.0 million of its senior notes that were due on June 1, 2012 (the 2012 Senior Notes) at a redemption price of 100% of their face value. The 2012 Senior Notes accrued interest at 9.375% per annum. In connection with the redemption of the 2012 Senior Notes, the Company expensed \$0.7 million of unamortized financing costs and these costs are included in charges associated with repayment of debt on the accompanying statement of operations.

Interest Expense and Other

During the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, the Company paid \$36.2 million, \$29.1 million, and \$22.1 million in interest, respectively.

The Company was in compliance with all of the financial covenants under its outstanding debt instruments as of December 31, 2012.

Principal and interest payments on the 2019 Senior Notes, which have been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, are guaranteed by each of James River Coal Company's subsidiaries. James River Coal Company has no independent assets or operations (as defined in Rule 3-10(h)(5) of Regulation S-X) aside from those of its subsidiaries. The guarantees are full and unconditional and joint and several obligations (as such terms are defined in Rule 3-10(h)(5) of Regulation S-X) issued by all of James River Coal Company's subsidiaries. Accordingly, pursuant to Rule 3-10(f) of Regulation S-X, separate financial information with respect to the subsidiaries of James River Coal Company have not been provided.

The 2015 and 2018 Convertible Senior Notes (collectively, the Convertible Senior Notes) rank equally with all of the Company's existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness, including the Company's 2019 Senior Notes. The Convertible Senior Notes are not guaranteed by any of James River Coal Company's subsidiaries. The Convertible Senior Notes are effectively subordinated to all of the Company's existing and future secured indebtedness (to the extent of the assets securing such indebtedness) and structurally subordinated to all existing and future liabilities of James River Coal Company's subsidiaries, including their trade payables.

The Revolver is secured by substantially all of the Company's assets.

The Company projects that currently available cash, cash generated from operations and borrowings under our Revolver will be sufficient to meet its working capital requirements, anticipated capital expenditures and scheduled debt payments throughout 2013. Nevertheless, the Company's ability to satisfy working capital requirements and debt service obligations (including refinancing debt that matures in 2015), or fund planned capital expenditures, will substantially depend upon its future operating performance, debt covenants, and financial, business and other factors, some of which are beyond its control.

In the event that the sources of cash described above are not sufficient to meet future cash requirements, the Company will need to reduce certain planned expenditures, seek additional financing, or both. The Company may seek to raise funds through additional debt financing or the issuance of additional equity securities. If such actions are not sufficient, the Company may need to limit its growth, sell assets or reduce or curtail some of its operations to levels consistent with the constraints imposed by the available cash flow, or any combination of

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(4) Long Term Debt and Interest Expense – (continued)

these options. The Company's ability to seek additional debt or equity financing may be limited by existing and any future financing arrangements, economic and financial conditions, or all three. In particular, the existing 2019 Senior Notes, 2015 Convertible Senior Notes, 2018 Convertible Senior Notes and Revolver restrict the Company's ability to incur additional indebtedness. The Company cannot provide assurance that any reductions in planned expenditures or in expansion would be sufficient to cover shortfalls in available cash or that additional debt or equity financing would be available on terms acceptable, if at all.

(5) Workers' Compensation Benefits

As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, the workers' compensation benefit obligation consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|----------|--------|
| Noncurrent portion of workers' compensation benefits | \$66,953 | 60,721 |
| Current portion of workers' compensation | 9,900 | 9,200 |
| Total workers' compensation benefits | \$76,853 | 69,921 |

Actuarial assumptions used in the determination of the liability for the self-insured portion of workers' compensation benefits included a discount rate of 2.8% and 3.8% at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

(6) Pneumoconiosis (Black Lung) Benefits

As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, the black lung benefit obligation consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|----------|--------|
| Noncurrent portion of black lung benefits | \$62,834 | 56,152 |
| Current portion of black lung benefits | | 2,512 |
| Total black lung benefits | \$65,342 | 58,664 |

A reconciliation of the changes in the black lung benefit obligation is as follows (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|----------|---------|
| Beginning of the year black lung obligation | \$58,664 | 45,725 |
| Black lung actuarial liability adjustment | 3,396 | 10,087 |
| Service cost | 2,556 | 1,824 |
| Interest cost | 2,449 | 2,389 |
| Benefit payments | (1,723) | (1,361) |
| End of year accumulated black lung obligation | \$65,342 | 58,664 |

The actuarial assumptions used in the determination of accumulated black lung obligations as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 included a discount rate of 3.9% and 4.3%, respectively. A 1.0% decrease in the discount rate used at December 31, 2012, would increase the black lung obligation by approximately \$11.2 million. For purposes of determining net periodic expense related to such obligations, the Company used a discount rate of 4.3%, 5.4%, and 5.8% for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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(6) Pneumoconiosis (Black Lung) Benefits – (continued)

The components of net periodic benefit cost are as follows (in thousands):

| | | 7 1 | ł (, | 11 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | 12 - 12 - 14 - 14 - 14 - 14 - 14 - 14 - | r | | 12 | . · · · | |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------------|--|---|---------|---------|------|---------|-----|
| Ċ | 1 I K | States - | ·· . | | 1991 (Berlin) | 2012 | 2011 | | 2010 | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | | | | 1,757 | - |
| ÷ | Interest cost | | | | | 2,449 | : 2,389 | ·. • | 2,235 | |
| | Amortization | of actuaria | al losses . | | | 1,544 | 568 | : * | 412 | |
| | Net period | lic benefit c | ost | | | \$6,549 | 4,781 | | 4,404 | |
| | | | | | | ··· | | | | |

As of December 31, 2012, the Company has a \$21.7 million gross actuarial loss recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) on its black lung obligation. The Company expects that it will amortize \$2.1 million of this actuarial loss during the year ended December 31, 2013.

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(7) Equity

Preferred Stock and Shareholder Rights Agreement

The Company has authorized 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$1.00 par value per share, the rights and preferences of which are established by the Board of the Directors. The Company has reserved 500,000 of these shares as Series A Participating Cumulative Preferred Stock for issuance under a shareholder rights agreement (the Rights Agreement).

In 2004, the Company's shareholders approved the Rights Agreement and declared a dividend of one preferred share purchase right (Right) for each two shares of common stock outstanding. Each Right entitles the registered holder to purchase from the Company one one-hundredth (1/100) of a share of our Series A Participating Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$1.00 per share, at a price of \$200 per one one-hundredth of a Series A preferred share. The Rights are not exercisable until a person or group of affiliated or associated persons (an Acquiring Person) has acquired or announced the intention to acquire 20% or more of the Company's outstanding common stock.

In the event that the Company is acquired in a merger or other business combination transaction or 50% or more of the Company's consolidated assets or earning power is sold after a person or group has become an Acquiring Person, each holder of a Right, other than the Rights beneficially owned by the Acquiring Person (which will thereafter be void), will receive, upon the exercise of the Right, that number of shares of common stock of the acquiring company which at the time of such transaction will have a market value of two times the exercise price of the Right. In the event that any person becomes an Acquiring Person, each Right holder, other than the Acquiring Person (whose Rights will become void), will have the right to receive upon exercise that number of shares of common stock having a market value of two times the exercise price of the Right.

The rights will expire May 25, 2014, unless that expiration date is extended. The Board of Directors may redeem the Rights at a price of \$0.001 per Right at any time prior to the time that a person or group becomes an Acquiring Person.

Equity Issuance

In 2011, the Company received proceeds of approximately \$170.5 million, net of offering costs, through the issuance of approximately 7.6 million shares of common stock.

Equity Based Compensation

Under the 2004 and 2012 Equity Incentive Plans (the Plans), participants may be granted stock options (qualified and nonqualified), stock appreciation rights (SARs), restricted stock, restricted stock units, and performance shares. The total number of shares that may be awarded under the Plans is 3,400,000, and no more than 2,000,000 of the shares reserved under the Plan may be granted in the form of incentive stock options. The Company currently has the following types of equity awards outstanding under the Plans.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(7) Equity – (continued)

Restricted Stock Awards

Pursuant to the Plans certain directors and employees have been awarded restricted common stock with such shares vesting over two to five years. The related expense is amortized over the vesting period.

Stock Option Awards

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Pursuant to the Plans certain directors and employees have been awarded options to purchase common stock with such options vesting ratably over three to five years. The Company's stock options have been issued at exercise prices equal to or greater than the fair value of the Company's stock at the date of grant.

Shares awarded or subject to purchase under the Plans that are not delivered or purchased, or revert to the Company as a result of forfeiture or termination, expiration or cancellation of an award will be again available for issuance under the Plans. Shares that are used to exercise an award or for tax withholding will be again available for issuance if issued under the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan but not under the 2012 Equity Incentive Plan. At December 31, 2012, there were 1,114,645 shares available under the Plans for future awards.

The following table highlights the expense related to share-based payment for the periods ended December 31 (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|--------------|
| Restricted stock | \$4,965 | 4,991 | 5,095 |
| Stock options | | 292 | 305 |
| Stock based compensation | | 5,283 | <u>5,400</u> |

The fair value of the restricted stock issued and outstanding is equal to the value of shares at the grant date. At this time, the Company does not expect any of its restricted shares or options to be forfeited before vesting. The fair value of stock options was estimated using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. The Company used the following assumptions to value the stock options issued during the periods indicated below:

| | | | | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|------------|-------|------|------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Dividend y | vield | | | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| | | | | 95.0% | 90.0% | 90.0% |
| 1 | - | | | 2.0% | 3.4% | 3.9% |
| | | | | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 |

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(1) The Company used historical experience to estimate its volatility.

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(2) The risk-free interest rate for periods is based on U.S. Treasury yields in effect at the time of grant.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(7) Equity – (continued)

The following is a summary of restricted stock and stock option awards:

| | Restricted Stock | | Stock (| Options |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| | Number of Shares Outstanding | Weighted Average Fair Value at Issue | Number of Shares Outstanding | Weighted Average Exercise Price |
| January 1, 2010 | 717,652 | \$21.86 | 276,000 | \$16.34 |
| Granted | 287,622 | 17.01 | 20,000 | 17.01 |
| Exercised/Vested | (158,788) | 26.69 | (5,000) | 14.60 |
| Canceled | (3,600) | 19.36 | _ | |
| December 31, 2010 | 842,886 | 19.30 | 291,000 | 16.42 |
| Granted | 306,636 | 20.92 | 20,000 | 22.31 |
| Exercised/Vested | (183,896) | 24.44 | | |
| Canceled | | | | · · · · · |
| December 31, 2011 | 965,626 | 18.84 | 311,000 | 16.80 |
| Granted | 316,185 | 5.36 | 20,000 | 5.36 |
| Exercised/Vested | (273,552) | 17.47 | | <u></u> |
| Canceled | (28,413) | 18.98 | | |
| December 31, 2012 | 979,846 | \$14.89 | 331,000 | \$16.11 |

The following table summarizes additional information about the stock options outstanding at December 31, 2012.

| | Range of Exercise Price | Shares | Weighted Average Exercise Price | Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (Years) | Aggregate Intrinsic Value (1) (in 000's) |
|---|----------------------------|---------|--|---|---|
| Outstanding at December 31, 2012 | \$5.36-\$36.30 | 331,000 | \$16.11 | 3.4 | \$— |
| Exercisable at December 31, 2012 | \$5.36-\$36.30 | 291,004 | \$16.54 | 2.8 | · \$ |
| Vested and expected to vest at December 31, 2012 | | 331,000 | \$16.11 | 3.4 | \$ |

(1) The difference between a stock award's exercise price and the underlying stock's market price at December 31, 2012. No value is assigned to stock awards whose option price exceeds the stock's market price at December 31, 2012.

The following table summarizes the Company's total unrecognized compensation cost related to stock based compensation as of December 31, 2012.

| | Unearned Compensation (in 000's) | Weighted Average Remaining Period Of Expense Recognition (in years) |
|------------------|--|---|
| Stock Options | \$ 258 | 1.6 |
| Restricted Stock | 7,191 | 1.8 |
| Total | \$7,449 | |

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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(8) Income Taxes

Income tax expense (benefit) consists of the following (in thousands):

| | · · · | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|-------|-------------|--------|------------------------|
| Current: | | | | |
| Federal | | \$ — | | (1,354) |
| State | | 357 | 812 | 24 |
| | | 357 | 812 | (1,330) |
| Deferred: | | • | | ar Fa |
| Federal | | (22) | 11,716 | (20,720) |
| State | | 84 | 2,423 | (1,516) |
| • | | 62 | 14,139 | (22,236) |
| and the second | | \$419 | 14,951 | (23,566) |
| | | <u> </u> | | à chianna ' |

A reconciliation of income taxes computed at the statutory federal income tax rate to the effective tax rate for income taxes included in the consolidated statements of operations is presented below:

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|---------|------------|---------|
| Federal income taxes at statutory rates | (35.0)% | (35.0)% | 35.0% |
| Percentage depletion | (1.8) | (15.4) | (20.4) |
| Change in valuation allowance | 32.9 | 111.1 | (60.9) |
| State income taxes, net of federal | (1.5) | (3.1) | (1.8) |
| Impairment of goodwill | 6.7 | , <u> </u> | |
| Effect of state and federal tax rate change, net | | | 1.7 |
| Other, net | (1) | 4.3 | 3.2 |
| | 0.3% | 61.9% | (43.2)% |

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities at December 31, 2012 and 2011 are presented below (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|------------|---------|
| Deferred tax assets: | | |
| Accruals for financial reporting purposes, principally workers' | | |
| compensation and black lung obligations | \$ 92,609 | 87,032 |
| Net operating loss carryforwards | 117,626 | 98,443 |
| Accumulated comprehensive income, principally pension | 21,860 | 18,815 |
| Other | 104 | 104 |
| Total gross deferred tax assets | 232,199 | 204,394 |
| Less valuation allowance | 85,873 | 37,270 |
| Gross deferred tax assets net of valuation | 146,326 | 167,124 |
| Deferred tax liabilities: | | |
| Discount on Convertible Senior Notes | 25,846 | 35,410 |
| Tangible fixed assets and mineral rights due to differences in | | • |
| depreciation, depletion and amortization | 98,059 | 119,227 |
| Other | 30,203 | 20,206 |
| Total gross deferred tax liability | 154,108 | 174,843 |
| Net deferred tax asset (liability) | \$ (7,782) | (7,719) |

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(8) Income Taxes – (continued)

In 2012 and 2011, the net deferred tax liability is included in other liabilities. The Company recorded a valuation allowance on its gross deferred tax assets of \$85.9 million and \$37.3 million as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. In recording the valuation allowance the Company considered all positive and negative evidence, including recent losses, and concluded that it was not more likely than not to realize a portion of its gross deferred tax assets.

At December 31, 2012, the Company has consolidated NOLs for federal income tax purposes of approximately \$319 million that expire beginning in 2023, consolidated Kentucky net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$124 million which expire beginning in 2023 and consolidated West Virginia net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$27 million that expire beginning in 2031. These net operating loss carryforwards generate a combined federal and state deferred tax asset of approximately \$118 million.

The Company has analyzed filing positions in all of the federal and state jurisdictions where it is required to file income tax returns, as well as all open tax years in these jurisdictions. The Company has identified its federal tax return and its state tax returns in Virginia, Kentucky, West Virginia and Indiana as "major" tax jurisdictions. The only periods subject to examination for the Company's federal return are the 2009 through 2012 tax years. The periods subject to examination for the Company's state returns in Virginia are years 2009 through 2012; Kentucky are years 2008 through 2012; West Virginia are years 2009 through 2012; and Indiana are years 2009 through 2012. The Company believes that its income tax filing positions and deductions will be sustained on audit and does not anticipate any adjustments that will result in a material change to its consolidated financial position. Therefore, no reserves for uncertain income tax positions have been recorded.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company received net income tax refunds of \$1.4 million. During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company paid income taxes of \$0.7 million. During the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company paid no income taxes. The income tax benefit (expense) includes no interest and penalties for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

(9) Employee Benefit Plans

Defined Benefit Pension Plan

In 2007, the Company froze pension plan benefit accruals for all employees covered under its qualified non-contributory defined benefit pension plan. The Company's funding policy is to contribute annually an amount at least equal to the minimum funding requirements actuarially determined in accordance with the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

The plan assets for the qualified defined benefit pension plan are held by an independent trustee. The plan's assets include investments in cash and cash equivalents and mutual funds holding corporate and government bonds and preferred and common stocks. The Company has an internal investment committee that sets investment policy, selects and monitors investment managers and monitors asset allocation.

The investment policy for the pension plan assets includes the objectives of providing growth of capital and income while achieving a target annual rate of return of 7.5% over a full market cycle. Diversification of assets is employed to reduce risk. The current target asset allocation is 70% for equity securities (including 45% Large Cap, 15% Small Cap, 10% International) and 30% for cash and interest bearing securities. The investment policy is based on the assumption that the overall portfolio volatility will be similar to that of the target allocation. Given the volatility of the capital markets, strategic adjustments in various asset classes may be required to rebalance asset allocation back to its target policy. Investment fund managers are not permitted to invest in certain securities and transactions as outlined by the investment policy statements specific to each investment category without prior investment committee approval.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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(9) Employee Benefit Plans – (continued)

To develop the expected long-term rate of return on assets assumption, the Company performs a periodic analysis which considers the historical returns and the future expectations for returns for each asset class, as well as the target asset allocation of the pension portfolio. This evaluation resulted in the selection of the 7.5% long-term rate of return on assets assumption for the year ended December 31, 2012.

The Company utilizes a fair value hierarchy, which maximizes the use of observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The plan assets are valued using unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical, unrestricted assets or liabilities. The fair value of the major categories of qualified defined benefit pension plan assets includes the following (in thousands):

| (1, 2, 2, 3) = 0 (1.1) $(1, 2, 3) = 0$ (2.1) $(2, 3) = 0$ (3.1) | 2012 | | 2011 | |
|---|----------|------------|--------|------------|
| | Amount | Percentage | Amount | Percentage |
| Mutual funds — equity | \$39,408 | 62.5% | 34,771 | 61.8% |
| Mutual funds — international equity | 5,038 | 8.0% | 4,569 | 8.1% |
| Mutual funds — fixed income/taxable | 18,347 | 29.1% | 16,712 | 29.7% |
| Money market funds and cash | 273 | 0.4% | 238 | 0.4% |
| | \$63,066 | 100.0% | 56,290 | 100.0% |

The following table sets forth changes in the plan's benefit obligations, changes in the fair value of plan assets, and funded status at December 31, 2012 and 2011 (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|--------------------|---|
| Change in benefit obligation: | | - |
| Projected benefit obligation at beginning of year | \$ 85,411 | 69,444 |
| Interest cost | 3,541 | 3,642 |
| Actuarial loss | 12,241 | 14,892 |
| Benefits paid | (2,801) | (2,567) |
| Projected benefit obligation at end of year | \$ 98,392 | 85,411 |
| Change in plan assets: | | |
| Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year | \$ 56,290 | 57,476 |
| Actual return on plan assets | 6,887 | (470) |
| Employer contributions | 2,691 | 1,851 |
| Benefits paid | (2,801) | (2,567) |
| Fair value of plan assets at end of year | \$ 63,067 | 56,290 |
| Reconciliation of funded status: | and the second | 1. A. |
| Funded status | \$(35,325) | (29,121) |
| Net amount recognized | \$(35,325) | (29,121) |
| Amounts recognized in the consolidated balance sheets consist of: | | |
| Accrued benefit liability | <u>\$(35,325</u>) | (29,121) |
| | · | |

The accumulated benefit obligation of the plan was \$98.4 million and \$85.4 million as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Company contributions in 2013 are expected to be approximately \$3.8 million.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(9) Employee Benefit Plans – (continued)

The components of net periodic benefit cost and benefits paid by period are as follows (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------------|---------|
| Interest cost | | 3,642 | 3,760 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (4,194) | (4,279) | (3,689) |
| Recognized net actuarial loss | 3,342 | 79 1 | 783 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | | 154 | 854 |
| Benefits paid | \$ 2,801 | 2,567 | 2,580 |

As of December 31, 2012 and 2011 the Company had a \$37.3 million and a \$31.1 million gross actuarial loss recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss on its defined benefit plan. The Company expects to recognize \$4.1 million of the gross actuarial loss in the year ended December 31, 2013.

The weighted-average assumptions used to determine the pension benefit obligations are as follows:

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|
| Discount rate | 3.8% | 4.2% |
| Expected return on plan assets | | 7.5% |

The weighted-average assumptions used to determine the net periodic benefit cost are as follows:

| · · · · | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Discount rate | 4.2% | 5.4% | 5.9% |
| Expected return on plan assets | 7.5% | 7.5% | 7.5% |

The following benefit payments are expected to be paid (based on the assumptions described above (in thousands)).

Year ended December 31:

| 2013 | \$ 3,760 |
|-----------|----------|
| 2014 | |
| 2015 | 4,026 |
| 2016 | 4,235 |
| 2017 | 4,495 |
| 2018–2022 | 25,149 |

Savings and Profit Sharing Plan

The Company sponsors defined contribution pension plans and profit sharing plans. All U.S. employees are eligible for at least one of the Company's plans. The Company's contributions vary depending on the plan and cannot exceed the maximum allowable for tax purposes. The Company recognized approximately \$5.9 million, \$5.2 million and \$2.8 million of expense relating to these plans for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

(10) Major Customers

During 2012, approximately 38% of total revenues were from three customers in the CAPP segment, the largest of which represented 13% of revenues. During 2011, approximately 31% of total revenues were from two customers in the CAPP segment, the largest of which represented 20% of total revenues. During 2010, approximately 71% of total revenues were from two customers in the CAPP segment, the largest of which

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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(10) Major Customers – (continued)

represented 39% of total revenues, and an additional 11% of our total revenues were from one customer in the Midwest segment. No other customers were over 10% of total revenues for 2012, 2011 and 2010. The segment revenues are included in note 15.

The Company ships coal to customers in the United States and in international markets, including Canada and various European and Asian countries. Total revenues from shipments to international markets were approximately 37% and 31% of total revenues in 2012 and 2011, respectively. During 2010, there were no revenues from shipments to international markets.

(11) Leases

The Company leases equipment and various other properties under non-cancelable long-term leases, expiring at various dates. Certain leases contain options that would allow the Company to extend the lease or purchase the leased asset at the end of the base lease term. Future minimum lease payments under noncancelable operating leases (with initial or remaining lease terms in excess of one year) as of December 31, 2012 were as follows (in thousands):

States & Barris

| | , . _ | Operating leases |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Year ended December 31: | n truck men i se | 3,753 |
| 2013 | | 3,055 |
| 2015 Thereafter | | |
| | | |

The Company incurred rent expense on equipment and office space of approximately \$7.3 million, \$12.1 million and \$11.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

(12) Commitments and Contingencies

Future minimum royalty commitments under coal lease agreements at December 31, 2012 were as follows (in thousands):

| en e | 1 x - 4 | et al Alexandre de la companya de la compa | • | | Royalty |
|--|--------------------|--|---|--|-------------|
| 12 | × * | | | $= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=1}^{n} $ | commitments |
| Year ended I | December (| 31: | | · •• | |
| 2013 | · · ,• · • • • | | | | \$ 25,641 |
| | | | | | 23,314 |
| | | | | | 21,952 |
| | | | | • • • • • • • • • • • • • • | 20,809 |
| | • • | | | | 20,397 |
| 2018 to 20 | 022 | | | | 97,523 |
| | | 1 | | 1 | \$209,636 |
| | | | | n an | |

(a) Certain coal leases do not have set expiration dates but extend until completion of mining of all merchantable and mineable coal reserves. For purposes of this table, we have generally assumed that minimum royalties on such leases will be paid for a period of ten years.

(b) Certain coal leases require payment based on minimum tonnage, for these contracts an average sales price of \$73.50 per ton was used to project the future commitment.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(12) Commitments and Contingencies – (continued)

The Company has established irrevocable letters of credit totaling \$60.8 million as of December 31, 2012, to guarantee performance under certain contractual arrangements. The letters of credit have been issued under the Revolver (note 4).

The Company is involved in various claims and legal actions arising in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate disposition of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or liquidity.

(13) Earnings (Loss) Per Share

Basic earnings (loss) per share is computed by dividing net income (loss) available to common shareholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings (loss) per share is calculated based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period and, when dilutive, potential common shares from the exercise of stock options and restricted common stock subject to continuing vesting requirements, pursuant to the treasury stock method.

The following table provides a reconciliation of the number of shares used to calculate basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share (in thousands):

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|------------------------|------------------|--|
| Basic earnings per common share: | | | 2.164 |
| Net income (loss) | \$(138,906) | (39,089) | 78,165 |
| Income allocated to participating securities | | | (2,336) |
| Net income (loss) available to common shareholders | \$(138,906) | (39,089) | 75,829 |
| Weighted average number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding: | | | |
| Basic number of common shares outstanding | 34,814 | 32,832 | 26,883 |
| Dilutive effect of unvested restricted | | | |
| stock (participating securities) | ، ت اقد الم | S - 34 5 | 830 |
| Dilutive effect of stock options | <u></u> | <u> </u> | 54 |
| Diluted number of common shares and common equivalent | | | |
| shares outstanding | 34,814 | 32,832 | 27,767 |
| Basic earnings (loss) per common share | <u>\$ (3.99</u>) | (1.19) | 2.82 |
| Diluted net income per common share: | | 10 a. 1 | an a |
| Net income (loss) | \$(138,906) | (39,089) | 78,165 |
| Income allocated to participating securities | · · · | | |
| Net income (loss) available to potential common | | | |
| shareholders | <u>\$(138,906)</u> | <u>(39,089</u>) | 78,165 |
| Diluted net earnings (loss) per share | \$ (3.99) | (1.19) | 2,82 |

For periods in which there was a loss, the Company excludes from its diluted loss per share calculation options to purchase shares and the unvested portion of time vested restricted shares, as inclusion of these securities would have reduced the net loss per share. The excluded instruments would have increased the diluted weighted average number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding by approximately 1.1 million and 1.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. In addition, in periods of net losses, the Company has not allocated any portion of such losses to participating securities holders for its basic loss per share calculation as such participating securities holders are not contractually obligated to fund such losses.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(13) Earnings (Loss) Per Share – (continued)

The Company's 2015 and 2018 Convertible Senior Notes are convertible at the option of the holders upon the occurrence of certain events (note 4). As of December 31, 2012, none of the convertible senior notes had reached the specified thresholds for conversion.

(14) Fair Value of Financial Instruments

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The estimated fair value of financial instruments has been determined by the Company using available market information. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, except for long-term debt obligations, the carrying amounts of all financial instruments approximate their fair values due to their short maturities.

The carrying values and fair values of our long-term debt are as follows (in thousands)

| | 2012 | | 2011 | |
|--|----------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|
| · · · | Carrying Value | Fair Value | Carrying Value | Fair Value |
| 2019 Senior Notes | \$270,000 | \$160,650 | \$275,000 | \$207,625 |
| 2015 Convertible Senior Notes (excludes discount). | 141,170 | 60,703 | 172,500 | 137,569 |
| 2018 Convertible Senior Notes (excludes discount) | 204,970 | 67,640 | 230,000 | 135,976 |

The fair value of our senior notes and convertible senior notes are based on available market data at the date presented. The carrying value of the convertible senior notes reflected in long-term debt in the table above reflects the full face amount and has been adjusted in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets for discounts related to the convertible features (note 4).

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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(15) Segment Information

The Company has two segments based on the coal basins in which the Company operates. These basins are located in Central Appalachia (CAPP) and in the Midwest (Midwest). The Company's CAPP operations, which include the assets acquired in the IRP Acquisition, are located in eastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia. The Company's Midwest operations are located in southern Indiana. The Company manages its coal sales by coal basin, not by individual mine complex. Mine operations are evaluated based on their per-ton operating costs. Operating segment results are shown below (in thousands).

| na sense a sense a sense de la construcción de la construcción de la construcción de la construcción de la cons La construcción de la construcción d | Years Ended December 31, | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|--|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | |
| Revenues | | | | |
| CAPP | \$ 994,338 | 1,069,766 | 585,064 | |
| Midwest | 105,271 | 107,889 | 116,052 | |
| Corporate , | | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | |
| Total | \$1,099,609 | 1,177,655 | 701,116 | |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | | | | |
| CAPP | \$ 116,598 | 96,455 | 53,467 | |
| Midwest | 15,113 | 12,407 | 10,840 | |
| Corporate | 68 | 52 | 61 | |
| Total | \$ 131,779 | 108,914 | 64,368 | |
| Total operating income (loss) | | | | |
| САРР | \$ (60,039) | 58,574 | 96,237 | |
| Midwest (2) | (31,243) | (3,882) | 7,537 | |
| Corporate | (20,159) | (29,300) | (19,888) | |
| Total | \$ (111,441) | 25,392 | 83,886 | |
| Interest Income (1) | | | | |
| Corporate | <u>\$ (799</u>) | (494) | (683) | |
| Total | <u>\$ (799)</u> | (494) | (683) | |
| Interest Expense (1) | | | | |
| Corporate | \$ 52,666 | 50,096 | 29,943 | |
| Total | \$ 52,666 | 50,096 | 29,943 | |
| Income tax (benefit) expense (1) | | | | |
| Corporate | <u>\$ 419</u> | 14,951 | (23,566) | |
| Total | <u>\$ 419</u> | 14,951 | (23,566) | |
| Net earnings (loss) (1) | | | | |
| САРР | \$ (60,039) | 58,574 | \$ 96,237 | |
| Midwest (2) | (31,243) | (3,882) | 7,537 | |
| Corporate | (47,624) | (93,781) | (25,609) | |
| Total | \$ (138,906) | (39,089) | \$ 78,165 | |

(1) The Company does not allocate interest income, interest expense or income taxes to its segments.

(2) Includes a goodwill impairment charge of \$26.5 million.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(15) Segment Information - (continued)

| | | Decemi | ver 31, | |
|--|----------|-----------------------------|-----------|--|
| | | 2012 | 2011 | |
| Total Assets | | | | |
| САРР | | \$1,102,496 | 1,232,029 | |
| Midwest | | 96,866 | 122,290 | |
| Corporate | | 4,759 | 50,263 | |
| Total | | \$1,204,121 | 1,404,582 | |
| Goodwill | | | | |
| | ~ | \$ | • a | |
| CAPP Midwest | •••••• | Ψ | 26,492 | |
| Corporate | •••• | | | |
| Total | | <u>\$</u> | 26,492 | |
| $(1,2,\ldots,n_{n-1}$ | | · | | |
| $(x_1,x_2,\dots,x_n) = (x_1,x_2,\dots,x_n,x_n,\dots,x_n,x_n,\dots,x_n$ | | Years Ended December 31, | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | |
| Capital Expenditures | | | | |
| CAPP | \$70,545 | 110,592 | 75,795 | |
| Midwest | 10,645 | 27,863 | 19,631 | |
| | 366 | · | — | |
| Corporate | | | | |

(16) Quarterly Information (Unaudited)

Set forth below is the Company's quarterly financial information for the previous two fiscal years (in thousands, except per share amounts):

| | Three Months Ended | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | March 31, 2012 | June 30, 2012 | September 30, 2012 | December 31, 2012 |
| Total revenue | \$301,985 | 277,358 | 288,102 | 232,164 |
| Gross profit | 12,754 | 2,800 | (15,250) | (25,331) |
| Income (loss) from operations | (2,812) | (12,466) | (29,922) | (66,241) |
| Income (loss) before taxes | (15,640) | (25,732) | (20,527) | (76,588) |
| Net income (loss) | (15,659) | (25,763) | (20,552) | (76,932) |
| Basic Earnings (loss) per share | \$ (0.45) | (0.74) | (0.59) | (2.21) |
| Diluted Earning (loss) per share | (0.45) | (0.74) | (0.59) | (2.21) |

| | Three Months Ended | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | March 31, 2011 | June 30, 2011 | September 30, 2011 | December 31, 2011 |
| Total revenue | \$164,582 | 352,037 | 303,858 | 357,178 |
| Gross profit | 15,001 | 35,864 | 15,101 | 25,008 |
| Income (loss) from operations | 986 | 17,194 | (1,243) | 8,455 |
| Income (loss) before taxes | (6,689) | 1,156 | (14,014) | (4,591) |
| Net income (loss) | (7,604) | 789 | (3,732) | (28,542) |
| Basic Earnings (loss) per share | \$ (0.28) | 0.02 | (0.11) | (0.82) |
| Diluted Earning (loss) per share | (0.28) | 0.02 | (0.11) | (0.82) |

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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, on the 7th day of March, 2013.

JAMES RIVER COAL COMPANY

By: /s/ Peter T. Socha

Peter T. Socha Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer)

Know all men by these presents, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Peter T. Socha and Samuel M. Hopkins, II, or either of them, as attorneys-in-fact, with power of substitution, for him in any and all capacities, to sign any amendments to this annual report on Form 10-K, and to file the same, with exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact may do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this Report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant in the capacities indicated on the 7th day of March, 2013.

<u>Signature</u>

/s/ Peter T. Socha Peter T. Socha

/s/ Samuel M. Hopkins, II Samuel M. Hopkins, II

/s/ Alan F. Crown

Alan F. Crown

/s/ Ronald J. FlorJancic Ronald J. FlorJancic

/s/ Leonard J. Kujawa Leonard J. Kujawa

/s/ Joseph H. Vipperman

Joseph H. Vipperman

<u>Title</u>

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Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer)

Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer (principal financial officer and principal accounting officer)

Director

Director

Director

Director