Western Gas Partners Announces First-Quarter 2012 Results

HOUSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--May. 2, 2012-- Western Gas Partners, LP (NYSE: WES) today announced first-quarter 2012 financial and operating results. Net income available to limited partners for the first quarter of 2012 totaled \$43.8 million, or \$0.48 per common unit (diluted). The Partnership's first-quarter Adjusted EBITDA $^{(1)}$ was \$84.8 million and Distributable cash flow $^{(1)}$ was \$73.1 million, resulting in a Coverage ratio $^{(1)}$ of 1.59 times for the period.

Total throughput attributable to the Partnership for the first quarter of 2012 averaged 2,414 MMcf/d, 5 percent above the prior quarter and 10 percent above the first quarter of 2011. These results include the net throughput attributable to the Mountain Gas Resources assets acquired from Anadarko Petroleum Corporation for all periods of comparison and throughput attributable to the Platte Valleysystem beginning March 2011. Capital expenditures attributable to the Partnership, excluding acquisitions, totaled approximately \$52.2 million during the first quarter of 2012. Of this amount, maintenance capital expenditures were approximately \$5.8 million, or 7 percent of Adjusted EBITDA.

"Our first quarter was yet another quarter of strong, stable results," said Western Gas Partners' President and Chief Executive Officer, Don Sinclair. "While we believe that the current natural gas price environment creates challenges for our entire industry, the strength of our business model enables us to maintain the full-year guidance that we provided in February."

The Partnership previously declared a quarterly distribution of \$0.46 per unit for the first quarter of 2012, payable on May 14, 2012, to unitholders of record at the close of business on April 30, 2012, representing a 5-percent increase over the prior quarter and an 18-percent increase over the first-quarter 2011 distribution of \$0.39 per unit. The first-quarter 2012 Coverage ratio of 1.59 times is based on the quarterly distribution of \$0.46 per unit.

CONFERENCE CALL TOMORROW AT 11 A.M. CDT

Management will host a conference call on Thursday, May 3, 2012, at 11 a.m. Central Daylight Time(12 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time) to discuss first-quarter 2012. To participate via telephone, please dial 877.621.4819 and enter participant code 71023847. Please call in 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. To access the live audio webcast of the conference call and slide presentation, please visithttp://www.westerngas.com. A replay of the call will also be available on the Web site for approximately two weeks following the conference call.

Western Gas Partners, LP is a growth-oriented Delaware master limited partnership formed byAnadarko Petroleum Corporation to own, operate, acquire and develop midstream energy assets. With midstream assets in East, West and South Texas, the Rocky Mountains and the Mid-Continent, the Partnership is engaged in the business of gathering, processing, compressing, treating and transporting natural gas, condensate, natural gas liquids and crude oil for Anadarko and other producers and customers. For more information about Western Gas Partners, please visithttp://www.westerngas.com.

This news release contains forward-looking statements. Western Gas Partners believes that its expectations are based on reasonable assumptions. No assurance, however, can be given that such expectations will prove to have been correct. A number of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from the projections, anticipated results or other expectations expressed in this news release. These factors include the ability to meet financial guidance or distribution growth expectations; the ability to safely and efficiently operate our assets; the ability to obtain new sources of natural gas supplies; the effect of fluctuations in commodity prices and the demand for natural gas and related products; the ability to meet projected in-service dates for capital growth projects; and construction costs or capital expenditures exceeding estimated or budgeted costs or expenditures, as well as other factors described in the "Risk Factors" section of the Partnership's most recent Form 10-K filed with theSecurities and Exchange Commission and other public filings and press releases by Western Gas Partners. Western Gas Partners undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements.

Reconciliation of GAAP to Non-GAAP Measures

Below are reconciliations of Distributable cash flow (non-GAAP) and Adjusted EBITDA (non-GAAP) to net income (GAAP) as required under Regulation G of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Management believes that the presentation of Distributable cash flow, Adjusted EBITDA and Coverage ratio are widely accepted financial indicators of a company's financial performance compared to other publicly traded partnerships and are useful

in assessing our ability to incur and service debt, fund capital expenditures and make distributions. Distributable cash flow, Adjusted EBITDA and Coverage ratio, as defined by the Partnership, may not be comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies. Therefore, the Partnership's consolidated Distributable cash flow, Adjusted EBITDA and Coverage ratio should be considered in conjunction with net income and other performance measures, such as operating income or cash flows from operating activities.

Distributable Cash Flow

The Partnership defines Distributable cash flow as Adjusted EBITDA, plus interest income, less net cash paid for interest expense (including amortization of deferred debt issuance costs originally paid in cash, offset by non-cash capitalized interest), maintenance capital expenditures and income taxes.

	Quarter Ended	
	March 31,	
thousands except Coverage ratio	2012	2011 ⁽¹⁾
Reconciliation of Net income attributable to Western	Gas Partners,	LP to
Distributable cash flow		
and calculation of the Coverage ratio		
Net income attributable to	¢ 40 163	¢ 42 007
Western Gas Partners, LP Add:	\$48,163	\$43,897
Distributions from equity investees	4,441	3,909
Non-cash equity-based compensation expense	4,066	1,928
Interest expense, net (non-cash settled)	81	-
Income tax expense	537	4,832
Depreciation, amortization and impairments (2)	25,931	22,938
Less:		,
Equity income, net	3,613	2,283
Cash paid for maintenance capital expenditures (2)	5,764	5,564
Capitalized interest	657	-
Cash paid for income taxes	72	-
Other income ^{(2) (3)}	62	1,754
Interest income, net (non-cash settled)	_	445
Distributable cash flow	\$73,051	\$67,458
Distribution declared for the		
quarter ended March 31, 2012 ⁽⁴⁾		
Limited partners	\$41,756	
General partner	4,297	
Total	\$46,053	
Coverage ratio	1.59	x

- (1) Financial information has been recast to include results attributable to the Bison and MGR assets.
- Includes the Partnership's 51% share of depreciation, amortization and impairments; other expense; cash paid for maintenance capital expenditures; and other income
- attributable to Chipeta Processing LLC ("Chipeta").

 Excludes income of \$0.4 million for each of the three months ended March 31, 2012
- (3) and 2011, related to a component of a gas processing agreement accounted for as a capital lease.
- (4) Reflects distribution of \$0.46 per unit payable on May 14, 2012.

Adjusted EBITDA attributable to Western Gas Partners, LP ("Adjusted EBITDA")

The Partnership defines Adjusted EBITDA as Net income attributable to Western Gas Partners, LP, plus distributions from equity investees, non-cash equity-based compensation expense, general and administrative expense in excess of the omnibus cap (if any), interest expense, income tax expense, depreciation, amortization and impairments, and other expense, less income from equity investments, interest income, income tax benefit, other income and other nonrecurring adjustments that are not settled in cash.

	Quarter Ended March 31,	
thousands	2012	2011 ⁽¹⁾
Reconciliation of Net income attributable to Western Ga Adjusted EBITDA	s Partners, I	LP to
Net income attributable to Western Gas Partners, LP Add:	\$48,163	\$ 43,897
Distributions from equity investees	4,441	3,909
Non-cash equity-based compensation expense	4,066	1,928
Interest expense	9,581	6,111
Income tax expense	537	4,832
Depreciation, amortization and impairments (2) Less:	25,931	22,938
Equity income, net	3,613	2,283
Interest income, net - affiliates	4,225	4,670
Other income ^{(2) (3)}	62	1,754
Adjusted EBITDA	\$84,819	\$ 74,908

- (1) Financial information has been recast to include results attributable to the Bison and MGR assets.
- (2) Includes the Partnership's 51% share of depreciation, amortization and impairments; other expense; and other income attributable to Chipeta.

 Excludes income of \$0.4 million for each of the three months ended March 31, 2012
- (3) and 2011, related to a component of a gas processing agreement accounted for as a capital lease.

Western Gas Partners, LP CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)

	Quarter Ended March 31,	
thousands except per-unit amounts	2012	2011 ⁽¹⁾
Revenues		
Gathering, processing and transportation of		
natural gas and natural gas liquids	\$79,155	\$70,357
Natural gas, natural gas liquids and		
condensate sales	128,486	105,889
Equity income and other, net	4,601	4,596
Total revenues	212,242	180,842
Operating expenses		
Cost of product	83,156	67,183
Operation and maintenance	29,898	
General and administrative	9,924	7,862
Property and other taxes	4,837	-
Depreciation, amortization and impairments	26,586	
Total operating expenses	154,401	
Operating income	57,841	
Interest income, net - affiliates	4,225	
Interest expense		(6,111)
Other income (expense), net	458	2,152
Income before income taxes	52,943	
Income tax expense	537	4,832
Net income	52,406	- ,
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	4,243	2,954
Net income attributable to Western Gas Partners, LP Limited partners' interest in net income:	\$48,163	\$43,897
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Net income attributable to		
Western Gas Partners, LP	\$48,163	\$43,897
Pre-acquisition net (income) loss allocated to Parent	-	(8,913)
General partner interest in net (income) loss	(4,339)	(1,448)
Limited partners' interest in net income	\$43,824	\$33,536
Net income per unit - basic and diluted		
Common units	\$0.48	\$0.43
Subordinated units ⁽²⁾	\$ -	\$0.41
Weighted average units outstanding - basic and diluted		
Common units	90,690	52,145
Subordinated units ⁽²⁾	-	26,536

- Financial information has been recast to include results attributable to the Bison and MGR assets.
- (2) All subordinated units were converted to common units on a one-for-one basis on August 15, 2011.

Western Gas Partners, LP CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)

thousands except number of units Current assets Note receivable - Anadarko Net property, plant and equipment Other assets Total assets	March 31, 2012 \$66,666 260,000 2,126,201 267,334 \$2,720,201	2,052,224 268,954
Current liabilities Long-term debt Asset retirement obligations and other Total liabilities	\$122,244 948,296 69,638 \$1,140,178	•
Equity and partners' capital Common units (90,773,782 and 90,140,999 units issued and outstanding at March 31, 2012, and December 31, 2011, respectively) General partner units (1,852,527 and 1,839,613 units issued and outstanding at	\$1,416,896	\$1,495,253
March 31, 2012, and December 31, 2011, respectively) Parent net investment Noncontrolling interests Total liabilities, equity and partners' capital	33,456 - 129,671 \$2,720,201	•

 $^{^{(1)}}$ Financial information has been recast to include results attributable to the Bison and MGR assets.

	Quarter Ended March 31,	
thousands Cash flows from operating activities	2012	2011 (1)
Net income Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:	\$52,406	\$46,851
Depreciation, amortization and impairments Change in other items, net Net cash provided by operating activities	26,586 15,574 \$94,566	23,643 1,476 \$71,970
Cash flows from investing activities Capital expenditures Acquisitions from affiliates Acquisitions from third parties Investments in equity affiliates Proceeds from sale of assets to affiliates Net cash used in investing activities	\$(61,071) (463,232) - - - - \$(524,303)	(303,602) (93) 153
Cash flows from financing activities Borrowings, net of debt issuance costs Repayments of debt Proceeds from issuance of common and general partner units, net of offering expenses Distributions to unitholders Contributions from noncontrolling interest owners Distributions to noncontrolling interest owners Net contributions from (distributions to) Parent Net cash provided by financing activities	\$319,000 (40,000) (43,027) 9,849 (5,145) 2,119 \$242,796	\$556,340 (389,000) 132,796 (30,564) 960 (4,364) (9,819) \$256,349
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$(186,941) 226,559 \$39,618	\$3,767 27,074 \$30,841

Financial information has been recast to include results attributable to the Bison and MGR assets.

Western Gas Partners, LP OPERATING STATISTICS (Unaudited)

	Quarter Ended March 31,	
MMcf/d except per-unit amounts	2012	2011 ⁽¹⁾
Throughput		
Gathering, treating and transportation (2)	1,298	1,366
Processing ⁽³⁾	1,150	851
Equity investment ⁽⁴⁾	236	187
Total throughput ⁽⁵⁾	2,684	2,404
Throughput attributable to noncontrolling interests	270	218
Total throughput attributable to	2 4 5 4	2.106
Western Gas Partners, LP Gross margin per Mcf attributable to	2,414	2,186
Western Gas Partners, LP (6)	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.55

- (1) Throughput has been recast to include volumes attributable to the Bison and MGR assets.
- (2) Excludes average NGL pipeline volumes from the Chipeta assets of 27 MBbls/d and 22 MBbls/d for the quarter ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

 Includes 100% of Chipeta, Granger, Hilight and Red Desert system volumes, and 50%
- of Newcastle system volumes for all periods presented, as well as throughput beginning March 2011 attributable to the Platte Valley system.

 Represents the Partnership's 14.81% share of Fort Union and 22% share of
- (4) Rendezvous gross volumes and excludes 5 MBbls/d and 3 MBbls/d of oil pipeline volumes for quarter ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, representing the Partnership's 10% share of average White Cliffs pipeline volumes.
- (5) Includes affiliate, third-party and equity-investment volumes.

 Average for period. Calculated as gross margin, excluding the noncontrolling interest owners' proportionate share of revenues and cost of product, divided by total
- throughput attributable to Western Gas Partners, LP. Calculation includes income attributable to the Partnership's investments in Fort Union, White Cliffs and Rendezvous and volumes attributable to the Partnership's investments in Fort Union and Rendezvous.

Source: Western Gas Partners, LP

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https://investors.westernmidstream.com/2012-05-02-Western-Gas-Partners-Announces-First-Quarter-2012-Results