

NATURAL GAS SERVICES GROUP INC  
Form DEF 14A  
April 30, 2015

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

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant  x

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Check the appropriate box:

- o Preliminary proxy statement
- o Confidential, for use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- y Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

NATURAL GAS SERVICES GROUP, INC.  
(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

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NATURAL GAS SERVICES GROUP, INC.  
508 West Wall Street, Suite 550  
Midland, Texas 79701

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the  
Shareholder Meeting to be Held on Thursday, June 18, 2015

The proxy statement and annual report to shareholders are available at  
[www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com).

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS  
To be held on Thursday, June 18, 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., a Colorado corporation (the "Company"), will be held at the Petroleum Club of Midland, 501 West Wall Street, Midland, Texas 79701 on Thursday, June 18, 2015 at 8:30 a.m., Central Time, for the purpose of considering and voting upon proposals:

1. To elect two Directors to serve until the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held in 2018 or until their successors are elected and qualify;
2. To ratify the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2015;
3. To consider an advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers; and
4. To transact such other business as may properly be presented at the meeting, or at any adjournment(s) of the meeting.

Only shareholders of record at the close of business on April 20, 2015 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting and at any adjournment(s) of the meeting. On that day, 12,733,527 shares of our common stock were outstanding and entitled to vote. A complete list of our shareholders entitled to vote at the meeting will be available for examination at our offices in Midland, Texas during ordinary business hours for a period of ten (10) days prior to the annual meeting.

Our Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR the (i) election of the two director nominees named in this proxy statement, (ii) the ratification of the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2015; and (iii) approval, on an advisory basis, of the compensation programs of our named executive officers.

We cordially invite you to attend the meeting. To ensure your representation at the meeting, please vote promptly even if you plan to attend the meeting. Voting now will not prevent you from voting in person at the meeting if you are a shareholder of record and wish to do so.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

/s/ Stephen C. Taylor

April 29, 2015

Stephen C. Taylor  
Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer

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NATURAL GAS SERVICES GROUP, INC.

508 West Wall Street, Suite 550  
Midland, Texas 79701

PROXY STATEMENT  
FOR THE  
ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS  
TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2015

GENERAL INFORMATION

We are providing this proxy statement to you as part of a solicitation by the Board of Directors of Natural Gas Services Group, Inc. for use at our 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and at any adjournment or postponement that may take place. We will hold the meeting at the Petroleum Club of Midland, 501 West Wall Street, Midland, Texas 79701 on Thursday, June 18, 2015 at 8:30 a.m., Central Time.

We are taking advantage of Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, rules that allow us to deliver our proxy materials to our shareholders on the Internet. Under these rules, we are sending most of our shareholders a two-page notice regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials instead of a full set of proxy materials. If you receive this two-page notice, you will not receive printed copies of the proxy materials unless you specifically request them. Instead, this notice tells you how to access and review on the Internet all of the important information contained in the proxy materials. This notice also tells you how to submit your proxy card on the Internet and how to request to receive a printed copy of our proxy materials.

We expect to mail, or provide notice and electronic delivery of, this proxy statement and accompanying proxy card to shareholders beginning on or about May 7, 2015.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE PROXY MATERIALS  
AND THE MEETING

Q: Why am I receiving these materials?

A: Our Board is providing these proxy materials to you in connection with our 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which will take place on Thursday, June 18, 2015. As a shareholder on the record date for the meeting, you are invited to attend the meeting. We also encourage you to vote on the matters described in this proxy statement.

Q: What information is contained in these materials?

A: This proxy statement includes information about the nominees for director and the other matters to be voted on at the meeting. The proxy statement also includes information about the voting process and requirements, the compensation of directors and some of our executive officers, and certain other required information.

Q: What can I vote on at the meeting?

A: There are three matters to be voted on at the meeting:

1. To elect two Directors to serve until the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held in 2018, or until their successors are elected and qualified;
2. To ratify the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2015;
3. To consider an advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers; and
4. To transact such other business as may properly be presented at the meeting, or at any adjournment(s) of the meeting.

Q: How does the Board recommend that I vote on each of the matters?

A: Our Board recommends that you vote FOR each of the director nominees and FOR the ratification of the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2015 . With respect to Proposal #3, the Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR approval, on an advisory basis, of the compensation programs of our named executive officers as disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables, and the related disclosure contained in the proxy statement set forth under the caption "Executive Compensation" of this proxy statement.

Q: Why did I receive a two-page notice in the mail regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials this year instead of a full set of proxy materials?

A: We are taking advantage of SEC rules that allow us to deliver proxy materials to our shareholders on the Internet. Under these rules, we are sending most of our shareholders a two-page notice regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials instead of a full set of proxy materials. If you receive this two-page notice, you will not receive printed copies of the proxy materials unless you specifically request them. Instead, this notice tells you how to access and review on the Internet all of the important information contained in the proxy materials. This notice also tells you how to submit your proxy card on the Internet and how to request to receive a printed copy of our proxy materials. Shareholders may also request to receive proxy materials in printed form by mail or electronically by email on an ongoing basis.

Q: Can I receive next year's proxy materials by email?

A: Yes. All shareholders who have active email accounts and Internet access may sign up for email delivery of shareholder materials. To sign up, go to [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com) and click on "Electronic Enrollment." If you have multiple registered or beneficial accounts, you need to enroll for each account. If you elect to receive proxy materials by email, we will not mail you any proxy-related materials next year. Your enrollment in the email program will remain in effect as long as your account remains active or until you cancel it.

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Q: Who is entitled to vote at our annual meeting of shareholders?

A: Holders of our outstanding common stock on April 20, 2015, are entitled to one vote per share on each of the items being voted on at the meeting. We refer to this date as the Record Date. On the Record Date, we had 12,733,527 shares of common stock outstanding. We have no other classes of stock outstanding.

Q: What shares can I vote?

A: You can vote all shares you owned on the Record Date. These shares include (1) shares held directly in your name as the shareholder of record and (2) shares held for you as the beneficial owner through a stockbroker, bank or other nominee.

Q: What is the difference between holding shares as a shareholder of record and as a beneficial owner?

A: Most of our shareholders hold their shares through a stockbroker, bank or other nominee rather than directly in their own name. There are some important distinctions between shares held of record and those owned beneficially.

#### Shareholder of Record

If your shares are registered in your name with our transfer agent, Computershare, you are the shareholder of record for those shares and are receiving proxy-related materials directly from us. As the shareholder of record, you have the right to grant your voting proxy directly to us or to vote in person at the meeting.

#### Beneficial Owner

If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account, by a bank or other nominee (commonly referred to as being held in "street name") you are the beneficial owner of those shares. Your broker, bank or nominee is the shareholder of record and therefore has forwarded proxy-related materials to you as beneficial owner. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker, bank or other nominee how to vote your shares and are also invited to attend the meeting. However, since you are not the shareholder of record, you may not vote your shares in person at the meeting unless you obtain a signed proxy from your broker, bank or nominee giving you the right to vote the shares.

Q: How do I vote if I am a shareholder of record (as described in the question and answer above)?

A: You can vote on the Internet or by telephone by following the instructions you received in the mail or by email. If you received a full printed set of our proxy materials in the mail, you can also vote by mail by signing and returning the proxy card provided with those materials. Finally, you can vote in person at the meeting.

Q: How do I vote if I am a beneficial owner (as described in the question and answer above)?

A: You can vote on the Internet or by telephone by following the instructions you received in the mail or by email. If you received a full printed set of our proxy materials in the mail, you can also vote by mail. You can vote in person at the meeting only if you obtain a signed proxy from your broker, bank or nominee giving you this right.

Q: Can I change my vote or revoke my proxy?

A: Yes. You can change your vote or revoke your proxy at any time before the final vote at the meeting. You can do this by casting a later proxy through any of the available methods described in the questions and answers above. If you are a shareholder of record, you can also revoke your proxy by delivering a written notice of your revocation to our



Corporate Secretary at our principal executive office at 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701. If you are a beneficial owner, you can revoke your proxy by following the instructions sent to you by your broker, bank or other nominee.

Q: What does it mean if I get more than one set of proxy-related materials?

A: It means you hold shares registered in more than one account. Follow the instructions in each set of proxy-related materials to ensure that all of your shares are voted.

Q: What is the quorum requirement for the meeting?

A: For a “quorum” to exist at the meeting, shareholders holding a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the shareholders entitled to vote must be present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting. There must be a quorum for any action to be taken at the meeting (other than adjournment or postponement of the meeting). If you submit a properly completed proxy, even if you abstain from voting, then your shares will be counted for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum.

If a broker indicates on a proxy that it lacks discretionary authority as to certain shares to vote on a particular matter, commonly referred to as “broker non-votes,” those shares will still be counted for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum at the meeting. Please see the next question and answer for further information about “broker non-votes.”

Q: What are broker non-votes and how are broker non-votes and abstentions counted?

A: If you are a beneficial owner and hold your shares in street name and do not provide your broker or other nominee with voting instructions, the broker, bank, or other nominee will determine if it has the discretionary authority to vote on the particular matter. The New York Stock Exchange permits brokers to vote their customers' shares on routine matters when the brokers have not received voting instructions from the customers. The ratification of independent public accountants is an example of a routine matter on which brokers may vote. Brokers may not vote their customers' shares on non-routine matters unless they have received instructions from the customers. Non-voted shares on non-routine matters are referred to as broker non-votes. The ratification of the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as our independent public accountants for 2015 (Proposal 2) is a matter considered “routine” under application rules. The election of directors (Proposal 1) and the advisory vote to approve named executive officer compensation (Proposal 3) are matters considered “non-routine” under applicable rules. A broker or other nominee cannot vote without instructions on non-routine matters. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect on Proposal 1, as the election of Directors is determined by counting the votes actually cast where abstentions and broker non-votes are not treated as votes cast. With respect to the advisory vote to approve the named executive officers compensation programs (Proposal 3) where the vote required is a majority of votes present and entitled to vote, abstentions will be equivalent to a vote cast against the proposals and broker non-votes will have no effect.

Q: What is the voting requirement to approve each of the matters?

A: Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting. This means that the nominee for election as Director who receives the greatest number of votes cast in favor of his or her election will be elected to the Board of Directors. The ratification of the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm and the advisory vote on the compensation programs of our named executive officers are approved if the votes cast in favor of the matter exceed the votes cast against the matter. If you are a beneficial owner and do not provide the shareholder of record with voting instructions, your shares may constitute broker non-votes for certain matters (as described in the question and answer immediately above). In tabulating the voting result for a proposal, shares that constitute broker non-votes are not considered as being entitled to vote on that proposal.

Q: How can I vote on each of the matters and how will the votes be counted?

A: In the election of directors, you may vote “FOR,” “AGAINST,” or “ABSTAIN” with respect to each of the two nominees. If you elect to abstain from the election of directors, the abstention will not have any effect on the election of directors. In tabulating the voting results for the election of directors, only “FOR” and “AGAINST” votes are counted.

For the (i) ratification of the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as our independent auditors, and (ii) advisory vote on compensation of our named executive officers advisory vote on compensation of our named executive officers, you

may vote “FOR,” “AGAINST,” or “ABSTAIN” with respect to these two proposals. If you elect to abstain from voting on any of these proposals, the abstention will have the same effect as an “AGAINST” vote with respect to such proposal.

If you sign and return your proxy card or voting instruction form without giving specific voting instructions, your shares will be voted as recommended by our Board. If you are a beneficial holder and do not return a voting instruction form, your broker may only vote on the ratification of the appointment of BDO USA, LLP (Proposal 2).

Q: Who will count the votes?

A: Broadridge, an international investor relations company, is assisting us with the voting of proxies for our meeting. Prior to the meeting, Broadridge will provide us with a tabulation of the votes cast prior to the meeting. We believe that Broadridge will use procedures that are consistent with Colorado law concerning the voting of shares, the determination of the presence of a quorum and the determination of the outcome of each matter submitted for a vote. In addition, we will appoint a voting inspector at the meeting to count and tabulate any votes cast at the meeting.

Q: Who may attend the meeting?

A: All shareholders as of the Record Date may attend. Please bring to the meeting:

proof of ownership such as: a copy of your proxy or voting instruction card; the two-page notice regarding the internet availability of proxy materials you received in the mail; or a copy of a brokerage or bank statement showing your share ownership as of the Record Date; and  
proof of identification such as a valid driver's license or passport.

Q: How will voting on any other business be conducted?

A: We do not expect any matters to be presented for a vote at the meeting other than the three matters described in this proxy statement. If you grant a proxy, either of the officers named as proxy holders, Stephen C. Taylor and G. Larry Lawrence, or their nominees or substitutes, will have the discretion to vote your shares on any additional matters that are properly presented for a vote at the meeting and at any adjournment or postponement that may take place. If, for any unforeseen reason, any of our nominees is not available as a candidate for director, the persons named as the proxy holder will vote your proxy for another candidate or other candidates nominated by our Board.

Q: May I propose actions for consideration at next year's meeting of shareholders?

A: Yes. For your proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement for next year's meeting, we must receive your written proposal no later than December 21, 2015. If we change the date of next year's meeting by more than 30 days from the date of this year's meeting, then the deadline is a reasonable time before we begin to print and send our proxy materials. You should also be aware that your proposal must comply with SEC regulations regarding shareholder proposals.

Similarly, for you to raise a proposal (including a director nomination) from the floor at next year's meeting, we must receive a written notice of the proposal no later than March 9, 2016. If we change the date of next year's meeting by more than 30 days from the date of this year's meeting, then we must receive your written proposal at least 150 days before the date of next year's meeting for the proposal to be timely.

Q: Who is paying for this proxy solicitation?

A: We will pay the cost of soliciting the proxies. In addition, our officers, directors and employees may solicit proxies or votes in person, by telephone or by email. These people will not be paid any additional compensation for these activities. We will send copies of proxy-related materials or additional solicitation materials to brokers, fiduciaries and custodians who will forward these materials to the beneficial owners of our shares. On request, we will reimburse brokers and other persons representing beneficial owners of shares for their reasonable expenses in forwarding these materials to beneficial owners.



## HOUSEHOLDING OF PROXY MATERIALS

In an effort to reduce printing costs and postage fees, we have adopted a practice called “householding.” Under this practice, shareholders who have the same address and last name and do not participate in email delivery of proxy-related materials will receive only one set of our proxy statement, annual report or notice of internet availability of proxy-related materials unless one or more of these people notifies us that he or she wishes to continue to receive individual copies.

If you share an address with another shareholder and receive only one set of proxy-related materials and would like to request a separate copy for this year’s annual meeting or for any future meetings, please: (1) call our Investor Relations contact at (432) 262-2700; (2) send an email message to [alicia.dada@ngsgi.com](mailto:alicia.dada@ngsgi.com); or (3) mail your request to Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701, Attn: Investor Relations. Similarly, you may also contact us through any of these methods if you receive multiple copies of the materials and would prefer to receive a single copy in the future.

PROPOSAL 1 - ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors is divided into three classes (commonly known as a “staggered” Board), each class to be as nearly equal in number as possible. At each annual meeting of shareholders, members of one of the classes, on a rotating basis, are elected for a three-year term. The authorized number of Directors is currently set at nine. We currently have five directors serving on our Board. Our Board of Directors may fill the vacancies if a qualified candidate is vetted. The following table sets forth, by class, the members of our Board of Directors as of the date of this proxy statement:

Terms Expiring at the 2015 Annual Meeting	Terms Expiring at the 2016 Annual Meeting	Terms Expiring at the 2017 Annual Meeting
David L. Bradshaw William F. Hughes	John W. Chisholm	Charles G. Curtis Stephen C. Taylor

Shareholders will be electing two Directors at the meeting. The Board is recommending Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. Hughes for re-election to the Board of Directors to serve three year terms expiring at the annual meeting of shareholders in 2018.

The persons named in the enclosed form of proxy will vote the shares represented by such proxy for the election of the nominees for Director named above unless other instructions are shown on the proxy card. If, at the time of the meeting, either or both of these nominees becomes unavailable for any reason, which is not expected, the persons entitled to vote the proxy will vote for such substitute nominee or nominees, if any, as they determine in their sole discretion, or we may reduce the size of the Board.

Biographical information and qualifications for each person nominated as a Director, and for each person whose term of office as a Director will continue after the 2015 Annual Meeting, is set forth below.

Nominees for Directors for Terms to Expire in 2018

David L. Bradshaw

David L. Bradshaw, 60, joined our board in December of 2011. Since 2005, Mr. Bradshaw has acted as a consultant in the oil and gas exploration and production sector and has overseen his investments in this area. From August 2007 through November 2009, Mr. Bradshaw served as a Director and Audit Committee Chairman for Triangle Petroleum, a publicly traded company listed on the American Stock Exchange. From November 2007 through November 2008, Mr. Bradshaw served as a Director for Comet Ridge Limited, an Australian company listed on the Australian Securities Exchange. From 1986 to 2005, Mr. Bradshaw worked for Tipperary Corporation, a U.S. public company listed on the American Stock Exchange. During his tenure at Tipperary, the company was involved in oil and gas exploration and production, and natural gas processing and transportation. He held the positions of Chief Executive Officer from 1996 to 2005, Chairman of the Board from 1997 to 2005, Chief Financial Officer from 1990 to 1996 and Chief Operating Officer from 1993 to 1996. Mr. Bradshaw also served as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of Tipperary Oil & Gas (Australia) Pty Ltd from 1999 to 2005, a subsidiary of Tipperary, which explored for and produced natural gas in Queensland, Australia. From 1983 to 1986, Mr. Bradshaw was an owner and officer of Bradcorp, Inc. a private exploration and production company. Prior to this, Mr. Bradshaw spent six years in public accounting serving predominantly oil and gas clients. Mr. Bradshaw graduated from Texas A&M University with a BBA in Accounting in 1976 and a MBA in 1977, and is also a Certified Public Accountant.

Mr. Bradshaw's educational and professional training and achievements as a Certified Public Accountant and MBA, along with his past experience as both a Chief Financial Officer and Chief Executive Officer of a public company

involved in the natural resources industry, provides us with considerable accounting and corporate finance skills. In addition, Mr. Bradshaw's career spanning over thirty years in the oil and gas industry and as a public accountant. His executive management positions in both private and public companies bring us significant leadership, planning and management skills and background.

William F. Hughes, Jr.

William F. Hughes Jr., 62, has served as a Director since December 2003. Mr. Hughes has over 30 years experience in the engineering and construction industry as a Registered Civil Engineer and licensed building contractor. From 1974 to 1979, he served as an officer in the United States Air Force. From 1979 to 1986, he was a project design engineer for Cushman & Associates. From 1986 to 1996, he served as a Project Manager on a variety of public works and industrial construction projects. Since 1983, Mr. Hughes has been co-owner of The Whole Wheatery, LLC, a natural foods store located in Lancaster,



California. Mr. Hughes holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the United States Air Force Academy and a Master of Science in Engineering from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Mr. Hughes' career experience in the engineering and construction industry brings us invaluable skills which are applicable to our manufacturing processes. In addition, Mr. Hughes provides leadership skills arising from his service as an officer with the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Air Force Academy graduate.

#### Continuing Directors Whose Terms Expire in 2016

##### John W. Chisholm

John W. Chisholm, 60, was appointed as a Director of Natural Gas Services Group in December 2006 to fill a vacancy created by expanding the size of the Board from seven to eight Directors and was first elected as a Director of Natural Gas Services Group at the annual meeting of shareholders held in June 2007. Mr. Chisholm is the founder of Wellogix, an oil and gas software company that develops software aimed at expediting the exchange of enterprise data and communication of complex engineered services. Prior to founding Wellogix, Mr. Chisholm co-founded and served as President of ProTechnics Company from 1985 until its sale to Core Laboratories in December of 1996. Mr. Chisholm served as Senior Vice President of Global Sales and Marketing of Core Laboratories until 1998, when he started Chisholm Energy Partners, an investment fund focused on mid-size energy service companies. From 2002 to 2009 Mr. Chisholm served on the Board of Directors of Flotek Industries, Inc., and became interim President in August 2009. In August 2010 Mr. Chisholm became President of the company and was appointed Chief Executive officer in March 2012. Flotek Industries, Inc. is a public company which files reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Mr. Chisholm holds a Business Administration degree from Fort Lewis College in Colorado. He currently serves on the Editorial Advisory Board on Middle East Technology of the Oil & Gas Journal.

Mr. Chisholm brings significant natural resources experience to our Board, in connection with his background in supplying drilling and production related products and services to the oil, gas and mining industries, and his investment fund experience with mid-size energy service companies is an invaluable resource as the Company assesses its capital and liquidity needs.

In addition Mr. Chisholm's experience as a board member and executive officer of a public company provides us with a wealth of leadership and management skills.

#### Continuing Directors Whose Terms Expire in 2017

##### Charles G. Curtis

Charles G. Curtis, 82, has served as a Director of Natural Gas Services Group since April 2001. Since 2002, substantially all of Mr. Curtis' business activities have been devoted to managing personal investments. From 1992 until 2002, Mr. Curtis was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Curtis One, Inc., a manufacturer of aluminum and steel mobile stools and mobile ladders. From 1988 to 1992, Mr. Curtis was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Cramer, Inc., a manufacturer of office furniture. Mr. Curtis has a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Naval Academy and a Master of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Southern California.

Mr. Curtis has been a long-standing member of the Board since prior to the Company's initial public offering in 2002 and as such he brings a wealth of knowledge regarding the Company's history, growth and industry. Through his manufacturing career and engineering educational background, Mr. Curtis assists the Board and the Company in connection with its compressor manufacturing business. As a past U.S. Naval Officer and U.S. Naval Academy

graduate, Mr. Curtis also brings leadership skills to the Board and Company.

Stephen C. Taylor

Stephen C. Taylor, 61, has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Natural Gas Services Group since January 2005. He was elected as a Director of Natural Gas Services Group at the annual meeting of shareholders in June 2005. Effective January 1, 2006, Mr. Taylor was appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors. Immediately prior to joining Natural Gas Services Group, Mr. Taylor held the position of General Manager – US Operations for Trican Production Services, Inc. from 2002 through 2004. Mr. Taylor joined Halliburton Resource Management in 1976, becoming its Vice President – Operations in 1989. Beginning in 1993, he held multiple senior level management positions with Halliburton Energy Services until 2000 when he was elected Senior Vice President/Chief Operating Officer of Enventure Global Technology, LLC, a joint-venture deep water drilling technology company owned by Halliburton Company and Shell Oil Company. Mr. Taylor elected early retirement from Halliburton Company

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in 2002 to join Trican Production Services, Inc. Mr. Taylor holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Texas Tech University and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Texas at Austin.

Mr. Taylor's senior management experience in the natural resources industry provides the Board and our company with significant insight into our business. Mr. Taylor's engineering and advanced business training (MBA) uniquely suits him to provide leadership, technical expertise and financial acumen to our Board and to the operations of our company in connection with his position as our chief executive officer.

## THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ITS COMMITTEES

Natural Gas Services Group's Board of Directors held four meetings in 2014. Each Director attended at least 75% of the total number of Board meetings held while such person was a Director. Each Director also attended at least 75% of all of the meetings held by all committees of the Board of Directors for which he served (during the periods that he served). The Board of Directors acts from time to time by unanimous written consent in lieu of holding a meeting.

Our non-management directors hold regularly scheduled executive sessions in which those directors meet without management participation. Generally, the Chairman of the Governance and Personnel Development Committee presides over these sessions. Charles G. Curtis is currently that Chairman.

We typically schedule a Board meeting in conjunction with our annual meeting of shareholders. Although we do not have a formal policy on the matter, we expect our Directors to attend each annual meeting, absent a valid reason, such as illness or an unavoidable schedule conflict. Last year, all of the individuals then serving as Directors attended our 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

To assist it in carrying out its duties, the Board has delegated certain authority to four separately designated standing committees. These committees are described below.

### Audit Committee

The primary functions of our Audit Committee include:

- assisting the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities as they relate to our accounting policies, internal controls, financial reporting practices and legal and regulatory compliance;
- hiring our independent registered public accounting firm;
- monitoring the independence and performance of our independent registered public accounting firm;
- maintaining, through regularly scheduled meetings, a line of communication between the Board, our financial management and independent registered public accounting firm; and
- overseeing compliance with our policies for conducting business, including ethical business standards.

The members of the Audit Committee are David L. Bradshaw (Chairman), Charles G. Curtis, and William F. Hughes, Jr. Our common stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange, or "NYSE". Under rules of the NYSE, the Audit Committee is to be comprised of three or more Directors, each of whom must be independent. Our Board has determined that all of the members of the Audit Committee are independent, as defined under the applicable NYSE rules and listing standards. In addition, our Board of Directors has determined that David L. Bradshaw is qualified as an "audit committee financial expert" as that term is defined in the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Audit Committee met nine times during the last fiscal year. The audit committee has also received from, and discussed with, BDO the matters required to be discussed by Public Accounting oversight Board Auditing standard No. 16. (Communications with Audit Committees).

Any shareholder may obtain free of charge a printed copy of our Audit Committee Charter by sending a written request to Investor Relations, Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701. You can also view and print a copy of our Audit Committee Charter by clicking on the "Governance" tab at the Investor Relations page of our website at [www.ngsgi.com](http://www.ngsgi.com).



## Compensation Committee

The functions of our Compensation Committee include:

- assisting the Board in overseeing the management of our human resources;
- evaluating our Chief Executive Officer's performance and compensation;
- formulating and administering our overall compensation principles and plans; and
- evaluating management.

The Compensation Committee's policy is to offer the executive officers competitive compensation packages that will permit us to attract and retain individuals with superior abilities and to motivate and reward such individuals in an appropriate fashion in the long-term interests of Natural Gas Services Group and its shareholders. Currently, executive compensation is comprised of salary and cash bonuses and awards of long-term incentive opportunities in the form of restricted stock awards under the 2009 Restricted Stock/Unit Plan.

The members of the Compensation Committee are William F. Hughes, Jr. (Chairman), John W. Chisholm and David L. Bradshaw. Our Board has determined that all of the members of the Compensation Committee are independent, as defined under the applicable NYSE rules and listing standards. During the last fiscal year there were seven meetings of the Compensation Committee.

## Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

The Compensation Committee members are not officers or employees of our company, and there is not, nor was there during fiscal 2014, any compensation committee interlock (in other words, no executive of our company serves as a Director or on the compensation committee of a company that has one or more executives serving on our Board of Directors or our Compensation Committee).

Any shareholder may obtain free of charge a printed copy of our Compensation Committee Charter by sending a written request to Investor Relations, Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701. You can also view and print a copy of our Compensation Committee Charter by clicking on the "Governance" tab at the Investor Relations page of our website at [www.ngsgi.com](http://www.ngsgi.com).

## Governance and Personnel Development Committee

Our Governance and Personnel Development Committee primarily focuses on:

- generally overseeing the governance of the Board and its committees;
- interpreting the Governance Guidelines, the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and other similar governance documents adopted by the Board; and
- overseeing the evaluation of the Board and its committees.

The members of the Governance and Personnel Development Committee are Charles G. Curtis (Chairman), John W. Chisholm and William F. Hughes, Jr. Our Board has determined that each of the Governance and Personnel Development Committee members is independent, as defined under the applicable NYSE rules and listing standards. During the last fiscal year there were four meetings of the Governance and Personnel Development Committee.

Any shareholder may obtain free of charge a printed copy of our Governance Committee Charter by sending a written request to Investor Relations, Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas

79701. You can also view and print a copy of our Governance Committee Charter by clicking on the “Governance” tab at the Investor Relations page of our website at [www.ngsgi.com](http://www.ngsgi.com).

## Nominating Committee

The functions of our Nominating Committee include:

- identifying individuals qualified to become board members, consistent with the criteria approved by the Board;
- recommending Director nominees and individuals to fill vacant positions; and
- overseeing executive development and succession and diversity efforts.

The members of the Nominating Committee are John W. Chisholm (Chairman), David L. Bradshaw, and Charles G. Curtis. Our Board of Directors has determined that each of the Nominating Committee members is independent as defined under the applicable NYSE rules and listing standards. During the last fiscal year there were four meetings of the Nominating Committee.

Any shareholder may obtain free of charge a printed copy of our Nominating Committee Charter by sending a written request to Investor Relations, Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701. You can also view and print a copy of our Nominating Committee Charter by clicking on the “Governance” tab at the Investor Relations page of our website at [www.ngsgi.com](http://www.ngsgi.com). Our Nominating Committee does not have a diversity policy; however, as discussed below, the Committee’s goal is to nominate candidates who possess a range of experiences and backgrounds which will contribute to the board’s overall effectiveness in meeting its duties and forwarding the goals of our company.

Our Nominating Committee will consider a Director candidate recommended by a shareholder. A candidate must be highly qualified in terms of business experience and be both willing and expressly interested in serving on the Board. A shareholder wishing to recommend a candidate for the Committee’s consideration should forward the candidate’s name and information about the candidate’s qualifications to Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., Nominating Committee, 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701, Attn.: John W. Chisholm. Submissions must include sufficient biographical information concerning the recommended individual, including age, employment history for at least the past five years indicating employers’ names and description of the employer’s business, educational background and any other biographical information that would assist the Committee in determining the qualifications of the individual. The Committee will consider recommendations received by a date not later than 120 calendar days before the date our proxy statement was released to shareholders in connection with the prior year’s annual meeting for nomination at that annual meeting. The Committee will consider nominations received after that date at the annual meeting subsequent to the next annual meeting.

The Committee evaluates nominees for Directors recommended by shareholders in the same manner in which it evaluates other nominees for Directors. Minimum qualifications include the factors discussed above.

## Director Independence

The Board has determined that each of the following four members of the Board is “independent” within the meaning of applicable listing standards of the NYSE and under the standards, set forth in Exhibit A to our Governance and Personnel Development Charter, (“Governance Charter”) which are consistent with the NYSE listing standards: David L. Bradshaw, John W. Chisholm, Charles G. Curtis, and William F. Hughes, Jr. A copy of Exhibit A to our Governance Charter is available at our website, [www.ngsgi.com](http://www.ngsgi.com), under the heading “Investor Relations—Governance.” The Board has made an affirmative determination that each of the four directors named above satisfies these categorical standards. In making its determination, the Board examined relationships between directors or their affiliates with us and our affiliates and determined that each such relationship, if any, did not impair the director’s independence.





## The Board's Leadership Structure

Under our Corporate Governance Guidelines, our Chief Executive Officer also serves as our Chairman of the Board, and that person is responsible to the Board for the overall management and functioning of the company. Stephen C. Taylor serves as both Chairman of the Board and our President and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"). The Board believes this is the most effective Board leadership structure at the present time and believes that Mr. Taylor, in his role as Chairman/CEO, has the ability to execute on both our short-term and long-term strategies necessary for the challenging marketplace in which we compete. The independent directors believe that Mr. Taylor's detailed and in-depth knowledge of the issues, opportunities and challenges facing us and our business make him the best qualified director to develop agendas that ensure that the Board's time and attention are focused on the most critical matters. Further, as the individual with primary responsibility for managing day-to-day operations, Mr. Taylor is best positioned to chair regular Board meetings and ensure that key business issues and risks are brought to the attention of our Board and/or Audit Committee. We believe that the creation of a lead independent director position is not necessary at this time.

Each of our directors, other than Mr. Taylor, is independent, and the Board believes that the independent directors provide effective oversight of management. The Board may subsequently decide, however, to change that leadership structure which would require a revision to our Corporate Governance Guidelines. The Board believes that it has in place safeguards to ensure that we maintain the highest standards of corporate governance and continued accountability of the CEO to the Board. These safeguards include:

• All members of the Board are independent directors except for Mr. Taylor.

Each of the Board's standing committees, including the Audit, Compensation, Governance and Nominating Committees, are comprised of and chaired solely by non-employee directors who meet the independence requirements under the NYSE listing standards and other governing laws and regulations. As noted above, these committees meet frequently.

• Review and determination of Mr. Taylor's compensation and performance remains within the purview of the Compensation Committee.

• The independent directors continue to meet in executive sessions without management present to discuss the effectiveness of the company's management, the quality of the Board meetings and any other issues and concerns.

## Role in Risk Oversight

Our Board of Directors oversees the management of risks inherent in the operation of our business and the implementation of our strategic plan. Our executive management is responsible for the day-to-day management of risks we face. The Board is periodically advised by management on the status of various factors that could impact our business and operating results, including oil and gas industry issues, operational issues (such as compressor manufacturing issues, backlog for compressor equipment,) legal and regulatory risks. The full Board is also responsible for reviewing our strategy, business plan, and capital expenditure budget.

Our Board committees assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities in certain areas of risk. Our Audit Committee serves an important role in providing risk oversight, as further detailed in its charter. One of the Audit Committee's primary duties and responsibilities is to monitor the integrity of our financial statements, financial reporting processes, systems of internal controls regarding finance, and disclosure controls and procedures. The Compensation Committee assists the Board with risk management relating to our compensation policies and programs, and the Governance and Nominating Committee assists with risk management relating to Board organization, membership and structure, succession planning for our directors and executive officers, and corporate governance.



## CODE OF ETHICS

Our Board of Directors has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, or “Code”, which is posted on our website at [www.ngsgi.com](http://www.ngsgi.com). You may also obtain a copy of our Code by requesting a copy in writing at 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701 or by calling us at (432) 262-2700.

Our Code provides general statements of our expectations regarding ethical standards that we expect our Directors, officers and employees, including our Chief Executive Officer and principal financial officer, to adhere to while acting on our behalf. Among other things, the Code provides that:

- we will comply with all laws, rules and regulations;
- our Directors, officers and employees are to avoid conflicts of interest and are prohibited from competing with us or personally exploiting our corporate opportunities;
- our Directors, officers and employees are to protect our assets and maintain our confidentiality;
- we are committed to promoting values of integrity and fair dealing; and that
- we are committed to accurately maintaining our accounting records under generally accepted accounting principles and timely filing our periodic reports.

Our Code also contains procedures for our employees to report, anonymously or otherwise, violations of the Code.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Biographical information for the executive officers of Natural Gas Services Group who are not Directors is set forth below. There are no family relationships between any Director or executive officer and any other Director or executive officer. Executive officers serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors and until their successors have been duly elected and qualified, unless sooner removed by the Board of Directors. Officers are elected by the Board of Directors annually at its first meeting following the annual meeting of shareholders.

G. Larry Lawrence, 63, became our Chief Financial Officer, Principal Accounting Officer and Corporate Secretary on July 1, 2011. Previously, Mr. Lawrence was our Controller since September 2010. From June 2006 to August 2010, Mr. Lawrence was self employed as a management consultant doing business as Crescent Consulting. Overlapping this time, from September 2006 to August 2009, he also served as the CFO of Lynx Operating Company. Lynx is a private company engaged in oil and gas production and gas processing activities. From May 2004 through April 2006 Mr. Lawrence served as Controller of Pure Resources, an exploration and production company and wholly owned subsidiary of Unocal Corporation which was acquired by Chevron Corporation. From June 2000 through May 2004, Mr. Lawrence was a practice manager of the Parson Group, LLC, a financial management consulting firm whose services included Sarbanes Oxley engagements with oil and natural gas industry clients. From 1973 through May 2000, Mr. Lawrence was employed by Atlantic Richfield Company where he most recently (from 1993 through 2000) served as Controller of ARCO Permian. Since May 2006, Mr. Lawrence serves as a director of Legacy Reserves, LP. Mr. Lawrence has a Bachelor of Arts in Accounting, with honors, from Dillard University.

James R. Hazlett, 59, has served as Vice President Technical Services since June 2005. He also served as Vice President of Sales of Screw Compression Systems, Inc. from 1997 until June 2007 when Screw Compression Systems, Inc. was merged into Natural Gas Services Group. After the merger in June 2007, Mr. Hazlett continues to remain employed by Natural Gas Services Group as Vice President–Technical Services. From 1982 to 1996 Mr. Hazlett served in management roles for Ingersoll Rand/Dresser Rand working with compression of all types in several different departments from sales and service to engineering. From 1978 to 1982 Mr. Hazlett was employed by the down-hole tool division of Hughes Tool designing and installing gas lift and plunger systems. Mr. Hazlett holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Engineering at Texas A&M University and has over 37 years of industry experience.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

### Compensation Discussion and Analysis

### Compensation Discussion and Analysis

The compensation discussion and analysis provides information regarding our executive compensation program in 2014 for the following executive officers of the Company (collectively, the "named executive officers").

Stephen C. Taylor, our Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer;  
G. Larry Lawrence, our Chief Financial Officer; and  
James R. Hazlett, our Vice President Technical Services.

### Introduction and Overview

The Compensation Committee or, the "Committee," of the Board of Directors is responsible for determining the types and amounts of compensation we pay to our executives. The Committee operates under a written charter that you can view on our website at [www.ngsgi.com](http://www.ngsgi.com). The Board of Directors has determined that each member of the Committee meets the independence and financial literacy requirements of the NYSE. The Board determines, in its business judgment, whether a particular Director satisfies the requirements for membership on the Committee set forth in the Committee's charter. None of the members of the Committee are current or former employees of Natural Gas Services Group or any of its subsidiaries.

The Committee is responsible for formulating and administering our overall compensation principles and plans. This includes establishing the compensation paid to our CEO, meeting and consulting with our CEO to establish the compensation paid to our other executive officers, counseling our CEO as to different compensation approaches, administering our stock option plan, monitoring adherence to our compensation philosophy and conducting an annual, and sometimes more frequent, review of our compensation programs and philosophy regarding executive compensation.

The Committee periodically meets in executive session without members of management or management Directors present and reports to the Board of Directors on its actions and recommendations.

### Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

Our compensation philosophy is to provide an executive compensation program that:

- rewards performance and skills necessary to advance our objectives and further the interests of our shareholders;
- is fair and reasonable and appropriately applied to each executive officer;
- is competitive with compensation programs offered by our competitors ; and
- serves as an adequate retention tool in a competitive market.

The overall objectives of our compensation philosophy are to:

- provide a competitive level of current annual income that attracts and retains qualified executives at a reasonable cost to us;
- retain and motivate executives to accomplish our company goals;
- provide long-term incentive compensation opportunities at levels appropriate for the respective responsibilities and performance of each executive;

- align compensation and benefits with our business strategies and goals;
- encourage the application of a decision making process that takes into account both short-term and long-term risks and the sometimes volatile nature of our industry; and
- align the financial interests of our executives with those of our shareholders through the potential grant of equity based rewards.

Our Committee supports these objectives by emphasizing compensation arrangements that we believe are reasonable and will attract and retain qualified executives and reward them for their efforts to further our long-term growth and success. At the same time, we remain cognizant of and aim to balance our executive compensation arrangements with the interests and concerns of our shareholders.

We have chosen to implement a relatively streamlined compensation framework for our executives. We feel that our compensation philosophies and practices are appropriate given our relatively small size as a public company. By continuing a relatively streamlined compensation framework for our executives, we believe that we are able to establish a higher degree of transparency, understanding and certainty for our executives as well as the investing public, while at the same time avoiding complex benefit packages and agreements that can be, in some ways, difficult to understand and require significant time and cost to properly administer. In the end, we believe our compensation arrangements provide the desired results: fair and reasonable pay for achievements beneficial to Natural Gas Services Group and its shareholders.

#### Fiscal Year 2014 Performance

In 2014, our financial performance continued to demonstrate strong growth that provided excellent shareholder value. Some of our financial and operational highlights include:

- increasing gross operating margins by 11.4% to \$53.8 million for 2014 from \$48.3 million for 2013;
- achieving in 2014 record high revenue of \$97 million, a 9.0% increase in revenue from 2013;
- a 7% increase in EBITDA;
- generating \$34.6 million from operations, while investing \$53.1 million in capital for equipment;
- controlling S,G&A expense to 10.6% of revenues;
- increasing rental revenue by 14.4%;
- internally funding over \$175 million in growth capital since 2010 while maintaining a very low debt level when compared to competitors;
- maintaining high margins and maintaining high ratios of operating income, net income, and EBITDA when compared to gross revenues relative to competitors;
- aggressive expansion into new geographic areas;
- positioning our business to emphasize servicing oil and gas production rather than drilling projects in order offset drilling slowdowns as witnessed in the latter half of 2014; and
- maintaining safety performance.

#### Elements of Our Compensation Program

In order to achieve the objectives set forth above in our compensation philosophy and objectives, we have structured an executive compensation program that provides our named executive officers with the following:

Element	Characteristics	Primary Objective
Base Salary	Cash	Attract and retain highly talented individuals
Short-Term Incentives	Cash-based performance awards	Reward for corporate and individual performance
Long-Term Incentives	Restricted stock with vesting period	Align the interests of our employees and shareholders by providing employees with incentive to perform technically and financially in a manner that promotes share price appreciation



Other Benefits

401(k) matching plans and  
employee health benefit plans

Provide benefits that promote employee health and  
support employees in attaining financial security

We do not presently and have not in the past used any of the following types of executive compensation:

- defined benefit pension plans;
- employee stock purchase/ownership plans;
- supplemental executive retirement plans/benefits; or
- deferred compensation plans.

#### Assistance Provided to the Committee

The Committee makes all compensation decisions regarding our executive officers. Stephen C. Taylor, our Chief Executive Officer, annually reviews the performance of each of our executive officers (other than the Chief Executive Officer whose performance is reviewed by the Committee) and presents recommendations to the Committee with respect to salary and cash bonus percentage adjustments and restricted stock grants for our executives (other than the Chief Executive Officer whose salary, cash bonus percentage adjustments and restricted stock grants are determined solely by the Committee). The Committee may exercise its discretion in modifying any recommendations made by our Chief Executive Officer.

The Committee also seeks the input and insight of Mr. Taylor concerning specific factors that Mr. Taylor believes to be appropriate for the Committee's consideration and which the Committee may not be aware of, such as extraordinary efforts or accomplishments of our executive officers. Mr. Taylor also advises the Committee on general topics such as the morale of our executives.

Natural Gas Services Group's accounting department assists the Committee in the compensation process by gathering and organizing data, which is then presented to the Committee by Mr. Taylor for the Committee's review.

In the past, our Committee had not used any outside compensation consultants due to our relative small size; however, in late 2012 our Committee hired an independent compensation consultant, Longnecker & Associates ("Longnecker"), to obtain objective, expert advice and assist with compensation matters for 2013 and 2014 concerning our Chief Executive Officer. Longnecker advised the Compensation Committee on a variety of compensation related issues in 2013 and 2014 with respect to our Chief Executive Officer, including:

- competitive pay analysis on executive compensation;
- pay levels of Chief Executive Officers; and
- our executive compensation program design, including short-term incentive plan design, long-term incentive plan design, and pay mix.

In the course of conducting its activities, Longnecker communicated with the Compensation Committee and presented its findings and recommendations for discussion. During 2014, Longnecker also met with our Chief Executive Officer to review its compensation report.

In 2014, Longnecker did not provide any services to the Company, or receive any payments from the Company, other than in its capacity as a consultant to the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee has assessed whether the services provided by Longnecker raised any conflicts of interest pursuant to the SEC rules, and has concluded that no such conflicts of interest existed during 2014.



## Competitive Pay Analysis

To evaluate the competitiveness of our Chief Executive Officer's base salary, target total cash compensation (i.e., base salary plus target short-term cash incentive award), long-term incentive awards, and total direct compensation (i.e. base salary, target short-term cash incentive award, and long-term incentive awards), Longnecker provided the Committee competitive pay information derived from a custom peer group (the "Custom Peer Group") and referred to a variety of published compensation surveys. The companies comprising the Custom Peer Group in Longnecker's January 2014 compensation report included:

### NGS Custom Peer Group

Company Name	Company Description
Gulfmark Offshore, Inc.	GulfMark Offshore, Inc. provides offshore marine support and transportation services primarily to companies involved in the offshore exploration and production of oil and natural gas.
Exterran Partners, LP	Exterran Partners, L.P. provides natural gas contract operations services to customers in the United States.
Dawson Geophysical Co.	Dawson Geophysical Company provides onshore seismic data acquisition and processing services in the United States.
Bolt Technology Corp.	Bolt Technology develops, manufactures and sells worldwide marine seismic data acquisition equipment and underwater remotely operated robotic vehicles used in offshore seismic exploration for oil and gas.
Pioneer Energy Services corp.	Pioneer Energy Services, through its subsidiaries, provides contract land drilling services and production services in the United States and Colombia.
Vaalco Energy, Inc.	VAALCO Energy, Inc., an independent energy company, together with its subsidiaries, engages in the acquisition, exploration, development, and production of crude oil and natural gas.
Team, Inc.	Team Inc. provides specialty industrial services in the United States, Canada, Europe, and internationally related to the construction, maintenance and monitoring of pressurized piping and associated systems in the refining, petrochemical, power, pipeline and other heavy industrial industries.
Tesco Corp.	Tesco Corporation, together with its subsidiaries, is engaged in the design, manufacture and service delivery of technology-based solutions for the upstream energy industry worldwide.
RigNet, Inc.	RigNet, Inc. provides remote communications services for the oil and gas industry.
Mitcham Industries, Inc.	Mitcham Industries, Inc., through its subsidiaries, engages in the leasing, sale, and service of geophysical and other equipment to the seismic

industry worldwide.

USA Compression Partners, LP

USA Compression Partners provides natural gas compression services under term contracts with customers in the oil and gas industry in the U.S.

Warren Resources, Inc.

Warren Resources, Inc., an independent energy company, engages in the exploration, development, and production of onshore oil and natural gas reserves in the United States.

Flotek Industries Inc.

Flotek Industries develops and supplies drilling, completion and production technologies and related services to the energy and mining industries in the U.S. and internationally.

The Compensation Committee, with the assistance of the compensation consultant, reviewed the companies comprising the Custom Peer Group in order to maintain its appropriateness for the competitive pay analysis. These companies were generally selected since they are all companies in the energy and energy services industry and, the majority relatively similar annual revenues and market capitalization. The Compensation Committee believes the Custom Peer Group reflects our current competitors for employee talent and that it provides an appropriate peer set for the purposes of evaluating our pay practices and the Chief Executive Officer's pay levels.

The published compensation surveys consisted of the following:

- Economic Research Institute, 2013 ERI Executive Compensation Assessor
- Tower Watson, 2013/2014 Top Management Compensation
- Mercer, Inc., 2013 US General Benchmark
- Kenexa, 2013 CompAnalyst Benchmark Survey
- Longnecker & Associates, 2013 Long-term Incentive Survey
- WorldatWork, 2013/2014 Total Salary Increase Budget Survey

The Compensation Committee used the competitive pay information as a “market check” to ensure, in its subjective judgment, that the Chief Executive Officer’s base salary, target total cash compensation, long-term incentive awards and total direct compensation remain competitive. The Compensation Committee does not target any individual pay component to fall within a specific range or percentile of the competitive pay information. While the competitive pay information is important to the Compensation Committee’s approval process, it is just one of several factors considered by the Compensation Committee in approving executive compensation and the Compensation Committee has discretion in determining the nature and extent of its use.

#### Individual and Company Performance - Base Salary and Equity Awards

The Compensation Committee also evaluates compensation, particularly base salary levels and equity awards (restricted stock awards), through an analysis of each executive officer’s individual performance and the overall performance of Natural Gas Services Group, our goal being to strengthen the link between what we pay our executives and the performance of Natural Gas Services Group. Factors the Committee considers in our analysis include:

- the individual performance, leadership, business knowledge and level of responsibility of our officers;
- the particular skill-set and longevity of service of the officer;
- the effectiveness of the officer in implementing our overall strategy; and
- the general financial performance and health of the Company.

#### Specific Company Financial Metrics - Cash Bonuses

With respect to compensation we pay in the form of cash bonuses, the Committee sets target performance levels for three specific company financial metrics. The Committee relies on whether these targets are achieved and the individual performance of our executive officers to determine whether cash bonuses are awarded and the amounts of such bonuses. The three financial metrics the Committee considers are:

- total revenues;
- EBITDA; and
- net income before taxes.

EBITDA is calculated from our audited financial statements by adding to net income, or loss, (1) amortization and depreciation expense, (2) interest expense and (3) provision for income tax expense.

We believe that our core executive compensation mix of base salary, cash bonuses and equity awards, while fairly limited, presently provides enough diversity for us to link executive compensation to our short-term and long-term objectives. For instance, annual income is linked to short-term objectives and providing competitive salary levels to attract and retain top talent, while equity awards are more closely linked to the long-term objectives of earnings per share and increased market value of our common stock.

## Base Salary

We provide our executive officers and other employees with base salary to compensate them for services rendered during the fiscal year. Each year the Committee receives base salary recommendations from our Chief Executive Officer for all of our executive officers (other than our Chief Executive Officer whose base salary is evaluated by the Committee on an annual basis).

In January 2014, the Compensation Committee reviewed the 2013 performance of our Chief Executive Officer, Stephen C. Taylor, along with the competitive pay information provided in Longnecker's report in setting Mr. Taylor's base salary for 2014. Before the increase in salary for 2014, Mr. Taylor's base salary fell to slightly less than the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile bracket.

In connection with that review, the Committee increased the base salary of Mr. Taylor from \$459,250 in 2013 to \$505,175 in 2014, which moved Mr. Taylor's base salary to approximately the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile bracket. The increase was made in recognition of Mr. Taylor's leadership and contributions to the Company's strong 2013 financial and operational results, which included: (i) increasing gross operating margins by 10% from \$43.8 million to \$48.3 million; (ii) achieving in 2013 a 7.9% increase in revenue when 2012 is adjusted for a large non-reoccurring sale from the fleet, 9% increase in operating income; 13% increase in net income and a 13% increase in EBITDA; (iii) generating \$39.2 million from operations while investing \$43.3 million in capital for equipment, (iv) increasing earnings per share by 12%; (v) controlling S,G&A expense within the target of 9% of revenues; (vi) increasing rental revenue by 22%; increasing the Company's common stock price from approximately \$17 at the beginning of 2013 to approximately \$27.50 at the end of 2013, an increase of nearly 62%; and (vii) maintaining safety performance.

While the Compensation Committee reviewed the competitive pay information in connection with setting Mr. Taylor's base salary adjustments, together with his contributions toward our goals, the Compensation Committee did not target his base salary to fall within a specific range or percentile of the competitive pay information.

With respect to our other two named executive officers other than our CEO, James Hazlett, our Vice President of Technical Services, base salary for 2014 was \$190,000 compared to \$177,500 for 2013. The base salary of G. Larry Lawrence, our Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, for 2014, was \$170,000 compared to \$150,000 for most of 2013. We continue, as we have in the past, to rely on the following factors in evaluating and determining the amount of compensation we pay these executives:

- our general knowledge of executive compensation levels in the natural gas compression industry and similarly sized energy service companies;
- each executive's individual performance and the overall performance of Natural Gas Services Group; and
- specific company financial metrics and the application of specific weights to such metrics.

The applicability of these factors varies depending on the type of compensation being evaluated and determined. For instance, we do not rely on weighted company financial metrics to evaluate and determine base salary levels, but such factor is the primary means through which we evaluate and determine the amount of the cash bonuses we award to our executives. Below is a more detailed discussion of how these factors apply to the different types of compensation we utilize.

## Short-Term Incentives - Annual Incentive Bonus Plan



In 2006, the Committee adopted an Annual Incentive Bonus Plan or, the "IBP," that provides guidelines for the calculation of annual non-equity incentive based compensation in the form of cash bonuses to our executives, subject to Committee oversight and modification. The bonuses awarded under the IBP are short-term awards in recognition of the overall performance and efforts made by our executives during a particular year. Each year, the Committee approves the group of executives eligible to participate in the IBP and establishes target award opportunities for such executives. For 2014, the Committee modified Mr. Taylor's target award opportunity to up to 100% of his base salary. Target award opportunity was 45% of average base salary for Messrs. Lawrence and Hazlett.

In 2014, 90% of an executive officer's IBP award was based on achievement of company financial objectives relating to:

- total revenues;
- EBITDA; and
- net income before taxes.

Each of these three components accounts for 30% of the total company financial objective portion of the IBP. The remaining 10% of an executive officer's IBP award is based upon individual performance as evaluated by our CEO (except with respect to our CEO whose individual performance is evaluated by the Committee).

Each year, the Committee sets a target level for each component of the company financial objective portion of the IBP. The payment of awards under the IBP is based upon whether these target levels are achieved for the year. Payout on each of the three financial objectives is as follows:

- 75% of the bonus amount attributable to a financial component will be paid if we achieve at least 90% of the target amount;
- 100% of the bonus amount attributable to a financial component will be paid if we achieve at least 100% of the target amount; and
- 125% of the bonus amount attributable to a financial component will be paid if we achieve at least 110% of the target amount.

Thus, if we achieve 100% on each of the target levels for each of the three components of the company financial objective portion of the IBP, an executive with a base salary of \$100,000 and a target award opportunity of 40% will receive a cash bonus of \$40,000, assuming the executive receives the full amount (10%) of the individual performance portion of the IBP. If we do not achieve at least 90% of the target levels for all of the components, the Committee will decrease the target award opportunity for each executive officer by a percentage of up to 30% for each component in which there is a shortfall.

For instance, if we meet all target levels except that we achieve less than 90% of the target level for EBITDA, the Committee will decrease the executive's award opportunity by up to 30%. With respect to the executive described above, the award opportunity for such executive would be reduced from 40% to as low as 28% (the target bonus of 40% multiplied by 70%), in which case the executive would receive a cash bonus of \$28,000, assuming the executive receives the full amount of the individual performance portion of the IBP. Had we achieved at least 90% of the target level for EBITDA, but less than 100%, then the executive would receive 75% of the bonus amount attributable to EBITDA component, which would equate to an additional \$9,000 for a total bonus of \$37,000.

Similarly, if we achieve at least 110% of each of the three financial component targets, then the executive described above would receive a bonus of \$49,000 (\$4,000 for the individual performance portion plus \$45,000 for achieving at least 110% on each of the three financial components calculated by multiplying \$40,000 times 90% times 125%).

The following table sets forth the bonus financial criteria and target thresholds set by the Committee and compares such thresholds to actual performance achieved and the resulting bonus payout percentages earned in 2014:

#### 2014 Annual Incentive Bonus Plan

Bonus Criteria	Base Target	Actual Performance	% of Base Achieved	Base Target Payout	
Revenue	\$ 100,000,000	\$ 96,974,300	97.0	% 22.5	%
Net Income before Taxes	23,627,000	22,158,000	93.8	% 22.5	%
EBITDA*	44,740,000	43,675,000	97.6	% 22.5	%
Personal Performance				10.0	%
Total				77.5	%

\* EBITDA is defined as the Company's earnings before interest, income taxes, depreciation, and amortization, and is an indicator of operating performance.

The following table sets forth the maximum bonus eligibility set by the Committee for 2014 for each of our named executive officers, and based upon the payout percentages noted in the table above, the bonus payout amount earned by each named executive for 2014 under our Annual Incentive Bonus Plan:

Name	Title	Base Salary	Max Bonus Eligibility	Max Bonus \$	Bonus Payout %	Bonus Payouts
Stephen C. Taylor	President & CEO	\$ 505,175	100	% \$ 505,175	77.5	% \$ 391,511
G. Larry Lawrence	Chief Financial Officer	\$ 170,000	45	% \$ 76,500	77.5	% \$ 59,288
James R. Hazlett	VP- Technical Services	\$ 190,000	45	% \$ 85,500	77.5	% \$ 66,263

As noted in the tables above, actual financial performance for 2014 fell short of each of the three financial metrics set for 2014, but actual results exceeded 90% of the financial metric, thereby entitling each of the named executive officers to 75% of 90% of the maximum bonus payout for each of the three financial metrics.

With respect to the personal performance criteria, the Committee awarded Messrs. Taylor, Lawrence and Hazlett the maximum amount payable under this component, or 10% of the maximum bonus amount that could have been earned in 2014. In addition to the Committee's non-quantitative evaluation of each executive's performance, with respect to all of the named executives, the Committee made this award in recognition of the Company's 2014 financial and operational performance.

With respect to Mr. Taylor's personal performance criteria, the Committee based its full award on (i) his successful strategic expansion into marketing our products to customers in oil shale plays and for his geographic expansion of our business; (ii) successful foresight and positioning of the Company to adjust capital outlays and production to mitigate the sudden downturn in business attributed to the plunging price of oil in the latter part of 2014; and (iii) his continuing to maintain superior cost control, industry leading margins in gross margin, operating income and EBITDA while doing so with a lean corporate staff designed to keep overhead costs down.

With respect to Mr. Lawrence's personal performance criteria, the Committee also based its full award on his success in converting to new COSO 2013 internal control framework ahead of schedule, managing cash flow required to fund \$53.1 million in capital expenditures and continuing to strengthen the Company's accounting and finance department as necessary to meet the demands of a public company.

With respect to Mr. Hazlett's personal performance criteria, the Committee also based its full award on his on-time and on-budget management of our compressor fabrication expansion in Midland, Texas, the successful ramp-up of rental equipment fabrication and his leadership of our product engineering and development activities.

Based on the foregoing, each of our named executive officers received bonus payouts of 77.5% of the maximum potential bonus amount (75% multiplied by 90% plus 10%).

#### Long-Term Incentives - Restricted Stock Awards

We consider restricted stock to be a type of long-term incentive compensation that motivates our executive officers to work toward our long-term growth and allows them to participate in the growth and profitability of Natural Gas Services Group. We believe that restricted stock aligns the interests of our executive officers with our shareholders in that our executive officers will benefit from the options only to the extent that the value of our common stock increases. With the exception of Mr. Taylor, our Chief Executive Officer, the number of shares of restricted stock granted to an executive officer is based on a subjective determination of an officer's individual performance and his

current contributions and potential for future contributions to the overall performance of Natural Gas Services Group. In Mr. Taylor's employment agreement we have agreed to award Mr. Taylor a restricted stock award or equivalent equity awards in January of each year with an aggregate minimum value equal to at least 175% of his Base Salary, subject to one-year vesting terms and other standard terms which shall be established by the Compensation Committee taking into account the performance of the Company, Mr. Taylor and industry norms. Our compensation consultant concurred with our approach relating to long-term incentives and recommended that we continue the practice.

In 2009, we adopted the 2009 Restricted Stock/Unit Plan (the "Plan") and it went into effect upon its approval by our shareholders at our 2009 annual meeting. The Compensation Committee does not have any specific program or plan with regard to the timing or dating of restricted stock or unit grants. However, the Committee's practice will likely be to grant awards after

Natural Gas Services Group's annual earnings releases. We have not and do not plan to purposefully time the release of material non-public information for the purpose of affecting the value of executive compensation.

During the first quarter of 2015, the Company granted the following restricted stock awards in connection with our 2014 financial results and personal accomplishments of our named executive officers:

Name	Dollar Value of the Award	Number of Restricted Shares Awarded
Stephen C. Taylor, CEO and President	\$1,629,169	83,590
James R. Hazlett, Vice President - Technical Services	\$375,000	20,000
G. Larry Lawrence, Chief Financial Officer	\$375,000	20,000

Pursuant to Mr. Taylor's employment agreement, we are required to grant a restricted stock award or equivalent equity awards in January of each year with an aggregate minimum value equal to at least 175% of his Base Salary, subject to one-year vesting terms. See "Compensation Agreements with Management" beginning on page 35 of this Proxy Statement for information concerning Mr. Taylor's new employment agreement.

The Committee also reviewed Mr. Taylor's total compensation level along with Company's performance and Mr. Taylor's personal performance in connection with determining the value of the 2014 restricted stock award. As a result of the Committee's review, the Committee awarded Mr. Taylor (i) 48,760 shares of restricted common stock pursuant to the terms of his employment agreement and (ii) an additional \$34,830 shares of restricted common stock in recognition of our strong 2014 financial and operational results and performance, for a total award of 83,590 shares of restricted common stock. The restricted shares are subject to a one year vesting period, although such vesting is subject to acceleration and will immediately vest in the case of (i) death, disability or retirement of the recipient employee, or (ii) a change of control in the Company, as set forth in the Plan.

On March 19, 2015, the Compensation Committee awarded 20,000 shares of restricted common stock to each of G. Larry Lawrence, our Chief Financial Officer and James R. Hazlett, our Vice President - Technical Services. The restricted shares are subject to a one year vesting requirement from the date of grant. All of the restricted shares are subject to acceleration and will immediately vest in the case of (i) death, disability or retirement of the recipient employee, or (ii) a change of control in the Company, as set forth in the Plan.

The additional restricted shares which were issued to Mr. Taylor in excess of the 175% of his Base Salary obligation under the terms of his employment agreement, and the restricted stock awards to our other two named executive officers were made in recognition of the Company's financial and operation performance as set forth under "Fiscal Year 2014 Performance" on page 16 of this Proxy Statement.

Further information concerning these awards is set forth in column (i) of the "Summary Compensation Table" on page 26 and column (i) of the "Grants of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2014" on page 28.

#### Other Compensation

We maintain a 401(k) retirement plan in which all of our executives and employees are eligible to participate. We match executive and employee contributions to our 401(k) plan, on an equal percentage basis, with cash contributions. The Company matching portion is equal to one-half of the employee's annual contribution up to a maximum of 3% of the employee's salary. Our matching amounts for our executive officers are included in column (i) of the "Summary Compensation Table" on page 26.

Other than the reductions that can occur with respect to the target award opportunities of our executives under our Annual Incentive Bonus Plan, we do not have a written policy or formula regarding the adjustment, reduction or recovery of awards or payments if company performance measures are restated or adjusted in a manner that would reduce the award or payment. However, the Committee does consider compensation realized or potentially realizable from prior compensation awards in setting new types and amounts of compensation, the result of such consideration being varying increases in annual salaries and cash bonuses, with percentage increases in some cases being smaller than previous years.

### Total Direct Compensation

In determining the extent to which our chief executive officer compensation program meets the Committee's compensation philosophy and objectives, the Committee emphasizes the competitiveness of total compensation (the aggregate of base salary, annual cash bonus incentive payment, and the grant value of long-term incentive plan award). In reviewing the Custom Peer Group data from Longnecker's study and discussing with Longnecker the pay practices of our peers, the Committee targeted its total compensation for Mr. Taylor, our Chief Executive Officer, at approximately the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile bracket considering our 2014 financial and operational which have been noted above.

### Employment Agreements

We employed Mr. Taylor in January 2005. On October 23, 2013, we entered into a new written employment agreement with Stephen C. Taylor, our President and Chief Executive Officer. We do not have written employment agreements with any of our other executive officers. On April 24, 2015, we entered into an amendment with Mr. Taylor to his Employment Agreement pursuant to which the "modified single trigger" change of control provision was changed to a "double trigger" change of control. Under the "modified single trigger provision", Mr. Taylor could voluntarily terminate the Employment Agreement for any reason immediately upon a change in control and collect severance benefits. Under the new "double trigger" change of control provision, a change of control must occur followed by the Company or its successor terminating Mr. Taylor's employment other than for cause, death, or disability, or by Mr. Taylor terminating his employment for Good Reason. See "Compensation Agreements with Management" beginning on page 35 of this Proxy Statement for detailed information concerning Mr. Taylor's employment agreement, as amended.

### Allocation of Amounts and Types of Compensation

Other than the restricted stock awards we grant to our executives from time to time and the determinations made by the Committee as to specific target award opportunities under our IBP, the allocation of different amounts and types of compensation has not been a consideration for us, except with respect to our Chief Executive Officer whose employment agreement requires an annual restricted stock award or similar equity award with a value of at least 175% of his base salary. The Committee has not adopted a specific policy or target for the allocation between amounts or types of compensation. We believe that the use of stock awards in our compensation package will align the interests of our management and employees with our stockholders. Notwithstanding moderately increasing the use of stock-based compensation, we intend to maintain and continue our practice of having a simplified, but effective and competitive, compensation package.

### Change of Control and Severance Arrangements

Our 1998 Stock Option Plan, as amended, and our 2009 Restricted Stock/Unit Plan contains change of control provisions. In addition, Mr. Taylor's employment agreement contains change of control and severance provisions. Information regarding these provisions is provided under the caption "Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change of Control" on page 32.

### Stock Ownership/Retention Guidelines

We have not in the past had written guidelines or policy statements that required our executives to maintain specified levels of stock ownership or adhere to specified "holding" practices with regard to our common stock.



### Perquisites

We provide limited perquisites to our executives. The primary perquisites include allowing our executives a choice of receiving an automobile allowance or personal use of a company-provided automobile and matching contributions made by Natural Gas Services Group under our 401(k) plan. Although we provide Mr. Taylor with one club membership, since his use of the club is limited solely for business entertainment, we have not considered it to be a perquisite and have not valued it as such for inclusion in column (i) of the "Summary Compensation Table" on page 26.

Our executives also participate in the same medical, dental and life insurance plans as other employees. However, we pay a greater percentage of the premiums for health insurance for our executives than we do for our other employees.

#### Limit on Deductibility of Certain Compensation

Provisions of the Internal Revenue Code that restrict the deductibility of certain compensation over \$1 million dollars per year have not been a factor in our considerations or recommendations. Section 162(m) of the Code currently imposes a \$1 million limitation on the deductibility of certain compensation paid to specified executives. Excluded from the limitation is compensation that is “performance based.” For compensation to be performance based, it must meet certain criteria, including being based on predetermined objective standards approved by shareholders. The Committee has not taken the requirements of Section 162(m) into account in designing executive compensation.

#### Say-on-Pay

At our 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders held in June 2014, we submitted a proposal to our stockholders regarding our executive compensation practices. The proposal was an advisory vote on the 2013 compensation awarded to our named executive officers (commonly known as a “say-on-pay” vote). Excluding broker non-votes, our stockholders approved our 2013 compensation with 67.6% of the shares that voted on the proposal voted in favor.

We believe that the outcome of our say-on-pay vote indicates our stockholders' support of our compensation approach, specifically our efforts to retain and motivate our named executive officers. In light of this stockholder support, the Committee determined not to change its approach to 2014 compensation as described in this proxy statement. The Compensation Committee will continue to consider the outcome of say-on-pay votes when making future compensation decisions for our named executive officers.

#### Compensation Committee Report

The Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management. Based on its review and discussions, the Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in our proxy statement for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

#### Members of the Compensation Committee

William F. Hughes, Jr. (Chairman)  
John W. Chisholm  
David L. Bradshaw



Executive Compensation

The table below sets forth the compensation earned by, and paid to our CEO, Stephen C. Taylor, and our other named executive officers for services rendered to us for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Summary Compensation Table

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary	Bonus <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock Awards <sup>(2)</sup>	Option Awards <sup>(3)</sup>	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation <sup>(4)</sup>	Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings	All Other Compensation <sup>(5)</sup>	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Stephen C. Taylor, Chairman, President & CEO	2014	\$540,949	\$7,267	\$1,629,169	\$—	\$391,511	\$—	\$14,444	\$2,583,340
	2013	444,798	8,405	1,389,196	86,860 <sup>(6)</sup>	444,324	—	15,752	2,389,335
	2012	411,211	3,786	1,148,821	139,518 <sup>(7)</sup>	409,150	—	14,277	2,126,763
G. Larry Lawrence, Chief Financial Officer	2014	180,708	2,445	375,000	16,910 <sup>(8)</sup>	59,288	—	12,645	646,996
	2013	152,308	3,020	456,150	16,899 <sup>(9)</sup>	66,854	—	13,573	708,804
	2012	129,687	1,356	187,500	16,910 <sup>(10)</sup>	60,256	—	12,517	408,226
James R. Hazlett, Vice President, Technical Services	2014	200,228	3,574	375,000	33,809 <sup>(11)</sup>	66,263	—	29,259	708,133
	2013	180,989	3,574	456,150	33,819 <sup>(12)</sup>	76,325	—	30,119	780,976
	2012	163,350	1,549	187,500	72,758 <sup>(13)</sup>	70,036	—	30,033	525,226

- (1) The amounts reflected in column (d) reflect payments under the company's profit sharing program administered to all employees.
- (2) The amounts in column (e) reflect the grant date fair value of stock granted under our 2009 Restricted Stock/Unit Plan.
- (3) The amounts in column (f) reflect the dollar amounts recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2012, 2013 and 2014, in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, associated with stock option grants under our 1998 Stock Option Plan. Assumptions used to calculate these amounts are included in footnote 8 for our audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012; footnote 8 for our audited financial statement for fiscal year ended December 31, 2013; and footnote 8 for our audited financial statement for fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.
- (4) The amounts in column (g) reflect the cash bonus awards to the named executive officers under our Annual Incentive Bonus Plan, which is discussed in further detail on page 20 under the caption "Short-Term Incentives - Annual Incentive Bonus Plan."
- (5) The amounts shown in column (i) include matching contributions made by Natural Gas Services Group to each named executive officer under our 401(k) plan and the aggregate incremental cost to Natural Gas Services Group of perquisites provided to our named executive officers as follows:



Name	Year	Automobile Allowance	Personal Use of Company Provided Automobiles	Additional Incremental Portion of Health Insurance Premiums Paid for Officers Only	401(k) Plan	Total <sup>(a)</sup>
Stephen C. Taylor	2014	\$—	\$ 1,800	\$7,285	\$5,359	\$14,444
	2013	—	1,800	6,715	7,237	15,752
	2012	—	1,237	6,716	6,324	14,277
G. Larry Lawrence	2014	10,200	—	—	2,445	12,645
	2013	10,200	—	—	3,373	13,573
	2012	9,808	—	—	2,709	12,517
James R. Hazlett	2014	10,200	—	16,463	2,596	29,259
	2013	10,200	—	15,828	4,091	30,119
	2012	10,200	—	15,828	4,005	30,033
Total	2014	20,400	1,800	23,748	10,400	56,348
	2013	20,400	1,800	22,543	14,701	59,444
	2012	20,008	1,237	22,544	13,038	56,827

(6) This amount reflects the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, for 10,000 shares of common stock that vested on January 18, 2013 under the stock option granted to Mr. Taylor on January 18, 2010.

(7) This amount reflects the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012, in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, for (a) 10,000 shares of common stock that vested on January 28, 2012 under the stock option granted to Mr. Taylor on January 28, 2009, (b) 10,000 shares of common stock that vested on January 18, 2012 under the stock option granted to Mr. Taylor on January 18, 2010.

(8) This amount reflects the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, for 1,667 shares of common stock that vested on January 24, 2014 under the stock option granted to Mr. Lawrence on January 24, 2011.

(9) This amount reflects the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, for 1,666 shares of common stock that vested on January 24, 2013 under the stock option granted to Mr. Lawrence on January 24, 2011.

(10) This amount reflects the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, for 1,667 shares of common stock that vested on January 24, 2012 under the stock option granted to Mr. Lawrence on January 24, 2011.

(11) This amount reflects the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, for 3,333 shares of common stock that vested on January 24, 2014 under the stock option granted to Mr. Hazlett on January 24, 2011.

(12) This amount reflects the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, for 3,334 shares of common stock that vested on January 24, 2013 under the stock option granted to Mr. Hazlett on January 24, 2011.

(13) This amount reflects the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, for (a) 3,333 shares of common stock that vested on December 9, 2012 under the stock option granted to Mr. Hazlett on December 9, 2009, and (b) 3,333 shares of common stock that vested on January 24, 2012 under the stock option granted to Mr. Hazlett on January 24, 2011.



## Grants of Plan Based Awards

The table below sets forth the estimated future payouts under non-equity incentive plan awards and restricted stock awards granted and the grant date fair value of such awards.

## Grants of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2014

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards <sup>(1)</sup>			Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards			All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units (#) <sup>(2)</sup>	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Option (#)	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/Sh)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards (\$)
		Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (#)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)				
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)
Stephen C. Taylor	1/15/2015	—	—	—	—	—	—	83,590	—	\$19.49	\$1,629,169
G. Larry Lawrence	3/19/2015	—	—	—	—	—	—	20,000	—	18.75	375,000
James R. Hazlett	3/19/2015	—	—	—	—	—	—	20,000	—	18.75	375,000

(1) No awards were made under the non-equity Incentive Plan for 2014 except as described of the performance goals under our Annual Incentive Bonus Plan, or the "IBP." More information regarding the IBP and the calculation of awards is provided below and under the caption "Short-Term Incentives - Annual Incentive Bonus Plan" on page 21.

(2) The information shown in this column reflects awards of restricted stock earned in 2014 (but issued in early 2015) our named executive officers pursuant to our 2009 Restricted Stock/Unit Plan.

The table below sets forth the estimated future payouts under non-equity incentive plan awards and restricted stock awards granted and the grant date fair value of such awards.

## Annual Incentive Bonus Plan

Our Annual Incentive Bonus Plan or, the "IBP," provides for annual non-equity incentive based compensation in the form of cash bonuses to our executive officers. Our Compensation Committee administers and determines from year to year the executives that are eligible to participate in the IBP. The Committee establishes target award opportunities for the executives eligible to participate in the plan. These target award opportunities are expressed as a percentage of an executive's base salary. An executive's target award opportunity is the maximum cash bonus an executive is eligible to receive in any one year under the IBP.

The Committee establishes annual target levels for Natural Gas Services Group's total revenues, EBITDA and net income before taxes and assigns a weight of 30% to each of these components. The executive's individual



performance is assigned a weight of 10%. If during the year Natural Gas Services Group achieves all of the target levels established by the Committee for total revenues, EBITDA and net income before taxes, and it is determined by the Committee that an executive is entitled to the full 10% weight assigned to individual performance, the executive is entitled to receive the maximum cash bonus amount for the executive for that year. If any one of the target levels is not met or it is determined that an executive is not entitled to the full 10% weight assigned to individual performance, the cash bonus award for the executive is reduced accordingly. More information regarding the IBP and the calculation of awards is provided under the caption “Short-Term Incentives – Annual Incentive Bonus Plan” on page 21.

## 1998 Stock Option Plan

Our 1998 Stock Option Plan provides for the issuance of stock options to purchase up to 750,000 shares of our common stock. The purpose of this plan is to attract and retain the best available personnel for positions of substantial responsibility and to provide long-term incentives to employees and consultants and to promote the long-term growth and success of our business. The plan is administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors. At its discretion, the Compensation Committee determines the persons to whom stock options may be granted and the terms upon which options will be granted. In addition, the Compensation Committee may interpret the plan and may adopt, amend and rescind rules and regulations for its administration. Option awards are generally granted with an exercise price equal to the closing price of our common stock at the date of grant and generally vest based on three years of continuous service and have ten-year contractual terms.

As of December 31, 2014, stock options to purchase a total of 432,269 shares of our common stock were outstanding under the 1998 Stock Option Plan. There were no shares included that relate to our non-employee directors under the compensation arrangements described under the caption “Compensation of Directors” on page 34.

A total of 186,419 shares of common stock were available at December 31, 2014 for future grants of stock options under the 1998 Stock Option Plan. Since the beginning of 2015, we have issued options for 50,000 shares of common stock which has left 136,419 shares available under the 1998 Stock Option Plan as of the date of this proxy statement.

## 2009 Restricted Stock/Unit Plan

The purpose of our 2009 Restricted Stock/Unit Plan (the “2009 Plan”) is to retain our employees and directors having experience and ability, to attract new employees and directors whose services are considered valuable, to encourage the sense of proprietorship, and to stimulate the active interest of such persons in our development and financial success. We believe that grants of restricted stock and restricted stock units are an increasingly important means to retain and compensate employees and directors.

### General Description

**Shares Reserved for Issuance under the 2009 Plan.** A total of 800,000 shares of our common stock are reserved for issuance under the 2009 Plan. The number of shares of our common stock available under the 2009 Plan will be subject to adjustment in the event of a stock split, stock or other extraordinary dividend, or other similar change in our common stock or capital structure.

**Administration.** The Plan is administered by the plan administrator, defined as one or more committees the Company designates consisting of independent directors. The draft of the Plan appoints our Compensation Committee as the administrator (the “Committee”).

Generally, the Committee has the authority, in its discretion, (a) to select officers, directors and employees to whom awards may be granted from time to time, (b) to determine whether and to what extent, awards are granted, (c) to determine the number of shares of our common stock, or the amount of other consideration to be covered by each award, (d) to approve award agreements for use under the Plan, (e) to determine the terms and conditions of any award (including the vesting schedule applicable to the award), (f) to amend the terms of any outstanding award granted under the Plan, (g) to construe and interpret the terms of the Plan and awards granted, and (h) to take such other action not inconsistent with the terms of the Plan, as the Committee deems appropriate.

**Types of Awards; Eligibility.** Awards of restricted stock and restricted stock units (RSUs) may be granted under the Plan. Awards of restricted stock are shares of our common stock that are awarded subject to such restrictions on

transfer as the Committee may establish. Awards of RSUs are units valued by reference to shares of common stock that entitle a participant to receive, upon the settlement of the unit, one share of our common stock for each unit. Awards may be granted to our officers, directors and employees and our related entities, if any. Each award granted under the Plan shall be designated in an award agreement.

**Terms and Vesting of Awards.** As noted above, the Committee determines the terms and conditions of each award granted to a participant, including the restrictions applicable to shares underlying awards of restricted stock and the dates these restrictions lapse and the award vests, as well as the vesting and settlement terms applicable to RSUs. When an award vests, we deliver to the participant a certificate for the number of shares without any legend or restrictions (except as necessary to comply with applicable state and federal securities laws).

In addition to time-based vesting requirements, the Committee is also authorized to establish quantitative and qualitative performance goals in order for awards to vest. For instance, quantitative performance standards, including, but not limited to, financial measurements such as (a) increase in share price, (b) earnings per share, (c) total shareholder return, (d) operating margin, (e) gross margin, (f) return on equity, (g) return on assets, (h) net operating income, (i) pre-tax profit, (j) cash flow, (k) revenue, (l) expenses, and (m) EBITDA, or other performance goal requirements may be adopted by the Committee and set forth in the particular restricted stock or RSU agreement which must be met in order for shares to vest.

**Termination of Service.** Unless otherwise set forth in an individual award agreement, the Plan and forms of award agreements provide that in the event a participant's continuous service with us terminates as a result of death, disability or retirement (an "Acceleration Event"), unvested shares or RSUs at the time of termination due to an Acceleration Event will immediately become vested, but only to the extent that such unvested shares or RSUs would have vested within the 12 months following the Acceleration Event. However, the Committee may revise this default provision on an individual basis as it deems advisable. For example, the Committee could elect to accelerate vesting for all unvested shares and/or RSUs upon the occurrence of an Acceleration Event, or conversely provide that all unvested shares and/or RSUs are forfeited upon the occurrence of an Acceleration Event. In the case of a termination of service other than by an Acceleration Event, any unvested shares of RSUs will immediately become null and void, except that with respect to Restricted Stock awards, the Board of Directors may vest any or all unvested shares in its discretion in the case of any termination of service.

In addition, subject to revision by the Committee, the default provisions of the Plan and form of award agreements provide that a Change of Control triggers accelerated vesting of all shares or units. Under the 2009 Plan, a Change in Control Event is generally defined as:

- a complete liquidation or dissolution;
- acquisition of 50% or more of our stock by any individual or entity including by tender offer or a reverse merger;
- a merger or consolidation in which we are not the surviving entity; or

during any period not longer than 12 consecutive months, members of the Board who at the beginning of such period cease to constitute at least a majority of the Board, unless the election, or the nomination for election of each new Board member, was approved by a vote of at least 3/4 of the Board members then still in office who were Board members at the beginning of such period.

**Restricted Stock.** Under an award of restricted stock, we issue shares of our common stock in the participant's name; however, the participant's rights in the stock are restricted until the shares vest. If the vesting requirements are not met prior to the end of the vesting period, the shares are forfeited. In connection with an award of restricted stock, since actual shares are issued and outstanding, the participant is legally entitled to vote the shares and receive any dividends declared and paid on our common stock prior to the satisfaction of the vesting requirements. However, as discussed above, Participants who hold unvested restricted stock may not sell, assign or transfer such shares until they have vested.

**Restricted Stock Units.** Like a restricted stock award, a restricted stock unit is a grant valued in terms of our common stock. Unlike a restricted stock award, none of our common stock is issued at the time the RSU award is granted. Instead, the award is a mere promise to deliver shares of our common stock upon satisfaction of the vesting requirements. Upon satisfaction of the vesting requirements of the award, we then issue and deliver the number of shares subject to the award. If the vesting requirements are not satisfied prior to the end of the vesting period, the units expire and no shares are issued. Since shares of our common stock are not issued in connection with RSUs until such time as the vesting conditions have been satisfied, participants in the Plan who receive awards of RSUs will not have any voting rights and will not be entitled to dividends until such time as the units vest and shares of our common stock are issued.

Amendment, Suspension or Termination of the Plan. We may at any time amend, suspend or terminate the Plan. The Plan will be for a term of ten (10) years unless sooner terminated. Awards may be granted under the Plan upon it becoming effective, but awards granted prior to obtaining shareholder approval will be rescinded if the shareholders do not approve the Plan. We may amend the Plan subject to compliance with applicable provisions of federal securities laws, state corporate and securities laws, the Internal Revenue Code, and the rules of the NYSE (or such other stock exchange as our common stock may be traded upon at the time).

Change in Capitalization. Subject to any required action by our shareholders, the number of shares of common stock covered by outstanding awards, the number of shares of common stock that have been authorized for issuance under the 2009 Plan, the exercise or purchase price of each outstanding award, the maximum number of shares of common stock that may be granted subject to awards to any participant in a calendar year, and the like, shall be proportionally adjusted by the Committee in

the event of: (i) any increase or decrease in the number of issued shares of common stock resulting from a stock split, stock dividend, combination or reclassification or similar event affecting our common stock; (ii) any other increase or decrease in the number of issued shares of common stock effected without receipt of consideration by us; or (iii) any other transaction with respect to common stock including a corporate merger, consolidation, acquisition of property or stock, separation (including a spin-off or other distribution of stock or property), reorganization, liquidation (whether partial or complete), distribution of cash or other assets to shareholders other than a normal cash dividend, or any similar transaction; provided, however, that conversion of any of our convertible securities shall not be deemed to have been “effected without receipt of consideration.” Except as the Committee determines, no issuance by us of shares of any class, or securities convertible into shares of any class, shall affect, and no adjustment by reason hereof shall be made with respect to, the number of shares of common stock subject to an award.

As of April 14, 2015, we had issued 471,841 shares of restricted stock under the 2009 Plan, of which 313,131 have vested and become unrestricted.

#### Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

The following table shows certain information about stock options outstanding as of December 31, 2014 and held by our Chief Executive Officer, Stephen C. Taylor, and each other named executive officer.

#### Outstanding Equity Awards at 2014 Fiscal Year-End

Name	Option Awards			Equity Incentive Plan Awards:			Stock Awards		Equity Incentive Plan Awards:	Equity Incentive Plan Awards:
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)	Market Value of Shares of Stock that Have Not Vested (\$)	Number of Shares or Rights that Have Not Vested (#)	Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares or Other Rights that Have Not Vested (\$)	Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares or Other Rights that Have Not Vested (\$)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(j)
Stephen C. Taylor	45,000	—	—	\$ 9.22	8/26/2015	—	—	—	—	—
	15,000	—	—	\$ 14.22	11/21/2016	—	—	—	—	—
	40,000	—	—	\$ 20.06	1/15/2018	—	—	—	—	—
	25,000	—	—	\$ 17.51	9/10/2018	—	—	—	—	—
	30,000	—	—	\$ 9.95	1/28/2019	—	—	—	—	—
	23,852	—	—	\$ 7.84	3/17/2019	—	—	—	—	—
G. Larry Lawrence	30,000	—	—	\$ 19.90	1/18/2020	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	49,420	\$ 1,389,196	—	—	—
	5,000	—	—	\$ 17.81	1/24/2021	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	3,333	\$ 49,628	—	—	—

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	—	—	—			15,000	\$456,150	—	—
James R.	5,000	—	—	\$ 17.51	9/10/2018	—	—	—	—
Hazlett	10,000	—	—	\$ 17.74	12/9/2019	—	—	—	—
	10,000	—	—	\$ 17.81	1/24/2021	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—			3,333	\$49,628	—	—
	—	—	—			15,000	\$456,150	—	—

## Option Exercises and Stock Vested in 2014

In the table below, we show certain information about (i) the number of shares of common stock acquired upon exercise of stock options by each of the named executive officers in 2014 and the value realized on exercise of the stock options and (ii) stock awards.

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized on Exercise (\$)	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting	Value Realized on Vesting
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Stephen C. Taylor	—	—	56,950	\$1,747,796
G. Larry Lawrence	—	—	15,001	455,680
James R. Hazlett	—	—	15,001	455,680

## Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change of Control

Our 1998 Stock Option Plan and 2009 Restricted Stock/Unit Plan contains “change of control” provisions. These provisions are designed to provide some assurance that we will be able to rely upon each executive’s services and advice as to the best interests of Natural Gas Services Group and our shareholders without concern that the executive might be distracted by the personal uncertainties and risks created by any proposed or threatened change of control and to promote continuity of our executive team.

Under our stock option plan, the Committee may adjust the stock options held by our executives upon the occurrence of a change of control. With this authority, the Committee may in its discretion elect to accelerate the vesting of any stock options that were not fully vested and allow for the exercise of such options as to all shares of stock subject thereto.

Likewise, under our 2009 Restricted Stock/Unit Plan, a change in control will accelerate the vesting of all awards under the plan unless the Committee has provided otherwise in a particular award under the plan. In addition, upon death, disability or retirement, any vesting or other restrictions on the restricted stock awards will accelerate or lapse such that all shares underlying a restricted stock award will become unencumbered.

As noted in the tables above and summarized below, our named executive officers have stock options and restricted stock awards which are subject to certain vesting requirements.

At December 31, 2014, our named executive officers had the following number of unvested restricted stock awards which were subject to forfeiture as of that date:

Stephen C. Taylor -- 49,420 shares  
 G. Larry Lawrence -- 18,333 shares  
 James R. Hazlett -- 18,333 shares

Each of these restricted stock awards could have become vested and issued without restrictions on December 31, 2014 assuming a change of control were to have occurred on that date. In addition, the restricted stock awards would have been issued without restrictions on December 31, 2014, assuming the named executive officer had died, became disabled or retired. The closing price of our common stock on December 31, 2014, was \$23.04 per share. Accordingly, on December 31, 2014, had there been a change in control event or had the named executive officer died, became disabled or retired, the vesting terms of the restricted stock awards would have lapsed and the



shares would have become unrestricted. As a result, there was a potential for Messrs. Taylor, Hazlett and Lawrence to realize immediate value upon the lapse of restrictions on restricted stock awards as follows: Mr. Taylor --\$1,138,637; Mr. Hazlett --\$422,392; and Mr. Lawrence --\$422,392.

As described under “Compensation Agreements with Management” on page 35, we entered into a written employment agreement with Stephen C. Taylor, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board in October 2013. Under the employment agreement, Mr. Taylor is eligible for certain benefits in connection with a change in control. These provisions were included in Mr. Taylor’s initial employment agreement with us and were continued in his current agreement as part of our

negotiations with Mr. Taylor as to the terms of his employment and as an inducement for him to continue his employ with our company. The change of control and severance provisions were designed to promote stability and continuity with respect to Mr. Taylor's employment as our Chief Executive Officer and President.

The following table summarizes the benefits in effect as of December 31, 2014 that Mr. Taylor would receive assuming that a qualifying termination (i.e., a termination described in footnote 2 below) in connection with a change in control, death or disability or a termination by the Company without cause, or a voluntary termination by Mr. Taylor with and without good reason, occurred on December 31, 2014. Those payments that are available generally to salaried employees that do not discriminate in scope, terms or operation in favor of executive officers are also not included in this table.

#### Chief Executive Officer Potential Payments Table

Named Executive Officer	Qualifying Termination in Connection with a change in Control, Voluntary Resignation with Good Reason, or Termination by Company without Cause (1) (\$)		Termination by Company with Cause, Voluntary Retirement (2) (\$)	
	Death or Disability (2) (\$)	Termination without Good Reason (\$)		
Stephen C. Taylor				
Acceleration of Unvested Restricted Stock Units (3)	\$1,138,637	\$1,138,637	\$—	\$1,138,637
Severance	3,409,931	—	—	—
Medical, Dental, and Vision Benefits	34,362	—	—	—
Life Insurance Premiums	907	—	—	—
TOTAL	4,583,837	1,138,637	—	1,138,637

(1) See "Compensation Agreements with Management" beginning on page 35 for definitions and discussion of Mr. Taylor's severance package in connection with termination due to change of control, voluntary resignation with good reason or termination by the Company without cause.

(2) In the event of Mr. Taylor's employment terminates on account of death, disability, or qualified retirement, 100% of unvested Restricted Stock awards will immediately vest.

(3) The value attributable to the acceleration of unvested Restricted Stock awards is based upon the number of awards multiplied by the closing price of our common stock (\$23.04) on December 31, 2014.



## Compensation of Directors

We use a combination of cash and equity-based incentive compensation to attract and retain qualified candidates to serve on our Board of Directors. In setting compensation for our Directors, we consider the substantial amount of time that Directors expend in fulfilling their duties to us and our shareholders, as well as the skill-sets required to fulfill these duties.

The following table discloses the cash, equity awards and other compensation earned, paid or awarded, as the case may be, to each of our non-employee Directors during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Name	Year	Fees Earned Or Paid (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Option Awards (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings	All Other Compensation (\$)	Total (\$)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	
Charles G. Curtis	2014	\$50,000	\$68,944	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$118,944
	2013	30,000	46,875	—	—	—	—	76,875
	2012	25,000	33,575	—	—	—	—	58,575
David L. Bradshaw	2014	60,000	68,944	—	—	—	—	128,944
	2013	40,000	46,875	—	—	—	—	86,875
	2012	33,333	37,003	—	—	—	—	70,336
John Chisholm	2014	50,000	68,944	—	—	—	—	118,944
	2013	30,000	46,875	—	—	—	—	76,875
	2012	25,000	33,575	—	—	—	—	58,575
William F. Hughes	2014	60,000	68,944	—	—	—	—	128,944
	2013	40,000	46,875	—	—	—	—	86,875
	2012	33,333	33,575	—	—	—	—	66,908

Our non-employee Directors are paid a quarterly cash fee for their attendance at each meeting of our Board of Directors. The cash fee payable to our non-employee Directors for 2014 was \$11,250 per quarter. Each of our non-employee Directors received a cash fee payment of \$11,250 for the four quarters in 2014, totaling \$45,000. In addition, (i) the Chairman of the Audit Committee, David L. Bradshaw and the Chairman of the Compensation Committee, William F. Hughes Jr., were entitled to an additional quarterly cash fee in the amount of \$3,750 and (ii) the Chairman of the Nominating Committee John W. Chisholm, and the Chairman of the Governance and Personnel Development Committee, Charles G. Curtis, were entitled to an additional quarterly cash fee in the amount of \$1,250. In 2013, our non-employee Directors were paid a quarterly cash fee for their attendance at each meeting of our Board of Directors. The cash fee payable to our non-employee Directors was \$7,500 per quarter. Each of our non-employee Directors received a cash fee payment of \$7,500 for the four quarters in 2013, totaling \$30,000. In addition, the Chairman of the Audit Committee, David L. Bradshaw was entitled to an additional quarterly cash fee in the amount of \$2,500; and the Chairman of the Compensation Committee, William F. Hughes Jr., was entitled the same additional quarterly cash fee of \$2,500. In 2012, the quarterly cash fee for attendance at each meeting of our Board of Directors was \$6,250. In addition, the Chairman of the Audit and Compensation Committee was entitled to an additional quarterly cash fee in the amount 33% of their base cash fee.

On March 20, 2014, each of our non-employee Directors were granted 3,288 restricted shares of common stock at an issue price of \$30.41 per share; on March 21, 2013, each of our non-employee Directors were granted 2,500 (2)restricted shares of common stock at an issue price of \$18.75 per share; on March 28, 2012, each of our non-employee Directors were granted 2,500 restricted shares of common stock at an issue price of \$13.43 per share.

#### Cash Compensation Paid to Independent Directors

We pay our non-employee Directors a quarterly cash fee for their attendance at each meeting of our Board of Directors. The cash fee payable to our non-employee Directors for 2014 was \$11,250 per quarter. In addition, the Chairmen of the Audit and Compensation Committees were entitled to an additional quarterly cash fee in the amount of \$3,750; while the Chairmen of the Nominating and Governance and Personnel Development committees were entitled to an additional quarterly cash fee of \$1,250.

### Equity Based Compensation Paid to Independent Directors

In 2012 and 2013, each independent Director received a static grant of 2,500 shares of restricted shares of Company common stock for each year. For 2014, our Board of Directors revised the Company's compensation policy for independent directors so that in lieu of issuing a static 2,500 restricted shares of Company common stock as in past years, the independent directors now receive an annual award of restricted shares based upon a review of equity award values paid by other public companies in the Company's peer group and the Company's market and financial performance in comparison to such peer group companies. For 2014, based upon the Company's performance compared to its peer group, the Compensation Committee recommended and the Board approved an equity award value of \$100,000 in restricted stock. In connection therewith, each of our four independent directors was granted for 2014 the amount of 3,288 shares of restricted stock pursuant to the Plan, based upon the closing price of \$30.41 per share as of March 20, 2014, the date of the grant. The restricted shares are subject to vesting whereby no shares will vest during the first year, and then upon the first anniversary date of the award, one-fourth of the shares will vest every three months so that all restricted shares will have vested on the second anniversary date of the grant of the award. Notwithstanding the vesting schedule, all of the restricted shares are subject to acceleration and will immediately vest in the case of (i) death, disability, or retirement of the recipient or (ii) a change of control in the Company, as set forth in the Restricted Stock Plan.

Directors who are our employees do not receive any compensation for their services as Directors.

### Other

All Directors are reimbursed for their expenses incurred in connection with attending meetings.

We provide liability insurance for our Directors and officers. The cost of this coverage for 2014 was \$108,350.

We do not offer non-employee Directors travel accident insurance, life insurance or a pension or retirement plan.

### Compensation Agreements with Management

On October 23, 2013, we and Stephen C. Taylor entered into a new employment agreement (the "Employment Agreement"), pursuant to which Mr. Taylor continues his employment as our President and Chief Executive Officer. The new Employment Agreement became effective on the same date and Mr. Taylor's previous employment agreement with us, which was set to expire on October 25, 2013, was terminated in connection therewith.

On April 24, 2015, we entered into an amendment with Mr. Taylor to his Employment Agreement pursuant to which the "modified single trigger" change of control provision was changed to a "double trigger" change of control. Under the "modified single trigger provision", Mr. Taylor could voluntarily terminate the Employment Agreement and for any reason and collect severance benefits. Under the new "double trigger" change of control provision, a change of control must occur followed by the Company or its successor terminating Mr. Taylor's employment other than for cause, death, or disability, or by Mr. Taylor terminating his employment for Good Reason. We discuss the definitions of "Change of Control" and "Good Reason" below, along with Mr. Taylor's severance benefits in connection with these events.

The term of the Employment Agreement is for three years but the agreement contains an "evergreen" feature whereby the agreement is automatically extended on a monthly basis on the last day of each month so that the term of the agreement will always be three years unless written notice of nonrenewal is given by the Company. If a notice of nonrenewal is given, the term of employment then ends three years from the date of that written notice of nonrenewal unless terminated earlier as described below. The Employment Agreement provides for Mr. Taylor to receive a base

salary, potential cash bonus, equity compensation, and certain other benefits, which are summarized below.

**Base Salary.** Mr. Taylor's annual 2013 base salary of \$459,250 ("Base Salary") remained the same for the remainder of 2013. However, the Base Salary will be reviewed annually at the beginning of the year by, and may be increased at the discretion of, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Compensation Committee").

**Bonus.** Mr. Taylor will continue to be eligible for an annual cash bonus under the Company's current Annual Incentive Bonus Plan. Mr. Taylor's annual bonus opportunity payable upon achievement of "target" levels shall be at least ninety percent (90%) of Base Salary for 2013 and at least one hundred percent (100%) thereafter. The performance metrics, weighting and thresholds for each annual bonus opportunity will be determined by the Company's Board of Directors or Compensation Committee in good faith following consultation with Mr. Taylor.

Annual Equity Compensation. Mr. Taylor will be eligible for annual grants of equity-based incentive awards under the Company's equity compensation plans. The Company has agreed to award Mr. Taylor a restricted stock award or equivalent equity awards in January of each year with an aggregate minimum value equal to at least 175% of the Executive's Base Salary, subject to one-year vesting terms and other standard terms which shall be established by the Compensation Committee taking into account the performance of the Company, Mr. Taylor and industry norms.

Benefits. The Company will provide Mr. Taylor such retirement, and other benefits as are customarily provided to similarly situated executives of the Company, including paid vacation, coverage under the Company's medical, life, disability and other insurance plans, and reimbursement for all reasonable business expenses in accordance with the Company's expense reimbursement policy.

Termination. The Company or Mr. Taylor may terminate the agreement prior to the expiration of its Term at any time upon written notice.

Severance upon Early Termination. Mr. Taylor will be entitled to the following severance benefits during the first ten years of his employment:

(A) If (i) the Company terminates Mr. Taylor's agreement without Cause (ii) Mr. Taylor terminates the agreement for Good Reason or due to a Change of Control event (as defined below) followed by the Company or its successor terminating Mr. Taylor's agreement without cause or Mr. Taylor terminating the agreement for Good Reason or (iii) Mr. Taylor's employment is terminated due to death or disability, then he will receive (a) a lump sum payment equal to 300% of Base Salary and Annual Bonus; (b) vesting of all unvested equity awards or other long-term incentive compensation; (c) continuation of health insurance benefits and payment of any life insurance premiums for a period of 36 months after termination; and (d) receipt of any other vested benefits which had not yet been paid prior to the date of termination.

(B) If Mr. Taylor's employment is terminated for Cause or he voluntarily resigns, then he will be entitled to any unpaid compensation earned through the date of termination and receipt of any other vested benefits which had not yet been paid prior to the date of termination.

(C) If Mr. Taylor retires in compliance with the Company's retirement policy, then he will be entitled to (i) any unpaid compensation earned through the date of retirement; (ii) vesting of all unvested equity awards or other long-term incentive compensation; and (iii) receipt of any other vested benefits which had not yet been paid prior to the date of termination.

After the tenth anniversary date of Mr. Taylor's employment agreement, in the event the Company delivers to Mr. Taylor a Notice of Nonrenewal and:

(A) his employment is automatically terminated upon the expiration of the remaining three year term, Mr. Taylor shall be entitled to (i) any unpaid compensation earned through the date of retirement; (ii) vesting of all unvested equity awards or other long-term incentive compensation; and (iii) receipt of any other vested benefits which had not yet been paid prior to the date of; or

(B) his employment is terminated prior to the expiration of the remaining three year term, unless said termination is due to Cause, voluntary resignation or retirement, then Mr. Taylor shall be entitled to (i) lump sum payment of his Base Salary at the time of termination for the remainder of the three year term of the agreement; (ii) a lump sum cash payment equal to 100% of the Annual Bonus for each full year (if any) remaining in the three year term, plus a pro-rata portion of such Annul Bonus for any partial remaining year in the three year term; (iii) vesting of all unvested



equity awards or other long-term incentive compensation; (iv) continuation of health insurance benefits and payment of any life insurance premiums for the remainder of the three year term of the agreement; and (v) receipt of any other vested benefits which had not yet been paid prior to the date of termination.

Under the Employment Agreement, a "Change of Control" event includes (i) the acquisition by a person, entity or group of related persons or entities of more than 30% of the total voting power in the Company (excluding sales to underwriters in a public offering); (ii) consummation of the sale of 50% or more of the Company's assets; (iii) consummation of a merger or consolidation of the Company with or into an entity unless the voting securities of the Company immediately prior to the merger or consolidation continue to represent more the 70% of the voting power of the surviving entity after the merger or consolidation; and (iv) replacement of at least a majority of the incumbent members of the Company's Board of Directors, excluding directors whose election to the Board was approved by at least a majority of the then incumbent directors, subject to further limited exceptions as set forth in the "Change of Control" definition in Employment Agreement.

Under the Employment Agreement, a "Good Reason" event includes (i) a material diminution of Mr. Taylor's duties, control, authority or status or position or a requirement that the Executive report to a corporate officer or employee instead of reporting directly to the board of directors; (ii) a material reduction in Mr. Taylor's compensation; (iii) a material breach by the Company of the Employment Agreement; or (iv) a relocation of more than 50 miles of Mr. Taylor's principal office with the Company or its successor. And in connection with a termination due to Change of Control, the following provisions also constitute "Good Reason" events: (i) a material diminution of Mr. Taylor's duties, control, authority or status or position or a requirement that Mr. Taylor report to a corporate officer or employee instead of reporting directly to the Company's or successor's board of directors depending on its composition after the change in control; (ii) the failure of the Company or successor to continue in effect any plan in which Mr. Taylor participates immediately prior to the Change in Control which is material to total compensation, unless an equitable arrangement has been made with respect to any such plan on a basis not less favorable, both in terms of the amount or timing of payment of benefits provided; and (iii) a material breach by the Company or its successor of the Employment Agreement or any other material agreement between Mr. Taylor and the Company or its successor.

**Non-Competition and Non-Solicitation.** In connection with the payment of the severance benefits described above, for a period of two years following Mr. Taylor's separation from the Company, he may not compete with the Company in any geographic area within a 100 mile radius of a Company owned or leased facility which is Company staffed and actively engaging in business on behalf of the Company.

**Clawbacks.** Mr. Taylor's incentive compensation will be subject to clawback regulations in effect under applicable law.

We do not have any written employment agreements with our other named executive officers.

#### Limitation on Directors' and Officers' Liability

Our Articles of Incorporation provide our Directors and Officers with certain limitations on liability to us or any of our shareholders for damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a Director or officer involving certain acts or omissions of any such Director or Officer.

This limitation on liability may have the effect of reducing the likelihood of derivative litigation against Directors and Officers and may discourage or deter shareholders or management from bringing a lawsuit against Directors and Officers for breach of their duty of care even though such an action, if successful, might otherwise have benefited our shareholders and us.

Our Articles of Incorporation and bylaws provide certain indemnification privileges to our Directors, employees, agents and officers against liabilities incurred in legal proceedings. Also, our Directors, employees, agents or officers who are successful, on the merits or otherwise, in defense of any proceeding to which he or she was a party, are entitled to receive indemnification against expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with the proceeding.

We are not aware of any pending litigation or proceeding involving any of our Directors, Officers, employees or agents as to which indemnification is being or may be sought, and we are not aware of any other pending or threatened litigation that may result in claims for indemnification by any of our Directors, officers, employees or agents.

Even though we maintain Directors' and Officers' liability insurance, the indemnification provisions contained in our Articles of Incorporation and bylaws remain in place.

#### Procedures for Reviewing Certain Transactions

On March 7, 2007, we adopted a written policy for the review, approval or ratification of related party transactions. All of our officers, Directors and employees are subject to the policy. Under this policy, the Audit Committee will review all related party transactions for potential conflict of interest situations. Generally, our policy defines a "related party transaction" as a transaction in which we are a participant and in which a related party has an interest. A "related party" is:

- any of our Directors, Officers or employees or a nominee to become a Director;
- an owner of more than 5% of our outstanding common stock;
- certain family members of any of the above persons; and
- any entity in which any of the above persons is employed or is a partner or principal or in which such person has a 5% or greater ownership interest.

### Approval Procedures

Before entering into a related party transaction, the related party or our department responsible for the potential transaction must notify the CEO or the Audit Committee of the facts and circumstances of the proposed transaction. If the amount involved is equal to or less than \$100,000, the proposed transaction will be submitted to the CEO. If the amount involved exceeds \$100,000, the proposed transaction will be submitted to the Audit Committee. Matters to be submitted will include:

- the related party's relationship to us and interest in the transaction;
- the material terms of the proposed transaction;
- the benefits to us of the proposed transaction;
- the availability of other sources of comparable properties or services; and
- whether the proposed transaction is on terms comparable to terms available to an unrelated third party or to employees generally.

The CEO or the Audit Committee, as applicable, will then consider all of the relevant facts and circumstances available, including the matters described above and, if applicable, the impact on a director's independence. Neither the CEO nor any member of the Audit Committee is permitted to participate in any review, consideration or approval of any related party transaction if such person or any of his or her immediate family members is the related party. After review, the CEO or the Audit Committee, as applicable, may approve, modify or disapprove the proposed transaction. Only those related party transactions that are in, or are not inconsistent with, our best interests and that of our shareholders will be approved.

### Ratification Procedures

If one of our officers or Directors becomes aware of a related party transaction that has not been previously approved or ratified by the CEO or the Audit Committee then, if the transaction is pending or ongoing, the transaction must be submitted, based on the amount involved, to either the CEO or the Audit Committee and the CEO or the Audit Committee will consider the matters described above. Based on the conclusions reached, the CEO or the Audit Committee, as applicable, will evaluate all options, including ratification, amendment or termination of the related party transaction. If the transaction is completed, the CEO or the Audit Committee will evaluate the transaction, taking into account the same factors as described above, to determine if rescission of the transaction or any disciplinary action is appropriate, and will request that we evaluate our controls and procedures to determine the reason the transaction was not submitted to the CEO or the Audit Committee for prior approval and whether any changes to the procedures are recommended.

We did not have any related party transactions in 2014 with our Officers or Directors.

## PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS AND SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF MANAGEMENT

For purposes of the following tables, "beneficial ownership" is determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, pursuant to which a person or group of persons is deemed to have "beneficial ownership" of any shares of Common Stock that such person has the right to acquire within 60 days.

The following table indicates the beneficial ownership of our Common Stock as of April 15, 2015 by: (1) each of our current directors and nominees for election; (2) our chief executive officer, principal accounting officer and our other named executive officers (as defined in Item 402(a) (3) of Regulation S-K) (together as a group, the " Named Executive Officers "); and (3) all of our current directors, nominees and executive officers as a group, based on our records and data supplied by each of the current directors, nominees and executive officers.

Name of Beneficial Owner and Position	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership <sup>(1)</sup>	Percent of Class
Directors & Nominees Who Are Not Named Executive Officers		
John W. Chisholm Current Director	31,280 <sup>(2)</sup>	*
Charles G. Curtis Current Director	79,137 <sup>(3)</sup>	*
William F. Hughes, Jr. Current Director & Director Nominee	143,220 <sup>(4)</sup>	1.12%
David L. Bradshaw Current Director & Director Nominee	13,988	*
Named Executive Officers		
Stephen C. Taylor Chief Executive Officer, Current Director	429,283 <sup>(5)</sup>	3.33%
James R. Hazlett Vice President – Technical Services	105,010 <sup>(6)</sup>	*
G. Larry Lawrence Chief Financial Officer	55,000 <sup>(7)</sup>	*
All Directors (and nominees) and executive officers as a group (7 persons)	856,918 <sup>(8)</sup>	6.61%

\* Less than one percent.

(1) The number of shares listed includes all shares of common stock owned by, or which may be acquired within 60 days of April 15, 2015 upon exercise of warrants and options held by the shareholder (or group). Beneficial ownership is calculated in accordance with the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Unless otherwise indicated, all shares of common stock are held directly with sole voting and investment powers. As of April 15, 2015, none of the shares of common stock owned by our officers and Directors had been pledged as collateral to secure repayment of loans.

(2) Includes 15,000 shares of common stock that may be acquired upon exercise of stock options granted under our 1998 Stock Option Plan.

(3) Includes 15,000 shares of common stock that may be acquired upon exercise of stock options granted under our 1998 Stock Option Plan.

(4) Includes 110,500 shares of common stock indirectly owned by Mr. Hughes through the William and Cheryl Hughes Family Trust and 10,000 shares that may be acquired upon exercise of stock options granted under our 1998 Stock Option Plan. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes are co-trustees of the William and Cheryl Hughes Family Trust and have shared voting and investment powers with respect to the shares held by the trust. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes are beneficiaries of the trust along with their two children.

(5) Includes 163,852 shares of common stock that may be acquired upon exercise of stock options granted to Mr. Taylor as an inducement for his employment and under our 1998 Stock Option Plan.

(6) Includes 25,000 shares of common stock that may be acquired upon exercise of stock options granted under our 1998 Stock Option Plan.

(7) Includes 5,000 shares of common stock that may be acquired upon exercise of stock options granted under our 1998 Stock Option Plan.

(8) Includes 238,852 shares of common stock that may be acquired upon exercise of stock options.

The following table sets forth information as of April 15, 2015 regarding the beneficial owners of more than five percent of the outstanding shares of our Common Stock. To our knowledge, there are no beneficial owners of more than five percent of the outstanding shares of our Common Stock as of April 15, 2015 other than those set forth below.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percent of Class
Blackrock, Inc. 40 East 52 <sup>nd</sup> Street New York, New York 10022	799,353 <sup>(1)</sup>	6.28%
Neuberger Berman Group LLC 605 Third Avenue New York, New York 10158	1,255,535 <sup>(2)</sup>	9.86%
Dimensional Fund Advisors Palisades West, Building One, 6300 Bee Cave Road Austin, Texas 78746	915,246 <sup>(3)</sup>	7.19%

(1) According to the filing, Blackrock, Inc. has the sole voting and dispositive power over the shares reported in the table above.

(2) As reported in Amendment No. 6 to Schedule 13G filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 12, 2015. According to the filing, Neuberger Berman Group LLC and Neuberger Berman LLC beneficially own the shares.

(3) As reported in Amendment No. 3 to schedule 13G filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in February 5, 2015. According to the filing, Dimensional Fund Advisors holds voting and/or investment power over the shares, but economic ownership is beneficially by four investment companies.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires our Directors, officers and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of our Common Stock to file certain reports of beneficial ownership with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These reports show the Directors', officers' and greater than 10% stockholders' ownership and the changes in ownership of our common stock and other equity securities. The SEC regulations also require that a copy of all such Section 16(a) forms filed must be furnished to us by the person or entity filing the report.



Based on a review of Section 16(a) filings furnished to us, all transactions in our equity securities required to be reported by Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, were reported on a timely basis.

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## REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Our Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing the integrity of our financial statements; financial reporting processes; compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; the independent registered public accounting firm qualifications and independence; and the performance of our internal accounting functions and independent registered public accounting firm.

Our independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for performing an independent audit of our financial statements in accordance with the Standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) and to issue a report thereon. The Audit Committee reviews with management our financial statements and management's assessment of internal controls over financial reporting; reviews with the independent registered accounting firm their independent report on the condition of the company's financial statements; and reviews the activities of the independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee selects our independent registered public accounting firm each year. The Audit Committee also considers the adequacy of our internal controls and accounting policies. The chairman and members of the Audit Committee are all independent Directors of our Board of Directors within the meaning of Section 303A of the New York Stock Exchange Listed Company Manual.

The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed our audited financial statements with our management. The Audit Committee has also received from, and discussed with, BDO the matters required to be discussed by Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Auditing Standard No. 16 (Communications with Audit Committees)." In addition, the Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from our independent registered public accounting firm required by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in Rule 3200T. In addition, the Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from our independent registered public accounting firm matters pertaining to their independence. Based upon the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited financial statements be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for 2014 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. See "Proposal 2 – Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Accounting Firm" on the following page for further information.

Respectfully submitted by the Audit Committee,

David L. Bradshaw, Chairman  
Charles G. Curtis  
William F. Hughes, Jr.

## PROPOSAL 2 – RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We are asking the stockholders to ratify the Audit Committee’s appointment of BDO USA, LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015. BDO USA, LLP is a registered public accounting firm with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (“PCAOB”), as required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the rules of the PCAOB. Shareholder ratification of the appointment is not required under the laws of the State of Colorado, but the Board believes it is important to allow the shareholder to vote on the proposal. In the event the shareholders fail to ratify the appointment, the Audit Committee will reconsider this appointment. Even if the appointment is ratified, the Audit Committee, in its discretion, may direct the appointment of different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if the Audit Committee determines that such a change would be in our best interests and that of our shareholders.

BDO USA, LLP representatives are expected to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting in person. They will have an opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and will be available to respond to appropriate shareholder questions.

The Board of Directors recommends that the shareholders vote “FOR” the ratification of the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015.

### Principal Accountant Fees

Our principal accountant for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2012, 2013 and 2014 was BDO USA, LLP.

#### Audit Fees

The aggregate fees billed for professional services rendered by BDO USA, LLP for the audit of our financial statements for our fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2014 and the review of the financial statements on Forms 10-Q for the fiscal quarters in such fiscal years were approximately \$231,000 and \$236,000 respectively.

#### Audit Related Fees

During the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2014, there were no audit related fees.

#### Tax Fees

We were not billed by BDO USA, LLP during the years ended December 31, 2013 or 2014.

#### All Other Fees

No other fees were billed by BDO USA, LLP, during our fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2014, other than as described above.

### Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures

As of the date of this proxy statement, our Audit Committee has not established general pre-approval policies and as of December 31, 2014, our Audit Committee had not established pre-approval policies and procedures for the engagement of our principal accountant to render audit or non-audit services. However, in accordance with Section 10A(i) of the Exchange Act, our Audit Committee, as a whole, approves the engagement of our principal accountant prior to the accountant rendering audit or non-audit services.

Certain rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission provide that an auditor is not independent of an audit client if the services it provides to the client are not appropriately approved, subject, however, to a de minimus exception contained in the rules. The Audit Committee pre-approved all services provided by BDO USA, LLP in 2014 and the de minimus exception was not used.

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### PROPOSAL 3 – CONSIDERATION OF AN ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION OF OUR NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the “Dodd-Frank Act”), gives the stockholders the right to endorse or not endorse the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this Proxy Statement in accordance with the SEC's rules. The proposal, commonly known as a “Say On Pay” proposal, gives our stockholders the opportunity to express their views on the Company's executive compensation.

At the Company's annual meeting of stockholders held in June 2011, our shareholders recommended that the advisory vote on the Say-on-Pay of our named executives in our proxy materials be submitted annually, notwithstanding that our Board of Directors recommended that the advisory vote be submitted every third year. In light of the recommendation of the shareholders, we intend to include the Say-on-Pay advisory vote in our proxy materials on an annual basis until the next shareholder vote on the frequency of Say-on-Pay or our Board of Directors otherwise determines that a different frequency of Say-on-Pay vote is in the best interests of the shareholders.

We are asking our stockholders to indicate whether or not they support the compensation program as described in this proxy statement. This proposal is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of the named executive officers and the compensation policies, methodologies and practices described in this proxy statement. Accordingly, we ask our stockholder to vote “FOR” the following resolution at our annual meeting:

“RESOLVED, that the stockholders approve the compensation of the Company's named executive officers, as disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables, and the related disclosure contained in the proxy statement set forth under the caption “Executive Compensation” of this proxy statement.”

The Company believes its compensation philosophy and programs are strongly linked to performance and results and appropriately aligned with the interests of stockholders. Our compensation philosophy is to provide an executive compensation program that:

- rewards performance and skills necessary to advance our objectives and further the interests of our shareholders;
- is fair and reasonable and appropriately applied to each executive officer;
- is competitive with compensation programs offered by our competitors; and
- is appropriately focused on achieving annual financial and operational goals through the Company's cash bonus plan and on maximizing stockholder value over the long term, through grants of restricted shares and stock options.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR approval, on an advisory basis, of the compensation programs of our named executive officers as disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables, and the related disclosure contained in the proxy statement set forth under the caption “Executive Compensation” of this proxy statement.

## SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS

Under SEC Rule 14a-8, if a shareholder wants us to include a proposal in our proxy statement and form of proxy for presentation at our 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, the proposal must be received by us at our principal executive offices at 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701 by December 21, 2015, unless the date of our 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders is more than 30 days from the anniversary date of our 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, in which case the deadline is a reasonable time before we print and mail our proxy materials for the 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The proposal should be sent to the attention of the Secretary of Natural Gas Services Group.

Rule 14a-4 of the SEC's proxy rules allows a company to use discretionary voting authority to vote on matters coming before an annual meeting of shareholders for the prior year's annual meeting of shareholders or the date specified by an overriding advance notice provision in the company's bylaws. Our bylaws do not contain such an advance notice provision. Accordingly, for our 2016 annual meeting, shareholders' written notices must be received by us before March 9, 2016 for any proposal a shareholder wishes to bring before the meeting but for which such shareholder does not seek to have a written proposal considered for inclusion in the proxy statement and form of proxy. Your notice should be addressed to President, Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701.

In order to curtail controversy as to the date on which a proposal was received by us, it is suggested that proponents submit their proposals by certified mail-return receipt requested. Such proposals must also meet the other requirements established by the SEC for shareholder proposals.

## COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Because of our relatively small size, to date we have not developed formal processes by which shareholders or other interested parties may communicate directly with Directors. Until formal procedures are developed and posted on our website ([www.ngsgi.com](http://www.ngsgi.com)), any communication to one or more members of our Board of Directors may be made by sending them in care of Investor Relations, Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701. Shareholders should clearly note on the mailing envelope that the letter is a “Shareholder-Board Communication.” All such communications will be forwarded to the intended recipients.

## OTHER MATTERS

Our Board of Directors does not know of any matters to be presented at the meeting other than the matters set forth herein. If any other business should come before the meeting, the person's named in the enclosed proxy card will vote such proxy according to their judgment on such matters.

New York Stock Exchange Certification. We listed our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange in October 2008. The certification of our Chief Executive Officer required by the NYSE Listing Standards, Section 303A.12(a), relating to our compliance with the NYSE Corporate Governance Listing Standards, was submitted to the NYSE on May 6, 2014 in connection with our listing on the exchange. The certifications of our Chief Executive Officer and Principal Accounting Officer required by the SEC in connection with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 were submitted to the SEC on March 13, 2015 with our Annual Report on Form 10-K.

You may obtain our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 without charge upon written request to Stephen C. Taylor, President, at Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., 508 West Wall Street, Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701. In addition, the exhibits to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 may be obtained by any shareholder upon written request to Mr. Taylor.

In addition, we use our website as a channel of distribution for company information. We make available free of charge on the Investor Relations section of our website ([www.ngsgi.com](http://www.ngsgi.com)) our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and Current Reports on Form 8-K. We also make available through our website other reports filed with or furnished to the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including our proxy statements and reports filed by officers and directors under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act, as well as our Code of Business Ethics and the charters to our various Committees of our Board of Directors. We do not intend for information contained in our website to be part of this proxy statement.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS

Midland, Texas  
April 29, 2015

/s/ Stephen C. Taylor  
Stephen C. Taylor Chairman of the Board,  
President and Chief Executive Officer