

Rice Energy Inc.
Form 8-K
April 29, 2014

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): April 25, 2014

RICE ENERGY INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

001-36273
(Commission
File Number)
171 Hillpointe Drive, Suite 301

46-3785773
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

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Canonsburg, Pennsylvania 15317

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(724) 746-6720

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- .. Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- .. Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 1.01 Entry into Material Definitive Agreement.

Indenture

On April 25, 2014, Rice Energy Inc. (the ***Company***) completed its private placement (the ***Offering***) of \$900.0 million in aggregate principal amount of its 6.250% Senior Notes due 2022 (the ***Notes***) to Barclays Capital Inc. and the other initial purchasers (the ***Initial Purchasers***). The Notes are fully and unconditionally guaranteed on a senior unsecured basis by certain of the Company's subsidiaries (collectively, the ***Guarantors***): Rice Energy Appalachia, LLC, Rice Drilling B LLC, Rice Drilling C LLC, Rice Drilling D LLC, Rice Poseidon Midstream LLC, Rice Olympus Midstream LLC, Blue Tiger Oilfield Services LLC, Alpha Shale Holdings, LLC and Alpha Shale Resources, LP. The terms of the Notes are governed by the indenture dated as of April 25, 2014 (the ***Indenture***), by and among the Company, the Guarantors and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee (the ***Trustee***).

The Notes will mature on May 1, 2022, and interest is payable on the Notes on each May 1 and November 1, commencing on November 1, 2014. At any time prior to May 1, 2017, the Company may redeem up to 35% of the Notes at a redemption price of 106.25% of the principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date, with the proceeds of certain equity offerings so long as the redemption occurs within 180 days of completing such equity offering and at least 65% of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes remains outstanding after such redemption. Prior to May 1, 2017, the Company may redeem some or all of the notes for cash at a redemption price equal to 100% of their principal amount plus an applicable make-whole premium and accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date. Upon the occurrence of a Change of Control (as defined in the Indenture), unless the Company has exercised its optional redemption right in respect of the Notes, the holders of the Notes will have the right to require the Company to repurchase all or a portion of the Notes at a price equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes, plus any accrued and unpaid interest to the date of purchase. On and after May 1, 2017, the Company may redeem some or all of the Notes at redemption prices (expressed as percentages of principal amount) equal to 104.688% for the twelve-month period beginning on May 1, 2017, 103.125% for the twelve-month period beginning May 1, 2018, 101.563% for the twelve-month period beginning on May 1, 2019 and 100.000% beginning on May 1, 2020, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date.

The Notes are the Company's senior unsecured obligations, will rank equally in right of payment with all of the Company's existing and future senior debt, and will rank senior in right of payment to all of the Company's future subordinated debt. The Notes will be effectively subordinated to all of the Company's existing and future secured debt to the extent of the value of the collateral securing such indebtedness.

The Indenture restricts the Company's ability and the ability of certain of its subsidiaries to: (i) incur or guarantee additional debt or issue certain types of preferred stock; (ii) pay dividends capital stock or redeem, repurchase or retire our capital stock or subordinated debt; (iii) make certain investments; (iv) incur liens; (v) enter into transactions with affiliates; (vi) merge or consolidate with another company; (vii) transfer and sell assets; and (viii) create unrestricted subsidiaries. These covenants are subject to a number of important exceptions and qualifications. If at any time when the Notes are rated investment grade by both Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and Standard & Poor's Ratings Services and no Default (as defined in the Indenture) has occurred and is continuing, many of such covenants will terminate and the Company and its subsidiaries will cease to be subject to such covenants.

The Indenture contains customary events of default, including:

default in any payment of interest on any Note when due, continued for 30 days;

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default in the payment of principal of or premium, if any, on any Note when due;

failure by the Company to comply with its other obligations under the Indenture, in certain cases subject to notice and grace periods;

payment defaults and accelerations with respect to other indebtedness of the Company and its Restricted Subsidiaries (as defined in the Indenture) in the aggregate principal amount of \$25.0 million or more;

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Company or a Significant Subsidiary (as defined in the Indenture) or group of Restricted Subsidiaries that, taken together, would constitute a Significant Subsidiary;

failure by the Company or Restricted Subsidiary to pay certain final judgments aggregating in excess of \$25.0 million within 60 days; and

any guarantee of the Notes by a Guarantor ceases to be in full force and effect, is declared null and void in a judicial proceeding or is denied or disaffirmed by its maker;

A copy of the Indenture is filed as Exhibit 4.1 to this Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference. The description of the Indenture is a summary and is qualified in its entirety by the terms of the Indenture.

Registration Rights Agreement

In connection with the issuance and sale of the Notes, the Company and the Guarantors entered into a registration rights agreement (the ***Registration Rights Agreement***) with the Initial Purchasers, dated April 25, 2014. Pursuant to the Registration Rights Agreement, the Company and the Guarantors have agreed to file a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission so that holders of the Notes can exchange the Notes for registered notes (the ***Exchange Notes***) that have substantially identical terms as the Notes. In addition, the Company and the Guarantors have agreed to exchange the guarantee related to the Notes for a registered guarantee having substantially the same terms as the original guarantee. The Company and the Guarantors will use commercially reasonable efforts to cause the exchange to be completed within 365 days after the issuance of the Notes. The Company and the Guarantors are required to pay additional interest if they fail to comply with their obligations to register the Notes within the specified time periods.

A copy of the Registration Rights Agreement is filed as Exhibit 4.3 to this Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference. The description of the Registration Rights Agreement in this report is a summary and is qualified in its entirety by the terms of the Registration Rights Agreement.

Item 2.03 Creation of a Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under an Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registrant.

The information included in Item 1.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 2.03 of this Current Report on Form 8-K.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
4.1	Indenture, dated as of April 25, 2014, by and among Rice Energy Inc., the several guarantors named therein and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee.
4.2	Form of 6.250% Senior Note due 2022 (included as Exhibit A to Exhibit 4.1).

- 4.3 Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of April 25, 2014, by and among Rice Energy Inc., the several guarantors named therein and Barclays Capital Inc. as representative of the initial purchasers named therein.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

RICE ENERGY INC.

By: /s/ Daniel J. Rice IV
Daniel J. Rice IV
Director, Chief Executive Officer

Dated: April 29, 2014

EXHIBIT INDEX

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