

HECLA MINING CO/DE/
Form 10-Q
May 05, 2016
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UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2016

Commission file number 1-8491

HECLA MINING COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

77-0664171
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

6500 Mineral Drive, Suite 200
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
(Address of principal executive offices)

83815-9408
(Zip Code)

208-769-4100
(Registrant's
telephone
number,
including area
code)

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes . No .

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes . No .

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

Large Accelerated Filer .

Accelerated Filer .

Non-Accelerated Filer .

Smaller reporting company .

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

Yes . No .

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

| Class | Shares Outstanding May 3, 2016 |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Common stock, par value \$0.25 per share | 384,012,398 |

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Hecla Mining Company and Subsidiaries

Form 10-Q

For the Quarter Ended March 31, 2016

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*Items 2, 3 and 5 of Part II are omitted as they are not applicable.

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Part I - Financial Information

Item 1. Financial Statements

Hecla Mining Company and Subsidiaries

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited)

(In thousands, except shares)

| | March 31, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$134,018 | \$155,209 |
| Accounts receivable: | | |
| Trade | 30,127 | 13,490 |
| Taxes | 14,648 | 11,458 |
| Other, net | 16,786 | 16,401 |
| Inventories: | | |
| Concentrates, doré, and stockpiled ore | 29,199 | 22,441 |
| Materials and supplies | 23,619 | 23,101 |
| Current deferred income taxes | 15,268 | 17,980 |
| Current restricted cash | 3,900 | — |
| Other current assets | 9,289 | 9,453 |
| Total current assets | 276,854 | 269,533 |
| Non-current investments | 2,086 | 1,515 |
| Non-current restricted cash and investments | 999 | 999 |
| Properties, plants, equipment and mineral interests, net | 1,907,775 | 1,896,811 |
| Non-current deferred income taxes | 34,981 | 36,589 |
| Reclamation insurance | 13,695 | 13,695 |
| Other non-current assets and deferred charges | 2,783 | 2,783 |
| Total assets | \$2,239,173 | \$2,221,925 |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$56,657 | \$51,277 |
| Accrued payroll and related benefits | 19,873 | 27,563 |
| Accrued taxes | 8,958 | 8,915 |
| Current portion of capital leases | 8,216 | 8,735 |

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| | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Current portion of accrued reclamation and closure costs | 20,989 | 20,989 |
| Current portion of debt | 2,057 | 2,721 |
| Other current liabilities | 16,068 | 6,884 |
| Total current liabilities | 132,818 | 127,084 |
| Capital leases | 7,427 | 8,841 |
| Accrued reclamation and closure costs | 75,729 | 74,549 |
| Long-term debt | 500,531 | 500,199 |
| Non-current deferred tax liability | 126,009 | 119,623 |
| Non-current pension liability | 45,874 | 46,513 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 3,539 | 6,190 |
| Total liabilities | 891,927 | 882,999 |
| Commitments and contingencies (Notes 2, 4, 7, 9, and 11) | | |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Preferred stock, 5,000,000 shares authorized: | | |
| Series B preferred stock, \$0.25 par value, 157,816 shares issued and outstanding, liquidation preference — \$7,891 | 39 | 39 |
| Common stock, \$0.25 par value, 500,000,000 shares authorized; issued and outstanding 2016 — 381,520,569 shares and 2015 — 378,112,840 shares | 96,215 | 95,219 |
| Capital surplus | 1,528,820 | 1,519,598 |
| Accumulated deficit | (234,272) | (232,565) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (31,566) | (32,631) |
| Less treasury stock, at cost; 2016 - 3,037,154 and 2015 - 2,764,973 shares issued and held in treasury | (11,990) | (10,734) |
| Total stockholders' equity | 1,347,246 | 1,338,926 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$2,239,173 | \$2,221,925 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Hecla Mining Company and Subsidiaries

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive (Loss) Income (Unaudited)

(Dollars and shares in thousands, except for per-share amounts)

| | Three Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------|------------|
| | March | March |
| | 31, 2016 | 31, 2015 |
| Sales of products | \$ 131,017 | \$ 119,092 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs | 74,320 | 73,965 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 25,875 | 25,254 |
| | 100,195 | 99,219 |
| Gross profit | 30,822 | 19,873 |
| Other operating expenses: | | |
| General and administrative | 10,214 | 8,720 |
| Exploration | 2,950 | 4,615 |
| Pre-development | 404 | 521 |
| Other operating expense | 640 | 628 |
| Provision for closed operations and environmental matters | 1,041 | 467 |
| | 15,249 | 14,951 |
| Income from operations | 15,573 | 4,922 |
| Other income (expense): | | |
| Unrealized loss on investments | (711) | (2,843) |
| Gain on derivative contracts | — | 5,792 |
| Net foreign exchange (loss) gain | (8,203) | 12,274 |
| Interest and other income | 88 | 38 |
| Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized | (5,711) | (6,192) |
| | (14,537) | 9,069 |
| Income before income taxes | 1,036 | 13,991 |
| Income tax provision | (1,654) | (1,439) |
| Net (loss) income | (618) | 12,552 |
| Preferred stock dividends | (138) | (138) |
| (Loss) income applicable to common stockholders | \$(756) | \$12,414 |
| Comprehensive income: | | |
| Net (loss) income | \$(618) | \$12,552 |
| Reclassification of impairment of investments included in net income | 1,000 | 2,827 |
| Unrealized holding gains (losses) on investments | 65 | (891) |
| Comprehensive income | \$447 | \$14,488 |
| Basic (loss) income per common share after preferred dividends | \$— | \$0.03 |
| Diluted (loss) income per common share after preferred dividends | \$— | \$0.03 |
| Weighted average number of common shares outstanding - basic | 379,022 | 368,789 |
| Weighted average number of common shares outstanding - diluted | 379,022 | 369,691 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Hecla Mining Company and Subsidiaries

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

(In thousands)

| | Three Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------|-----------|
| | March | March |
| | 31, 2016 | 31, 2015 |
| Operating activities: | | |
| Net (loss) income | \$(618) | \$12,552 |
| Non-cash elements included in net (loss) income: | | |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 26,153 | 25,523 |
| Unrealized loss on investments | 711 | 2,843 |
| (Gain) loss on disposition of properties, plants, equipment, and mineral interests | (210) | 74 |
| Provision for reclamation and closure costs | 999 | 778 |
| Stock compensation | 1,231 | 1,060 |
| Deferred income taxes | 3,320 | 555 |
| Amortization of loan origination fees | 459 | 454 |
| Loss (gain) on derivative contracts | 170 | (2,970) |
| Foreign exchange loss (gain) | 7,989 | (11,490) |
| Other non-cash gains, net | 6 | 24 |
| Change in assets and liabilities: | | |
| Accounts receivable | (20,036) | (8,210) |
| Inventories | (5,922) | 3,949 |
| Other current and non-current assets | (619) | (1,638) |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 10,036 | 4,037 |
| Accrued payroll and related benefits | (2,826) | (5,116) |
| Accrued taxes | (37) | (263) |
| Accrued reclamation and closure costs and other non-current liabilities | (2,058) | (743) |
| Cash provided by operating activities | 18,748 | 21,419 |
| Investing activities: | | |
| Additions to properties, plants, equipment and mineral interests | (34,654) | (26,958) |
| Proceeds from disposition of properties, plants and equipment | 215 | 25 |
| Purchases of investments | — | (947) |
| Addition to restricted cash for environmental matters | (3,900) | — |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (38,339) | (27,880) |
| Financing activities: | | |
| Proceeds from sale of common stock, net of offering costs | 2,052 | — |
| Acquisition of treasury shares | (1,256) | (941) |
| Dividends paid to common stockholders | (952) | (924) |
| Dividends paid to preferred stockholders | (138) | (138) |
| Debt origination fees | (59) | (63) |

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| | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Repayments of debt | (664) | — |
| Repayments of capital leases | (2,118) | (2,347) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (3,135) | (4,413) |
| Effect of exchange rates on cash | 1,535 | (2,560) |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents | (21,191) | (13,434) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 155,209 | 209,665 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$134,018 | \$196,231 |
| Significant non-cash investing and financing activities: | | |
| Addition of capital lease obligations | \$— | \$1,599 |
| Payment of accrued compensation in stock | \$5,511 | \$3,016 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Note 1. Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

In the opinion of management, the accompanying unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements and notes to the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring items and items which are nonrecurring, necessary to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Hecla Mining Company and its consolidated subsidiaries ("Hecla" or "the Company" or "we" or "our" or "us"). See *Note 4* for information on adjustments which are nonrecurring contained in the accompanying unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements. These unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with our audited consolidated financial statements and related footnotes as set forth in our annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, as it may be amended from time to time.

The results of operations for the periods presented may not be indicative of those which may be expected for a full year. The unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in audited financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States ("GAAP") have been condensed or omitted pursuant to those rules and regulations, although we believe that the disclosures are adequate for the information not to be misleading.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements, the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period, and the disclosures of contingent liabilities. Accordingly, ultimate results could differ materially from those estimates.

Note 2. Investments and Restricted Cash

Investments

At March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the fair value of our non-current investments was \$2.1 million and \$1.5 million, respectively. Our non-current investments consist of marketable equity securities which are carried at fair market value, and are primarily classified as "available-for-sale." The cost basis of our non-current investments was approximately \$3.2 million and \$4.0 million at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively. During the first quarters of 2016 and 2015, we recognized impairment charges against current earnings of \$1.0 million and \$2.8 million, respectively, as we determined the impairments to be other-than-temporary.

Restricted Cash and Investments

Various laws, permits, and covenants require that funds be in place for certain environmental and reclamation obligations and other potential liabilities. We had a current restricted cash balance of \$3.9 million as of March 31, 2016 representing funds deposited in escrow to be applied towards a potential settlement of environmental matters for the South Dakota and Colorado Superfund sites related to CoCa Mines, Inc. (see *Note 4* for more information). Our non-current restricted investments are used primarily for reclamation funding or for funding surety bonds, and were \$1.0 million at each of March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015. Non-current restricted investments primarily represent investments in money market funds and certificates of deposit.

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Major components of our income tax provision for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows (in thousands):

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 2015 | |
|---|--|---------|
| Current: | | |
| Domestic | \$(2,506) | \$97 |
| Foreign | 1,015 | 708 |
| Total current income tax (benefit) provision | (1,491) | 805 |
| Deferred: | | |
| Domestic | 588 | 2,422 |
| Foreign | 2,557 | (1,788) |
| Total deferred income tax provision (benefit) | 3,145 | 634 |
| Total income tax provision | \$1,654 | \$1,439 |

As of March 31, 2016, we have a net deferred tax asset in the U.S. of \$42.3 million, a net deferred tax liability in Canada of \$127.1 million, and a net deferred tax asset in Mexico of \$7.9 million, for a consolidated worldwide net deferred tax liability of \$76.9 million. Our ability to utilize our deferred tax assets depends on future taxable income generated from operations. For the three months ended March 31, 2016, there were no circumstances that caused us to change our assessment of the ability to generate sufficient future taxable income to realize the currently recognized deferred tax assets. At March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the balances of the valuation allowances on our deferred tax assets were \$113 million and \$116 million, respectively, primarily for net operating losses and tax credit carryforwards. The amount of the deferred tax asset considered recoverable, however, could be reduced in the near term if estimates of future taxable income are reduced.

The current income tax provisions for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 vary from the amounts that would have resulted from applying the statutory income tax rate to pre-tax income due primarily to the effects of percentage depletion for all periods presented and the impact of taxation in foreign jurisdictions.

Note 4. Commitments, Contingencies and Obligations

General

We follow the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") guidance in determining our accruals and disclosures with respect to loss contingencies, and evaluate such accruals and contingencies for each reporting period. Accordingly, estimated losses from loss contingencies are accrued by a charge to income when information available prior to issuance of the financial statements indicates that it is probable that a liability could be incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Legal expenses associated with the contingency are expensed as incurred. If a loss contingency is not probable or reasonably estimable, disclosure of the loss contingency is made in the financial statements when it is at least reasonably possible that a material loss could be incurred.

Rio Grande Silver Guaranty

Our wholly-owned subsidiary, Rio Grande Silver Inc. ("Rio"), is party to a joint venture with Emerald Mining & Leasing, LLC ("EML") and certain other parties with respect to a land package in the Creede Mining District of Colorado that is adjacent to other land held by Rio. Rio holds a 70% interest in the joint venture. In connection with the joint venture, we are required to guarantee certain environmental remediation-related obligations of EML to a third party up to a maximum liability to us of \$2.5 million. As of March 31, 2016, we have not been required to make any payments pursuant to the guaranty. We may be required to make payments in the future, limited to the \$2.5 million maximum liability, should EML fail to meet its obligations to the third party. However, to the extent that any payments are made by us under the guaranty, EML, in addition to other parties, has jointly and severally agreed to reimburse and indemnify us for any such payments. We have not recorded a liability relating to the guaranty as of March 31, 2016.

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Lucky Friday Water Permit Matters

Over the last several years, the Lucky Friday unit has experienced several regulatory issues relating to its water discharge permits and water management more generally. In December 2013, the EPA issued to Hecla Limited a notice of violation (“2013 NOV”) alleging certain storm water reporting violations under Lucky Friday’s Clean Water Act Multi-Sector General Stormwater Permit for Industrial Activities. The alleged violations were resolved. The 2013 NOV also contained a request for information under Section 308 of the Clean Water Act directing Hecla Limited to undertake a comprehensive groundwater investigation of Lucky Friday’s tailings pond no. 3 to evaluate whether the pond is causing the discharge of pollutants via seepage to groundwater that is discharging to surface water.

We completed the investigation mandated by the EPA and submitted a draft report to the agency in December 2015. We are waiting for the EPA’s response, and until such time as the process is complete, we cannot predict what the impact of the investigation will be.

Hecla Limited strives to maintain its water discharges at the Lucky Friday unit in full compliance with its permits and applicable laws, however, we cannot provide assurance that in the future it will be able to fully comply with the permit limits and other regulatory requirements regarding water management.

Johnny M Mine Area near San Mateo, McKinley County, New Mexico

In May 2011, the EPA made a formal request to Hecla Mining Company for information regarding the Johnny M Mine Area near San Mateo, McKinley County, New Mexico, and asserted that Hecla Mining Company may be responsible under CERCLA for environmental remediation and past costs the EPA has incurred at the site. Mining at the Johnny M was conducted for a limited period of time by a predecessor of our subsidiary, Hecla Limited. In August 2012, Hecla Limited and the EPA entered into a Settlement Agreement and Administrative Order on Consent for Removal Action (“Consent Order”), pursuant to which Hecla Limited agreed to pay (i) \$1.1 million to the EPA for its past response costs at the site and (ii) any future response costs at the site under the Consent Order, in exchange for a covenant not to sue by the EPA. Hecla Limited paid the approximately \$1.1 million to the EPA for its past response costs and in December 2014, submitted to EPA the Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (“EE/CA”) for the site. The EE/CA evaluates three alternative response actions: 1) no action, 2) off-site disposal, and 3) on-site disposal. The range in estimated costs of these alternatives is \$0 to \$221 million. In the EE/CA, Hecla Limited recommended that EPA approve on-site disposal, which is currently estimated to cost \$5.6 million, on the basis that it is the most appropriate response action under CERCLA. In June 2015, the EPA approved the EE/CA, with a few minor conditions. The EPA still needs to publish the EE/CA for public notice and comment, and the agency will not make a final decision on the appropriate response action until the public comment process is complete. It is anticipated that Hecla Limited will implement the response action selected by the EPA pursuant to an amendment to the Consent Order or a new order. Based on the foregoing, we believe it is probable that Hecla Limited will incur a liability for

remediation at the site, and our best estimate of that liability as of the date of this report is \$5.6 million, and we have accrued that amount. There can be no assurance that Hecla Limited's liability will not be more than \$5.6 million, or that its ultimate liability will not have a material adverse effect on Hecla Limited's or our results of operations or financial position.

Carpenter Snow Creek Site, Cascade County, Montana

In July 2010, the EPA made a formal request to Hecla Mining Company for information regarding the Carpenter Snow Creek Superfund Site located in Cascade County, Montana. The Carpenter Snow Creek Site is located in a historic mining district, and in the early 1980s Hecla Limited leased 6 mining claims and performed limited exploration activities at the site. Hecla Limited terminated the mining lease in 1988.

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In June 2011, the EPA informed Hecla Limited that it believes Hecla Limited, among several other viable companies, may be liable for cleanup of the site or for costs incurred by the EPA in cleaning up the site. The EPA stated in the June 2011 letter that it has incurred approximately \$4.5 million in response costs and estimated that total remediation costs may exceed \$100 million. Hecla Limited cannot with reasonable certainty estimate the amount or range of liability, if any, relating to this matter because of, among other reasons, the lack of information concerning the site.

South Dakota and Colorado Superfund Sites Related to CoCa Mines, Inc.

In 1991, Hecla Limited acquired all of the outstanding common stock of CoCa Mines, Inc. (“CoCa”). CoCa is alleged to have held prior property interests and undertaken exploration activities at the Gilt Edge Mine Superfund site in Lawrence County, South Dakota, and to have been engaged in exploration and mining activities at or near the Nelson Tunnel/Commodore Waste Rock Pile Superfund site in Creede, Colorado. The United States and the State of South Dakota have alleged that CoCa, along with other parties, is a potentially responsible party (“PRP”) under CERCLA at the Gilt Edge site. In addition, the United States and the State of Colorado have alleged that CoCa is a PRP at the Nelson Tunnel/Commodore site. The United States, South Dakota and Colorado base their claims of liability on allegations of CoCa’s historical relationship to each site, and that CoCa has succeeded to the liabilities of one or more predecessor entities that may have held certain property interests at the sites or undertaken certain activities.

The United States alleges that it has, to date, incurred \$118 million, plus interest, in response costs at the Gilt Edge site. At the Nelson Tunnel/Commodore site, the EPA alleges that it has, to date, incurred \$10 million, plus interest, in response costs.

As a result of ongoing settlement discussions, Consent Decrees were lodged with the United States District Court in Colorado on April 14, 2016, that would settle the Nelson Tunnel/Commodore Waste Rock Pile Superfund site matter, and in South Dakota on April 15, 2016, that would settle the Gilt Edge Superfund site matter. The Consent Decrees resolve CoCa’s alleged liabilities for past and future response costs with respect to each site, and include combined net payments in the aggregate of \$9.9 million by CoCa. With respect to Gilt Edge, the proposed financial terms require that CoCa pay \$3.9 million, as well as up to \$700,000 in any proceeds from a lawsuit CoCa has filed against an uncooperative insurer. The remainder of the settlement amount (\$6.4 million) would be paid by insurance companies and another PRP. With respect to the Nelson Tunnel site, the proposed financial terms require that CoCa pay \$6 million.

As a result, in the second quarter of 2015 we accrued \$9.9 million by recording a liability for the total amount that would be paid by CoCa and an asset for the estimated amount that would be recovered by CoCa from insurers and the other party to the Gilt Edge settlement.

The Consent Decrees were published in the Federal Register on April 26, 2016, which began a 30-day public comment period for each Consent Decree. Upon conclusion of the comment period, the United States will evaluate and respond to any public comments received and then is expected to seek Court approval and entry of each Consent Decree. If each Court enters the respective Consent Decree lodged with it, CoCa will have resolved the claims of (i) the United States and the State of South Dakota with respect to the Gilt Edge site, and (ii) the United States and the State of Colorado with respect to the Nelson Tunnel site, in each case under CERCLA and certain relevant state statutes, for all past and future response costs at each site.

There can be no assurance that the Consent Decrees will be entered by the Courts and become final and binding. Accordingly, in the event these matters are not settled, our accrual could materially change.

Senior Notes

On April 12, 2013, we completed an offering of \$500 million aggregate principal amount of 6.875% Senior Notes due 2021. The net proceeds from the offering of the Senior Notes were used to partially fund the acquisition of Aurizon Mines Ltd. ("Aurizon") and for general corporate purposes, including expenses related to the Aurizon acquisition. In 2014, we completed additional issuances of our Senior Notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$6.5 million, which were contributed to one of our pension plans to satisfy the funding requirement for 2014. Interest on the Senior Notes is payable on May 1 and November 1 of each year, commencing November 1, 2013. See *Note 9* for more information.

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Other Commitments

Our contractual obligations as of March 31, 2016 included approximately \$11.7 million for various costs. In addition, our open purchase orders at March 31, 2016 included approximately \$1.0 million, \$0.7 million and \$0.6 million, respectively, for various capital items at the Lucky Friday, Casa Berardi and Greens Creek units, and approximately \$0.5 million, \$3.6 million, and \$2.4 million, respectively, for various non-capital costs at the Lucky Friday, Casa Berardi and Greens Creek units. We also have total commitments of approximately \$16.3 million relating to scheduled payments on capital leases, including interest, primarily for equipment at our Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and Casa Berardi units (see *Note 9* for more information). As part of our ongoing business and operations, we are required to provide surety bonds, bank letters of credit, and restricted deposits for various purposes, including financial support for environmental reclamation obligations and workers compensation programs. As of March 31, 2016, we had surety bonds totaling \$100.5 million in place as financial support for future reclamation and closure costs, self insurance, and employee benefit plans. We also held a \$6.5 million restricted deposit at March 31, 2016 as financial support for reclamation of the Troy mine acquired as part of the acquisition of Revett Mining Company, Inc. ("Revett"). The obligations associated with these instruments are generally related to performance requirements that we address through ongoing operations. As the requirements are met, the beneficiary of the associated instruments cancels or returns the instrument to the issuing entity. Certain of these instruments are associated with operating sites with long-lived assets and will remain outstanding until closure of the sites. We believe we are in compliance with all applicable bonding requirements and will be able to satisfy future bonding requirements as they arise.

Other Contingencies

On April 12, 2013, the family of Larry Marek, an employee of Hecla Limited who was fatally injured in an April 2011 accident, filed a lawsuit against us and certain of our officers and employees seeking damages for, among other claims, wrongful death and infliction of emotional distress. No dollar amount of damages is specified in the complaint, which was filed in state court in Idaho (Kootenai County District Court). On April 21, 2015, the judge hearing the case granted Hecla's motion for summary judgment and dismissed the case. The plaintiffs have appealed the decision to the Idaho Supreme Court. We cannot predict the outcome of this matter, however, we believe the case is without merit and are vigorously defending this lawsuit.

On December 11, 2013, four employees of Hecla Limited who were injured in a December 2011 rock burst, filed a lawsuit against us and certain of our employees seeking damages for, among other claims, intentional and willful injury and infliction of emotional distress. The plaintiffs seek damages in excess of \$1,000,000, as claimed in the complaint, which was filed in state court in Idaho (Kootenai County District Court). On August 28, 2015, the judge hearing the case granted Hecla's motion for summary judgment and dismissed the case. The plaintiffs have appealed the decision to the Idaho Supreme Court. We cannot predict the outcome of this matter, however, we believe the case is without merit and intend to vigorously defend this lawsuit.

We also have certain other contingencies resulting from litigation, claims, EPA investigations, and other commitments and are subject to a variety of environmental and safety laws and regulations incident to the ordinary course of business. We currently expect that the resolution of such contingencies will not materially affect our financial position, results of operations or cash flows. However, in the future, there may be changes to these contingencies, and additional contingencies may occur as well, any of which might result in an accrual or a change in the estimated accruals recorded by us, and there can be no assurance that their ultimate disposition will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

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Note 5. (Loss) Earnings Per Common Share

We are authorized to issue 500,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.25 par value per share. At March 31, 2016, there were 384,557,723 shares of our common stock issued and 3,037,154 shares issued and held in treasury, for a net of 381,520,569 shares outstanding.

Diluted (loss) income per share for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 excludes the potential effects of outstanding shares of our convertible preferred stock, as their conversion would have no effect on the calculation of dilutive shares.

For the three months ended March 31, 2016, all outstanding restricted share units and warrants were excluded from the computation of diluted (loss) earnings per share, as our reported net loss for that period would cause their vesting and exercise to have no effect on the calculation of (loss) earnings per share. For the three-month period ended March 31, 2015, options to purchase 244,342 shares of our common stock were excluded from the computation of diluted (loss) earnings per share, as the exercise price of the options exceeded the average price of our stock during that period and therefore would not affect the calculation of (loss) earnings per share. There were no options outstanding as of March 31, 2016.

Note 6. Business Segments

We are currently organized and managed in four segments, which represent our operating units: the Greens Creek unit, the Lucky Friday unit, the Casa Berardi unit, and the San Sebastian unit. The San Sebastian unit, a historic operating property for Hecla, resumed commercial production in the fourth quarter of 2015 and was added as a new reporting segment in 2015.

General corporate activities not associated with operating units and their various exploration activities, as well as discontinued operations and idle properties, are presented as “other.” Interest expense, interest income and income taxes are considered general corporate items, and are not allocated to our segments.

The following tables present information about reportable segments for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 (in thousands):

Three Months Ended

March 31,
2016 2015

Net sales to unaffiliated customers:

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Greens Creek | \$53,882 | \$67,355 |
| Lucky Friday | 21,252 | 19,891 |
| Casa Berardi | \$32,198 | \$31,846 |
| San Sebastian | 23,685 | — |
| | \$131,017 | \$119,092 |

Income (loss) from operations:

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Greens Creek | \$8,078 | \$14,693 |
| Lucky Friday | 2,743 | 3,546 |
| Casa Berardi | 1,934 | (765) |
| San Sebastian | 14,912 | — |
| Other | (12,094) | (12,552) |
| | \$15,573 | \$4,922 |

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The following table presents identifiable assets by reportable segment as of March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 (in thousands):

| | March 31, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Identifiable assets: | | |
| Greens Creek | \$698,102 | \$ 698,265 |
| Lucky Friday | 420,306 | 393,338 |
| Casa Berardi | 782,962 | 779,423 |
| San Sebastian | 25,882 | 22,238 |
| Other | 311,921 | 328,661 |
| | \$2,239,173 | \$ 2,221,925 |

Note 7. Employee Benefit Plans

We sponsor defined benefit pension plans covering substantially all U.S. employees. Net periodic pension cost for the plans consisted of the following for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 (in thousands):

| | Three Months Ended | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| | March 31, 2016 | 2015 |
| Service cost | \$1,077 | \$1,054 |
| Interest cost | 1,307 | 1,206 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (1,325) | (1,345) |
| Amortization of prior service benefit | (84) | (84) |
| Amortization of net loss | 1,093 | 1,065 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$2,068 | \$1,896 |

In February 2016, we contributed approximately \$2.6 million in shares of our common stock and cash to our defined benefit plans, with approximately \$2.7 million in additional contributions anticipated in 2016. We expect to contribute approximately \$0.4 million to our unfunded supplemental executive retirement plan during 2016.

Note 8. Stockholders' Equity

Stock-based Compensation Plans

We periodically grant restricted stock unit awards and/or shares of common stock to our employees and directors. We measure compensation cost for restricted stock units and stock grants at the closing price of our stock at the time of grant. Restricted stock unit grants vest after a specified period with compensation cost amortized over that period. Although we have no current plans to issue stock options, we may do so in the future.

In March 2016, the Board of Directors granted 2,335,196 shares of common stock to employees for payment of annual and long-term incentive compensation for the period ended December 31, 2015. The shares were distributed in March 2016, and \$5.5 million in expense related to the stock awards was recognized in the periods prior to March 31, 2016.

Stock-based compensation expense for restricted stock unit grants to employees and shares issued to nonemployee directors recorded in the first three months of 2016 totaled \$1.2 million, compared to \$1.1 million in the same period last year.

In connection with the vesting of restricted stock units and other stock grants, employees have in the past, at their election and when permitted by us, chosen to satisfy their minimum tax withholding obligations through net share settlement, pursuant to which the Company withholds the number of shares necessary to satisfy such withholding obligations. As a result, in the first three months of 2016 we withheld 532,157 shares valued at approximately \$1.3 million, or approximately \$2.36 per share. In the first three months of 2015 we withheld 284,243 shares valued at approximately \$0.9 million, or approximately \$3.31 per share.

Table Of Contents*Common Stock Dividends*

In September 2011 and February 2012, our Board of Directors adopted a common stock dividend policy that has two components: (1) a dividend that links the amount of dividends on our common stock to our average quarterly realized silver price in the preceding quarter, and (2) a minimum annual dividend of \$0.01 per share of common stock, in each case, payable quarterly, if and when declared. For illustrative purposes only, the table below summarizes potential per share dividend amounts at different quarterly average realized price levels according to the first component of the policy:

| Quarterly average realized silver price per ounce | Quarterly dividend per share | Annualized dividend per share |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| \$30 | \$0.01 | \$0.04 |
| \$35 | \$0.02 | \$0.08 |
| \$40 | \$0.03 | \$0.12 |
| \$45 | \$0.04 | \$0.16 |
| \$50 | \$0.05 | \$0.20 |

On May 4, 2016, our Board of Directors declared a common stock dividend, pursuant to the minimum annual dividend component of the policy described above, of \$0.0025 per share, for a total dividend of approximately \$1.0 million payable in June 2016. Because the average realized silver price for the first quarter of 2016 was \$14.93 per ounce, below the minimum threshold of \$30 according to the policy, no silver-price-linked component was declared or paid. The declaration and payment of common stock dividends is at the sole discretion of our Board of Directors.

At-The-Market Equity Distribution Agreement

Pursuant to an equity distribution agreement dated February 23, 2016, we may issue and sell shares of our common stock from time to time through ordinary broker transactions having an aggregate offering price of up to \$75 million, with the net proceeds available for general corporate purposes. The terms of sales transactions under the agreement, including trading day(s), number of shares sold in the aggregate, number of shares sold per trading day, and the floor selling price per share, are proposed by us to the sales agent. Whether or not we engage in sales from time to time may depend on a variety of factors, including share price, our cash resources, customary black-out restrictions, and whether we have any material inside information. The agreement can be terminated by us at any time. The shares issued under the equity distribution agreement are registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, pursuant to our shelf registration statement on Form S-3, which was filed with the SEC on February 23, 2016. As of March 31, 2016, we had sold 737,275 shares under the agreement for total proceeds of approximately \$2.1 million, net of commissions of approximately \$42 thousand.

Common Stock Repurchase Program

On May 8, 2012, we announced that our Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program. Under the program, we are authorized to repurchase up to 20 million shares of our outstanding common stock from time to time in open market or privately negotiated transactions, depending on prevailing market conditions and other factors. The repurchase program may be modified, suspended or discontinued by us at any time. Whether or not we engage in repurchases from time to time may depend on a variety of factors, including not only price and cash resources, but customary black-out restrictions, whether we have any material inside information, limitations on share repurchases or cash usage that may be imposed by our credit agreement or in connection with issuances of securities, alternative uses for cash, applicable law, and other investment opportunities from time to time. As of March 31, 2016, 934,100 shares have been purchased at an average price of \$3.99 per share, leaving approximately 19.1 million shares that may yet be purchased under the program. The closing price of our common stock at May 3, 2016, was \$4.05 per share.

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Warrants

At December 31, 2015, we had 2,249,550 warrants outstanding, with each warrant exercisable for 0.1622 of a share of our common stock at an exercise price of \$6.17 per share. All of the warrants expired in March 2016, and there were no warrants outstanding as of March 31, 2016.

Note 9. Senior Notes, Credit Facilities and Capital Leases

Senior Notes

On April 12, 2013, we completed an offering of \$500 million in aggregate principal amount of our Senior Notes due May 1, 2021 in a private placement conducted pursuant to Rule 144A and Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and in 2014, an additional \$6.5 million aggregate principal amount of the Senior Notes were issued to one of our pension plans. The Senior Notes were subsequently exchanged for substantially identical Senior Notes registered with the SEC. The Senior Notes are governed by the Indenture, dated as of April 12, 2013, as amended (the "Indenture"), among Hecla Mining Company ("Hecla") and certain of our subsidiaries and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee. The net proceeds from the initial offering of the Senior Notes (\$490 million) were used to partially fund the acquisition of Aurizon and for general corporate purposes, including expenses related to the Aurizon acquisition.

The Senior Notes are recorded net of a 2% initial purchaser discount totaling \$10 million at the time of the April 2013 issuance and having an unamortized balance of \$6.5 million as of March 31, 2016. The Senior Notes bear interest at a rate of 6.875% per year from the date of original issuance or from the most recent payment date on which interest has been paid or provided for. Interest on the Senior Notes is payable on May 1 and November 1 of each year, commencing November 1, 2013. During the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, interest expense related to the Senior Notes and amortization of the initial purchaser discount and fees related to the issuance of the Senior Notes, net of \$3.8 million and \$3.3 million, respectively, in capitalized interest, totaled \$5.2 million and \$5.7 million, respectively.

The Senior Notes are guaranteed on a senior unsecured basis by certain of our subsidiaries (the "Guarantors"). The Senior Notes and the guarantees are, respectively, Hecla's and the Guarantors' general senior unsecured obligations and are subordinated to all of Hecla's and the Guarantors' existing and future secured debt to the extent of the assets securing that secured debt. In addition, the Senior Notes are effectively subordinated to all of the liabilities of Hecla's subsidiaries that are not guaranteeing the Senior Notes, to the extent of the assets of those subsidiaries.

The Senior Notes became redeemable in whole or in part, at any time and from time to time after May 1, 2016, on the redemption dates and at the redemption prices specified in the Indenture, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the date of redemption.

Upon the occurrence of a change of control (as defined in the Indenture), each holder of Senior Notes will have the right to require us to purchase all or a portion of such holder's Senior Notes pursuant to a change of control offer (as defined in the Indenture), at a purchase price equal to 101% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the date of purchase, subject to the rights of holders of the Senior Notes on the relevant record date to receive interest due on the relevant interest payment date.

Table Of Contents*Credit Facilities*

In February 2014, we entered into a \$100 million senior secured revolving credit facility, which was amended in November 2014 to extend the maturity date to November 18, 2018. The credit facility is collateralized by the shares of common stock held in our material domestic subsidiaries and by our joint venture interests in the Greens Creek mine, all of our rights and interests in the joint venture agreement, and all of our rights and interests in the assets of the joint venture. This credit facility replaced our previous \$100 million credit facility which had the same terms of collateral as described above. Below is information on the interest rates, standby fee, and financial covenant terms under our current credit facility:

Interest rates:

| | | | |
|---|------|-------|-------|
| Spread over the London Interbank Offer Rate | 2.25 | - | 3.25% |
| Spread over alternative base rate | 1.25 | - | 2.25% |
| Standby fee per annum on undrawn amounts | | 0.50% | |

Covenant financial ratios:

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Senior leverage ratio (debt secured by liens/EBITDA) | not more than 2.50:1 |
| Leverage ratio (total debt less unencumbered cash/EBITDA) ⁽¹⁾ | not more than 5.00:1 |
| Interest coverage ratio (EBITDA/interest expense) | not more than 3.00:1 |

⁽¹⁾ The leverage ratio was amended for 2016 to increase to 5.00:1, and will revert back to 4.00:1 in 2017.

We believe we were substantially in compliance with all covenants under the credit agreement and no amounts were outstanding as of March 31, 2016. We have not drawn funds on the current revolving credit facility as of the filing date of this report.

Capital Leases

We have entered into various lease agreements, primarily for equipment at our Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and Casa Berardi units, which we have determined to be capital leases. At March 31, 2016, the total liability associated with the capital leases, including certain purchase option amounts, was \$15.6 million, with \$8.2 million of the liability classified as current and \$7.4 million classified as non-current. At December 31, 2015, the total liability balance associated with capital leases was \$17.6 million, with \$8.7 million of the liability classified as current and \$8.8 million classified as non-current. The total obligation for future minimum lease payments was \$16.3 million at March 31, 2016, with \$0.7 million attributed to interest.

At March 31, 2016, the annual maturities of capital lease commitments, including interest, were (in thousands):

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Twelve-month period ending March 31, | |
| 2017 | \$7,955 |
| 2018 | 5,044 |
| 2019 | 2,723 |
| 2020 | 587 |
| Total | 16,309 |
| Less: imputed interest | (667) |
| Net capital lease obligation | \$15,642 |

Note 10. Developments in Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2014, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2014-09 Revenue Recognition, replacing guidance currently codified in Subtopic 605-10 Revenue Recognition-Overall with various SEC Staff Accounting Bulletins providing interpretive guidance. The guidance establishes a new five step principle-based framework in an effort to significantly enhance comparability of revenue recognition practices across entities, industries, jurisdictions, and capital markets. In August 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-14 Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606): Deferral of the Effective Date. ASU No. 2015-14 defers the effective date of the guidance in ASU No. 2014-09 to annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. We are in the process of evaluating this guidance and our method of adoption.

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In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-03 Interest - Imputation of Interest (Subtopic 835-30): Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs. The update requires debt issuance costs related to a recognized debt liability to be presented in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of the related debt liability instead of being presented as an asset. Debt disclosures will include the face amount of the debt liability and the effective interest rate. The update requires retrospective application and represents a change in accounting principle. The update is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015. ASU No. 2015-03 has not had a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-11 Inventory (Topic 330): Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory. The update provides for inventory to be measured at the lower of cost and net realizable value, and is effective for the fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. We are currently evaluating the potential impact of implementing this update on our consolidated financial statements.

In September 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-16 Simplifying the Accounting for Measurement-Period Adjustments (Topic 805) which eliminates the requirement for an acquirer to retrospectively adjust the financial statements for measurement-period adjustments that occur in periods after a business combination is consummated. These changes become effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016, and as such they are not expected to have a material impact on prior periods.

In November 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-17 Income Taxes - Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes (Topic 740). The update is designed to reduce complexity of reporting deferred income tax liabilities and assets into current and non-current amounts in a statement of financial position. The FASB has proposed the presentation of deferred income taxes, changes to deferred tax liabilities and assets be classified as non-current in the statement of financial position. The update is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. ASU No. 2015-17 is not expected to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements. Our current deferred tax asset balance at March 31, 2016 was \$15.3 million.

In January 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-01 Financial Instruments - Overall (Subtopic 825-10): Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities. The update makes several modifications to Subtopic 825-10, including the elimination of the available-for-sale classification of equity investments, and requires equity investments with readily determinable fair values to be measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in net income. The update is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017. We are currently evaluating the impact of the guidance on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02 Leases (Subtopic 842), which will require lessees to recognize assets and liabilities on the balance sheet for the rights and obligations created by most leases. The update is effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018. We are currently evaluating the impact

of the guidance on our consolidated financial statements.

Note 11. Derivative Instruments

At times, we may use commodity forward sales commitments, commodity swap contracts and commodity put and call option contracts to manage our exposure to fluctuation in the prices of certain metals which we produce. Contract positions are designed to ensure that we will receive a defined minimum price for certain quantities of our production, thereby partially offsetting our exposure to fluctuations in the market. These instruments do, however, expose us to (i) credit risk in the event of non-performance by counterparties for contracts in which the contract price exceeds the spot price of a commodity and (ii) price risk to the extent that the spot price exceeds the contract price for quantities of our production covered under contract positions.

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We are currently using financially-settled forward contracts to manage the exposure to changes in prices of silver, gold, zinc and lead contained in our concentrate shipments between the time of shipment and final settlement. In addition, at times we use financially-settled forward contracts to manage the exposure to changes in prices of zinc and lead (but not silver and gold) contained in our forecasted future concentrate shipments; however, there were no open contracts related to this latter program as of March 31, 2016 or December 31, 2015. These contracts do not qualify for hedge accounting and are marked-to-market through earnings each period. At March 31, 2016, we recorded a current liability of \$0.5 million on the contracts utilized to manage exposure to prices of metals in our concentrate shipments, which is included in other current liabilities.

We recognized a \$6.1 million net loss during the first three months of 2016 on the contracts utilized to manage exposure to prices of metals in our concentrate shipments, which is included in sales of products. The net loss recognized on the contracts offsets gains related to price adjustments on our provisional concentrate sales due to changes to silver, gold, lead and zinc prices between the time of sale and final settlement.

The following tables summarize the quantities of metals committed under forward sales contracts at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015:

| March 31, 2016 | Ounces/pounds under contract (in 000's) | | | | Average price per ounce/pound | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Silver (ounces) | Gold (ounces) | Zinc (pounds) | Lead (pounds) | Silver (ounces) | Gold (ounces) | Zinc (pounds) | Lead (pounds) |
| Contracts on provisional sales | | | | | | | | |
| 2016 settlements | 1,196 | 4 | 15,818 | 9,700 | \$15.29 | \$ 1,225 | \$ 0.80 | \$ 0.77 |

| December 31, 2015 | Ounces/pounds under contract (in 000's) | | | | Average price per ounce/pound | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Silver (ounces) | Gold (ounces) | Zinc (pounds) | Lead (pounds) | Silver (ounces) | Gold (ounces) | Zinc (pounds) | Lead (pounds) |
| Contracts on provisional sales | | | | | | | | |
| 2016 settlements | 1,368 | 5 | 23,755 | 8,433 | \$14.12 | \$ 1,076 | \$ 0.71 | \$ 0.77 |

Our concentrate sales are based on a provisional sales price containing an embedded derivative that is required to be separated from the host contract for accounting purposes. The host contract is the receivable from the sale of the concentrates at the forward price at the time of the sale. The embedded derivative, which results from changes to silver, gold, lead and zinc prices between the time of sale and final settlement, does not qualify for hedge accounting and is marked-to-market through earnings each period prior to final settlement.

Table Of Contents**Note 12. Fair Value Measurement**

The table below sets forth our assets and liabilities that were accounted for at fair value on a recurring basis and the fair value calculation input hierarchy level that we have determined applies to each asset and liability category (in thousands).

| Description | Balance at March 31, 2016 | Balance at December 31, 2015 | Input Hierarchy Level |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Assets: | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents: | | | |
| Money market funds and other bank deposits | \$ 134,018 | \$ 155,209 | Level 1 |
| Available for sale securities: | | | |
| Equity securities – mining industry | 2,086 | 1,515 | Level 1 |
| Trade accounts receivable: | | | |
| Receivables from provisional concentrate sales | 30,127 | 13,490 | Level 2 |
| Restricted cash balances: | | | |
| Certificates of deposit and other bank deposits | 4,899 | 999 | Level 1 |
| Total assets | \$ 171,130 | \$ 171,213 | |
| Liabilities: | | | |
| Derivative contracts: | | | |
| Metal forward contracts | \$ 453 | \$ 283 | Level 2 |
| Total Liabilities | \$ 453 | \$ 283 | |

Cash and cash equivalents consist primarily of money market funds and are valued at cost, which approximates fair value, and a small portion consists of municipal bonds having maturities of less than 90 days, which are recorded at fair value.

Current and non-current restricted cash balances consist primarily of escrow deposits, certificates of deposit and U.S. Treasury securities and are valued at cost, which approximates fair value.

Our current and non-current investments consist of marketable equity securities which are valued using quoted market prices for each security.

Trade accounts receivable include amounts due to us for shipments of concentrates and doré sold to customers. Revenues and the corresponding accounts receivable for sales of concentrates and doré are recorded when title and risk of loss transfer to the customer (generally at the time of loading on truck or ship). Sales of concentrates are recorded using estimated forward prices for the anticipated month of settlement applied to our estimate of payable metal quantities contained in each shipment. Sales are recorded net of estimated treatment and refining charges, which are also impacted by changes in metals prices and quantities of contained metals. We estimate the prices at which sales of our concentrates will be settled due to the time elapsed between shipment and final settlement with the customer. Receivables for previously recorded concentrate sales are adjusted to reflect estimated forward metals prices at the end of each period until final settlement by the customer. We obtain the forward metals prices used each period from a pricing service. Changes in metals prices between shipment and final settlement result in changes to revenues previously recorded upon shipment. This embedded derivative contained in our concentrate sales is marked-to-market through earnings each period prior to final settlement.

We utilize financially-settled forward contracts to manage the exposure to changes in prices of silver, gold, zinc and lead contained in our concentrate shipments that have not reached final settlement. We also utilize financially-settled forward contracts to manage the exposure to changes in prices of zinc and lead contained in our forecasted future concentrate shipments. See *Note 11* for more information. These contracts do not qualify for hedge accounting, and are marked-to-market through earnings each period. The fair value of each contract represents the difference between the forward metal price for the contract settlement period as of the measurement date and the contract settlement metal price, multiplied by the quantity of metal involved in the contract.

Our Senior Notes issued in April 2013, which were recorded at their carrying value of \$500.5 million, net of unamortized initial purchaser discount at March 31, 2016, had a fair value of \$407.1 million at March 31, 2016. Quoted market prices, which we consider to be Level 1 inputs, are utilized to estimate fair values of the Senior Notes. See *Note 9* for more information.

Table Of Contents**Note 13. Guarantor Subsidiaries**

Presented below are Hecla's unaudited interim condensed consolidating financial statements as required by Rule 3-10 of Regulation S-X of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, resulting from the guarantees by certain of Hecla's subsidiaries (the "Guarantors") of the Senior Notes (see *Note 9* for more information). The Guarantors consist of the following of Hecla's 100%-owned subsidiaries: Hecla Limited; Silver Hunter Mining Company; Rio Grande Silver, Inc.; Hecla MC Subsidiary, LLC; Hecla Silver Valley, Inc.; Burke Trading, Inc.; Hecla Montana, Inc.; Revett Silver Company; RC Resources, Inc.; Troy Mine Inc.; Revett Exploration, Inc.; Revett Holdings, Inc.; Hecla Alaska LLC; Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company; Hecla Admiralty Company; and Hecla Juneau Mining Company. We completed the initial offering of the Senior Notes on April 12, 2013, and a related exchange offer for virtually identical notes registered with the SEC on January 3, 2014.

The unaudited interim condensed consolidating financial statements below have been prepared from our financial information on the same basis of accounting as the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements set forth elsewhere in this Form 10-Q. Investments in the subsidiaries are accounted for under the equity method. Accordingly, the entries necessary to consolidate Hecla, the Guarantors, and Non-Guarantors are reflected in the intercompany eliminations column. In the course of preparing consolidated financial statements, we eliminate the effects of various transactions conducted between Hecla and its subsidiaries and among the subsidiaries. While valid at an individual subsidiary level, such activities are eliminated in consolidation because, when taken as a whole, they do not represent business activity with third-party customers, vendors, and other parties. Examples of such eliminations include the following:

Investments in subsidiaries. The acquisition of a company results in an investment in debt or equity capital on the records of the parent company and a contribution to debt or equity capital on the records of the subsidiary. Such investments and capital contributions are eliminated in consolidation.

Capital contributions. Certain of Hecla's subsidiaries do not generate cash flow, either at all or sufficient to meet their capital needs, and their cash requirements are routinely met with inter-company advances from their parent companies. On an annual basis, when not otherwise intended as debt, the boards of directors of such parent companies declare contributions of capital to their subsidiary companies, which increase the parents' investment and the subsidiaries' additional paid-in capital. In consolidation, investments in subsidiaries and related additional paid-in capital are eliminated.

Debt. Inter-company debt agreements have been established between certain of Hecla's subsidiaries and their parents. The related debt liability and receivable balances, accrued interest expense (in any) and income activity (if any), and payments of principal and accrued interest amounts (if any) by the subsidiary companies to their parents are eliminated in consolidation.

Dividends. Certain of Hecla's subsidiaries which generate cash flow routinely provide cash to their parent companies through inter-company transfers. On an annual basis, the boards of directors of such subsidiary companies declare dividends to their parent companies, which reduces the subsidiaries' retained earnings and increases the parents' dividend income. In consolidation, such activity is eliminated.

Deferred taxes. Our ability to realize deferred tax assets and liabilities is considered on a consolidated basis for subsidiaries within the United States, with all subsidiaries' estimated future taxable income contributing to the ability to realize all such assets and liabilities. However, when Hecla's subsidiaries are viewed independently, we use the separate return method to assess the realizability of each subsidiary's deferred tax assets and whether a valuation allowance is required against such deferred tax assets. In some instances, a parent company or subsidiary may possess deferred tax assets whose realization depends on the future taxable incomes of other subsidiaries on a consolidated-return basis, but would not be considered realizable if such parent or subsidiary filed on a separate stand-alone basis. In such a situation, a valuation allowance is assessed on that subsidiary's deferred tax assets, with the resulting adjustment reported in the eliminations column of the guarantor and parent's financial statements, as is the case in the unaudited interim financial statements set forth below. The separate return method can result in significant eliminations of deferred tax assets and liabilities and related income tax provisions and benefits. Non-current deferred tax asset balances are included in other non-current assets on the consolidating balance sheets and make up a large portion of that item, particularly for the guarantor balances.

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Separate financial statements of the Guarantors are not presented because the guarantees by the Guarantors are joint and several and full and unconditional, except for certain customary release provisions, including: (1) the sale or disposal of all or substantially all of the assets of the Guarantor; (2) the sale or other disposition of the capital stock of the Guarantor; (3) the Guarantor is designated as an unrestricted entity in accordance with the applicable provisions of the indenture; (4) Hecla ceases to be a borrower as defined in the indenture; and (5) upon legal or covenant defeasance or satisfaction and discharge of the indenture.

Effective December 31, 2015, Hecla Limited (our wholly owned subsidiary) sold 100% of its ownership of Hecla Alaska LLC (its wholly owned subsidiary) to Hecla Mining Company for consideration totaling approximately \$240.8 million. The consideration consisted of satisfaction of inter-company debt between Hecla Limited and Hecla Mining Company and an obligation by Hecla Mining Company, under certain circumstances, to fund a limited amount of the capital requirements of Hecla Limited for up to five years. Hecla Alaska LLC owns a 29.7331% interest in the joint venture which owns the Greens Creek mine.

Unaudited Interim Condensed Consolidating Balance Sheets

| | As of March 31, 2016 | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | Parent | Guarantors | Non-Guarantors | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| | (in thousands) | | | | |
| <u>Assets</u> | | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$91,039 | \$27,330 | \$15,649 | \$— | \$134,018 |
| Other current assets | 23,891 | 87,718 | 49,855 | (18,628) | 142,836 |
| Properties, plants, and equipment - net | 2,178 | 1,153,465 | 752,132 | — | 1,907,775 |
| Intercompany receivable (payable) | 556,622 | (317,914) | (351,338) | 112,630 | — |
| Investments in subsidiaries | 1,249,577 | — | — | (1,249,577) | — |
| Other non-current assets | 2,112 | 189,146 | 2,971 | (139,685) | 54,544 |
| Total assets | \$1,925,419 | \$1,139,745 | \$469,269 | \$(1,295,260) | \$2,239,173 |
| <u>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</u> | | | | | |
| Current liabilities | \$33,512 | \$81,459 | \$43,170 | \$(25,323) | \$132,818 |
| Long-term debt | 500,042 | 6,613 | 1,303 | — | 507,958 |
| Non-current portion of accrued reclamation | — | 46,167 | 29,562 | — | 75,729 |
| Non-current deferred tax liability | — | 11,646 | 134,723 | (20,360) | 126,009 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 44,619 | 5,924 | (1,130) | — | 49,413 |
| Stockholders' equity | 1,347,246 | 987,936 | 261,641 | (1,249,577) | 1,347,246 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$1,925,419 | \$1,139,745 | \$469,269 | \$(1,295,260) | \$2,239,173 |

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| | As of December 31, 2015 | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | Parent | Guarantors | Non-Guarantors | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| | (in thousands) | | | | |
| <u>Assets</u> | | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$94,167 | \$42,692 | \$ 18,350 | \$— | \$ 155,209 |
| Other current assets | 15,972 | 58,453 | 32,273 | 7,626 | 114,324 |
| Properties, plants, and equipment - net | 2,281 | 1,147,770 | 746,760 | — | 1,896,811 |
| Intercompany receivable (payable) | 540,665 | (301,291) | (332,553) | 93,179 | — |
| Investments in subsidiaries | 1,252,191 | — | — | (1,252,191) | — |
| Other non-current assets | 2,200 | 165,080 | 1,781 | (113,480) | 55,581 |
| Total assets | \$1,907,476 | \$1,112,704 | \$ 466,611 | \$(1,264,866) | \$ 2,221,925 |
| <u>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</u> | | | | | |
| Current liabilities | \$21,087 | \$84,559 | \$ 30,636 | \$(9,198) | \$ 127,084 |
| Long-term debt | 499,729 | 6,128 | 3,183 | — | 509,040 |
| Non-current portion of accrued reclamation | — | 45,494 | 29,055 | — | 74,549 |
| Non-current deferred tax liability | — | 3,264 | 119,836 | (3,477) | 119,623 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 47,734 | 5,834 | (865) | — | 52,703 |
| Stockholders' equity | 1,338,926 | 967,425 | 284,766 | (1,252,191) | 1,338,926 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$1,907,476 | \$1,112,704 | \$ 466,611 | \$(1,264,866) | \$ 2,221,925 |

Table Of Contents**Unaudited Interim Condensed Consolidating Statements of Operations**

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Parent | Guarantors | Non-Guarantors | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| | (in thousands) | | | | |
| Revenues | \$(6,135) | \$ 81,269 | \$ 55,883 | \$ — | \$ 131,017 |
| Cost of sales | — | (46,753) | (27,567) | — | (74,320) |
| Depreciation, depletion, amortization | — | (16,606) | (9,269) | — | (25,875) |
| General and administrative | (5,240) | (4,523) | (451) | — | (10,214) |
| Exploration and pre-development | (45) | (1,287) | (2,022) | — | (3,354) |
| Gain on derivative contracts | — | — | — | — | — |
| Equity in earnings of subsidiaries | (20,991) | — | — | 20,991 | — |
| Other (expense) income | 31,793 | 4,336 | (35,518) | (16,829) | (16,218) |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | (618) | 16,436 | (18,944) | 4,162 | 1,036 |
| (Provision) benefit from income taxes | — | (4,833) | (13,650) | 16,829 | (1,654) |
| Net income (loss) | (618) | 11,603 | (32,594) | 20,991 | (618) |
| Preferred stock dividends | (138) | — | — | — | (138) |
| Income (loss) applicable to common stockholders | (756) | 11,603 | (32,594) | 20,991 | (756) |
| Net income (loss) | (618) | 11,603 | (32,594) | 20,991 | (618) |
| Changes in comprehensive income (loss) | 1,065 | 8 | 1,060 | (1,068) | 1,065 |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | \$ 447 | \$ 11,611 | \$ (31,534) | \$ 19,923 | \$ 447 |

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Parent | Guarantors | Non-Guarantors | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| | (in thousands) | | | | |
| Revenues | \$312 | \$ 86,934 | \$ 31,846 | \$ — | \$ 119,092 |
| Cost of sales | — | (51,437) | (22,528) | — | (73,965) |
| Depreciation, depletion, amortization | — | (16,611) | (8,643) | — | (25,254) |
| General and administrative | (4,442) | (3,893) | (385) | — | (8,720) |
| Exploration and pre-development | (217) | (1,134) | (3,785) | — | (5,136) |
| Gain on derivative contracts | 5,792 | — | — | — | 5,792 |
| Equity in earnings of subsidiaries | 40,042 | — | — | (40,042) | — |
| Other (expense) income | (28,935) | 3,567 | 31,006 | (3,456) | 2,182 |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | 12,552 | 17,426 | 27,511 | (43,498) | 13,991 |
| (Provision) benefit from income taxes | — | (4,946) | 51 | 3,456 | (1,439) |
| Net income (loss) | 12,552 | 12,480 | 27,562 | (40,042) | 12,552 |
| Preferred stock dividends | (138) | — | — | — | (138) |
| Income (loss) applicable to common stockholders | 12,414 | 12,480 | 27,562 | (40,042) | 12,414 |
| Net income (loss) | 12,552 | 12,480 | 27,562 | (40,042) | 12,552 |
| Changes in comprehensive income (loss) | 1,936 | (194) | 2,051 | (1,857) | 1,936 |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | \$ 14,488 | \$ 12,286 | \$ 29,613 | \$ (41,899) | \$ 14,488 |

Table Of Contents**Unaudited Interim Condensed Consolidating Statements of Cash Flows**

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Parent | Guarantors | Non-Guarantors | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| | (in thousands) | | | | |
| Cash flows from operating activities | \$7,848 | \$ (21,658) | \$ (7,884) | \$ 40,442 | \$ 18,748 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | | | | |
| Additions to properties, plants, and equipment | (53) | (18,552) | (16,049) | | (34,654) |
| Other investing activities, net | — | 215 | (3,900) | — | (3,685) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | | | | |
| Dividends paid to stockholders | (1,090) | — | — | | (1,090) |
| Borrowings on debt | — | — | — | | — |
| Payments on debt | — | (2,556) | (226) | | (2,782) |
| Other financing activity | (9,833) | 27,189 | 23,823 | (40,442) | 737 |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash | — | — | 1,535 | — | 1,535 |
| Changes in cash and cash equivalents | (3,128) | (15,362) | (2,701) | — | (21,191) |
| Beginning cash and cash equivalents | 94,167 | 42,692 | 18,350 | — | 155,209 |
| Ending cash and cash equivalents | \$91,039 | \$ 27,330 | \$ 15,649 | \$ — | \$ 134,018 |

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Parent | Guarantors | Non-Guarantors | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| | (in thousands) | | | | |
| Cash flows from operating activities | \$15,726 | \$ 15,823 | \$ 19,902 | \$ (30,032) | \$ 21,419 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | | | | |
| Additions to properties, plants, and equipment | (424) | (18,163) | (8,371) | — | (26,958) |
| Other investing activities, net | — | 25 | (947) | — | (922) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | | | | |
| Dividends paid to stockholders | (1,062) | — | — | — | (1,062) |
| Borrowings on debt | — | — | — | — | — |
| Payments on debt | — | (1,901) | (446) | — | (2,347) |
| Other financing activity | (15,841) | 6,349 | (21,544) | 30,032 | (1,004) |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash | — | — | (2,560) | — | (2,560) |
| Changes in cash and cash equivalents | (1,601) | 2,133 | (13,966) | — | (13,434) |
| Beginning cash and cash equivalents | 146,885 | 33,824 | 28,956 | — | 209,665 |
| Ending cash and cash equivalents | \$145,284 | \$ 35,957 | \$ 14,990 | \$ — | \$ 196,231 |

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Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Certain statements contained in this Form 10-Q, including in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk, are intended to be covered by the safe harbor provided for under Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Our forward-looking statements include our current expectations and projections about future results, performance, results of litigation, prospects and opportunities, including reserves and other mineralization. We have tried to identify these forward-looking statements by using words such as "may," "will," "expect," "anticipate," "believe," "intend," "feel," "plan," "estimate," "project," "forecast" and similar expressions. These forward-looking statements are based on information currently available to us and are expressed in good faith and believed to have a reasonable basis. However, our forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause our actual results, performance, prospects or opportunities to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements.

These risks, uncertainties and other factors include, but are not limited to, those set forth under Part I, Item 1A – Business – Risk Factors in our annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015. Given these risks and uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to Hecla Mining Company or to persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by these cautionary statements. Except as required by federal securities laws, we do not intend to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Overview

Hecla Mining Company and our subsidiaries have provided precious and base metals to the U.S. and worldwide since 1891. We discover, acquire, develop, and produce silver, gold, lead and zinc.

We produce lead, zinc and bulk concentrates, which we sell to custom smelters and brokers, and unrefined precipitate and bullion bars (doré) containing gold and silver, which are further refined before sale to precious metals traders. We are organized and managed into four segments that encompass our operating and development units: Greens Creek, Lucky Friday, Casa Berardi, and San Sebastian. The map below shows the locations of our operating units and our exploration and pre-development projects, as well as our corporate offices located in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and Vancouver, British Columbia.

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Our current business strategy is to focus our financial and human resources in the following areas:

- operating our properties safely, in an environmentally responsible manner, and cost-effectively;
- continue optimizing and improving operations at our Greens Creek, Lucky Friday, Casa Berardi, and San Sebastian units;
- expanding our proven and probable reserves and production capacity at our operating properties;
- conducting our business with financial stewardship to preserve our financial position in varying metals price environments;
- advance permitting of the Rock Creek project, which we acquired as part of the merger with Revett Mining Company, Inc. ("Revett") in June 2015 as discussed further below;
- maintaining and investing in exploration and pre-development projects in the vicinities of six mining districts and projects we believe to be under-explored and under-invested: North Idaho's Silver Valley in the historic Coeur d'Alene Mining District; our Greens Creek unit on Alaska's Admiralty Island located near Juneau; the silver-producing district near Durango, Mexico; the Abitibi region of northwestern Quebec, Canada; the Rock Creek project in northwestern Montana; and the Creede district of Southwestern Colorado; and
- continuing to seek opportunities to acquire and invest in mining properties and companies.

A number of key factors may impact the execution of our strategy, including regulatory issues and metals prices. Metals prices can be very volatile. As discussed in the *Critical Accounting Estimates* section below, metals prices are influenced by a number of factors beyond our control. Average market prices of silver, gold, lead, and zinc in the first three months of 2016 were lower than their levels from the comparable period last year, as illustrated by the table in *Results of Operations* below. While we believe current global economic and industrial trends could result in continued demand for the metals we produce, prices have been volatile and there can be no assurance that current prices will continue.

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The total principal amount of our Senior Notes due May 1, 2021 is \$506.5 million and the Senior Notes bear interest at a rate of 6.875% per year. The net proceeds from the Senior Notes were primarily used for the acquisition of Aurizon in June 2013 (see *Note 9 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)*). As discussed in the *Financial Liquidity and Capital Resources* section below, we believe that we will be able to meet the obligations associated with the acquisition of Aurizon and additional debt; however, a number of factors could impact our ability to meet the debt obligations and fund our other projects.

On June 15, 2015, we completed the acquisition of all of the issued and outstanding common stock of Revett. The acquired entities hold 100% ownership of two properties in northwestern Montana: the Troy Mine, which we are in the process of reclaiming, and the Rock Creek project, a significant undeveloped silver and copper deposit. In the acquisition, we paid cash of \$0.9 million and each outstanding common share of Revett was exchanged for 0.1622 of a share of our common stock, for total consideration of approximately \$20.1 million based on the closing price of Hecla stock of \$3.06 per share on June 15, 2015. Development of Rock Creek has been challenged by conservation groups at various times, and there can be no assurance that we will be able to obtain the permitting required to develop Rock Creek.

As further discussed in the *Lucky Friday Segment* section below, we are in the process of constructing an internal shaft at the Lucky Friday mine (“#4 Shaft”), which, we believe, will significantly increase production and extend the life of the mine. The #4 Shaft project will involve significant additional capital costs leading up to its expected completion date in the fourth quarter of 2016. Although we believe that our current capital resources will allow us to complete the #4 Shaft project, there are a number of factors that could affect its completion.

During the third quarter of 2015, we made a development decision to mine near surface, high grade portions of silver and gold deposits at our San Sebastian project in Mexico, and ore production commenced in the fourth quarter of 2015. See the *San Sebastian Segment* section below for more information. As a result, we believe that we will generate positive cash flows at San Sebastian over the approximate two year period following the start of production. However, our ability to generate positive cash flows at San Sebastian may be impacted by changes in estimated costs, precious metals prices, or other factors, and there can be no assurance that we will be able to develop and operate San Sebastian as anticipated.

We strive to achieve excellent mine safety and health performance. We seek to implement this goal by: training employees in safe work practices; establishing, following and improving safety standards; investigating accidents, incidents and losses to avoid recurrence; involving employees in the establishment of safety standards; and participating in the National Mining Association's *CORESafety* program. We attempt to implement reasonable best practices with respect to mine safety and emergency preparedness. We work with the Mine Safety and Health Administration (“MSHA”) to address issues outlined in its investigations and inspections and continue to evaluate our safety practices.

Another challenge for us is the risk associated with environmental litigation and ongoing reclamation activities. As described in *Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors* of our annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 and *Note 4 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)*, it is possible that our estimate of these liabilities (and our ability to estimate liabilities in general) may change in the future, affecting our strategic plans. We are involved in various environmental legal matters with no assurance that the estimate of our environmental liabilities, liquidity needs, or strategic plans will not be significantly impacted as a result of these matters or new matters that may arise. We strive to ensure that our activities are conducted in compliance with applicable laws and regulations and attempt to resolve environmental litigation on as favorable terms as possible.

Table Of Contents**Results of Operations**

Sales of products by metal for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 were as follows:

| (in thousands) | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Silver | \$56,670 | \$50,281 |
| Gold | 54,892 | 48,620 |
| Lead | 13,724 | 14,670 |
| Zinc | 22,525 | 21,037 |
| Less: Smelter and refining charges | (16,794) | (15,516) |
| Sales of products | \$131,017 | \$119,092 |

For the first quarter of 2016, we recorded a loss applicable to common stockholders of \$0.8 million (\$0.00 per basic common share), compared to income of \$12.4 million (\$0.03 per basic common share) during the first quarter of 2015. The following factors contributed to the results for the first three months of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015:

• A net foreign exchange loss in the first quarter of 2016 of \$8.2 million versus a net gain of \$12.3 million in the same period of 2015.

• Decreased average silver, gold, lead and zinc prices for the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015.

| | Three months ended March 31, | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Silver -London PM Fix (\$/ounce) | \$14.84 | \$16.72 |
| Realized price per ounce | \$14.93 | \$17.18 |
| Gold -London PM Fix (\$/ounce) | \$1,181 | \$1,219 |
| Realized price per ounce | \$1,187 | \$1,222 |
| Lead -LME Final Cash Buyer (\$/pound) | \$0.79 | \$0.82 |
| Realized price per pound | \$0.78 | \$0.85 |
| Zinc -LME Final Cash Buyer (\$/pound) | \$0.76 | \$0.94 |
| Realized price per pound | \$0.79 | \$0.94 |

Average realized prices differ from average market prices primarily because concentrate sales are generally recorded as revenues at the time of shipment at forward prices for the estimated month of settlement, which differ from average market prices. Due to the time elapsed between shipment of concentrates and final settlement with customers, we must estimate the prices at which sales of our metals will be settled. Previously recorded sales are adjusted to estimated settlement metal prices each period through final settlement. For the first quarter of 2016, we recorded net positive price adjustments to provisional settlements of \$0.5 million compared to net positive price adjustments to provisional settlements of \$2.1 million in the first quarter of 2015. The price adjustments related to silver, gold, zinc and lead contained in our concentrate shipments were largely offset by gains and losses on forward contracts for those metals for each period. See *Note 11 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)* for more information. The gains and losses on these contracts are included in revenues and impact the realized prices for silver, gold, lead and zinc. Realized prices are calculated by dividing gross revenues for each metal (which include the price adjustments and gains and losses on the forward contracts discussed above) by the payable quantities of each metal included in concentrate and doré shipped during the period.

No net activity on base metal derivative contracts in the first quarter of 2016 compared to a gain of \$5.8 million in the same period of 2015.

Higher general and administrative expense by \$1.5 million in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015 due primarily to increased incentive compensation.

An income tax provision of \$1.7 million in the first quarter of 2016 compared to an income tax provision of \$1.4 million in the first quarter of 2015. See the *Corporate Matters* section below for more information.

Exploration and pre-development expense decreased by \$1.8 million in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the first quarter of 2015. In 2016, we have continued exploration work at our Greens Creek unit, on our land package near Durango, Mexico, and at the Casa Berardi mine and other projects on our land package in Quebec, Canada.

"Pre-development expense" is defined as costs incurred in the exploration stage that may ultimately benefit production, such as underground ramp development, which are expensed due to the lack of proven and probable reserves.

Unrealized losses on investments of \$0.7 million in the first quarter of 2016 compared to losses of \$2.8 million in the first quarter of 2015. The losses were the result of impairments of certain investments being deemed to be other-than-temporary.

Increased gross profit at our San Sebastian and Casa Berardi units in the first quarter of 2016 of \$16.0 million and \$2.4 million, respectively, compared to the first quarter of 2015. This was partially offset by decreases in gross profit of \$6.6 million and \$0.8 million, respectively, in the first quarter of 2016 at our Greens Creek and Lucky Friday units. See *The Greens Creek Segment, The Lucky Friday Segment, The Casa Berardi Segment, and The San Sebastian Segment* sections below.

Table Of Contents*The Greens Creek Segment*

| | Three months ended | |
|--|--------------------|-----------|
| | March 31, | |
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| <i>Dollars are in thousands (except per ounce and per ton amounts)</i> | | |
| Sales | \$53,882 | \$67,355 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs | (31,252) | (37,962) |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | (13,601) | (13,746) |
| Gross profit | \$9,029 | \$15,647 |
| Tons of ore milled | 204,968 | 195,469 |
| Production: | | |
| Silver (ounces) | 2,458,276 | 2,035,966 |
| Gold (ounces) | 15,981 | 15,239 |
| Zinc (tons) | 14,611 | 13,920 |
| Lead (tons) | 5,087 | 4,930 |
| Payable metal quantities sold: | | |
| Silver (ounces) | 1,901,143 | 2,139,402 |
| Gold (ounces) | 11,420 | 13,612 |
| Zinc (tons) | 12,412 | 9,693 |
| Lead (tons) | 3,244 | 4,428 |
| Ore grades: | | |
| Silver ounces per ton | 15.17 | 13.78 |
| Gold ounces per ton | 0.11 | 0.12 |
| Zinc percent | 8.13 | 8.34 |
| Lead percent | 3.05 | 3.26 |
| Mining cost per ton | \$66.96 | \$73.68 |
| Milling cost per ton | \$30.99 | \$28.74 |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce ⁽¹⁾ | \$3.96 | \$3.23 |

A reconciliation of this non-GAAP measure to cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization, the most comparable GAAP measure, can be found below in *Reconciliation of Cash*

(1) *Cost, Before By-product Credits and Cash Cost, After By-product Credits (non-GAAP) to Costs of Sales and Other Direct Production Costs and Depreciation, Depletion and Amortization (GAAP).*

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The \$6.6 million decrease in gross profit during the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same 2015 period was primarily the result of lower average prices for silver, gold, zinc and lead, impacting sales by approximately \$10.0 million, as well as lower sales volume due to the timing of shipments, resulting in an approximate \$3.5 million reduction in sales. These factors were partially offset by increased ore production, higher silver grades, and improved mill recoveries for all four metals produced. In addition, gross profit at Greens Creek was impacted by positive price adjustments to revenues of \$0.4 million for the first quarter of 2016 compared to positive price adjustments of \$1.9 million for the first quarter of 2015. Price adjustments to revenues result from changes in metals prices between transfer of title of concentrates to buyers and final settlements during the period. The price adjustments related to silver, gold, zinc and lead contained in concentrate shipments were net of gains and losses on forward contracts for those metals for each period. The price adjustments and gains and losses on forward contracts discussed above are included in sales.

Mining costs per ton decreased by 9% in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015, primarily as a result of lower hourly and salary labor costs, due to lower staffing levels, less expensed development, and higher milled tons, partially offset by higher expensed diamond drilling. Milling costs per ton increased 8% in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015 due to higher maintenance costs and reagent costs, and higher staffing levels.

The chart below illustrates the factors contributing to the variances in Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce for the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period of 2015:

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The following table summarizes the components of Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|---------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | \$19.58 | \$23.14 |
| By-product credits | (15.62) | (19.91) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | \$3.96 | \$3.23 |

The increase in Cash Costs, After By-Product Credits, per Silver Ounce for the first quarter of 2016 compared to 2015 was the result of lower by-product credits, partially offset by higher silver production.

Mining and milling costs per ounce decreased in the first quarter of 2016 compared to 2015 on a per-ounce basis, despite milling costs increasing on a per-ton basis as discussed above, due primarily to higher silver production resulting from improved silver grades and recovery.

Other cash costs per ounce for the first quarter of 2016 were lower compared to 2015 due to the effect of higher silver production and decreased labor costs.

Treatment costs were lower in the first quarter of 2016 compared to 2015 as a result of improved payment terms from smelters and lower silver prices, as treatment costs include the value of silver not payable to us through the smelting process. The silver not payable to us is either recovered by the smelters through further processing or ultimately not recovered and included in the smelters' waste material.

By-product credits per ounce were lower in the first quarter of 2016 compared to 2015 due to lower gold, zinc and lead prices and higher silver production due to increased silver recovery.

The difference between what we report as "production" and "payable metal quantities sold" is attributable to the difference between the quantities of metals contained in the concentrates we produce versus the portion of those metals actually paid for by our customers according to the terms of our sales contracts. Differences can also arise from inventory changes incidental to shipping schedules, or variances in ore grades which impact the amount of metals contained in concentrates produced and sold. The difference in payable quantities sold for 2016 compared to 2015 is due mainly to timing of concentrate shipments.

While revenue from zinc, lead and gold by-products is significant, we believe that identification of silver as the primary product of the Greens Creek unit is appropriate because:

- silver has historically accounted for a higher proportion of revenue than any other metal and is expected to do so in the future;

- we have historically presented Greens Creek as a producer primarily of silver, based on the original analysis that justified putting the project into production, and believe that consistency in disclosure is important to our investors regardless of the relationships of metals prices and production from year to year;

- metallurgical treatment maximizes silver recovery;

- the Greens Creek deposit is a massive sulfide deposit containing an unusually high proportion of silver; and

- in most of its working areas, Greens Creek utilizes selective mining methods in which silver is the metal targeted for highest recovery.

Likewise, we believe the identification of gold, lead and zinc as by-product credits is appropriate because of their lower economic value compared to silver and due to the fact that silver is the primary product we intend to produce. In addition, we do not receive sufficient revenue from any single by-product metal to warrant classification of such as a co-product.

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We periodically review our revenues to ensure that reporting of primary products and by-products is appropriate. Because we consider zinc, lead and gold to be by-products of our silver production, the values of these metals offset operating costs within our calculations of Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce.

The Lucky Friday Segment

| <i>Dollars are in thousands (except per ounce and per ton amounts)</i> | Three Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------|-----------|
| | March 31, | |
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Sales | \$21,252 | \$19,891 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs | (15,500) | (13,474) |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | (3,004) | (2,866) |
| Gross profit | \$2,748 | \$3,551 |
| Tons of ore milled | 74,021 | 74,245 |
| Production: | | |
| Silver (ounces) | 977,084 | 836,719 |
| Lead (tons) | 5,951 | 4,948 |
| Zinc (tons) | 2,753 | 2,167 |
| Payable metal quantities sold: | | |
| Silver (ounces) | 928,801 | 781,506 |
| Lead (tons) | 5,507 | 4,196 |
| Zinc (tons) | 1,930 | 1,450 |
| Ore grades: | | |
| Silver ounces per ton | 13.67 | 11.75 |
| Lead percent | 8.36 | 7.00 |
| Zinc percent | 3.97 | 3.19 |
| Mining cost per ton | \$98.02 | 84.68 |
| Milling cost per ton | \$23.35 | 20.27 |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce (1) | \$9.05 | \$9.05 |

A reconciliation of this non-GAAP measure to cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization, the most comparable GAAP measure, can be found below in *Reconciliation of Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits and Cash Cost, After By-product Credits (non-GAAP) to Costs of Sales and Other Direct Production Costs and Depreciation, Depletion and Amortization (GAAP)*.

Gross profit decreased by \$0.8 million in the first quarter of 2016 compared to 2015 primarily due to lower silver, lead, and zinc prices, partially offset by increased metal production as a result of improved ore grades.

Mining and milling cost per ton increased by 16% and 15%, respectively, in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015 due primarily to higher labor costs.

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The chart below illustrates the factors contributing to the variances in Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce for the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period of 2015:

The following table summarizes the components of Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|---------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | \$21.13 | \$21.68 |
| By-product credits | (12.08) | (12.63) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | \$9.05 | \$9.05 |

Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce for the first quarter of 2016 was the same as in the first quarter of 2015, as higher labor costs and lower by-product credits were offset by the increased silver production.

Similar to the Greens Creek segment, the difference between what we report as “production” and “payable metal quantities sold” is due essentially to the difference between the quantities of metals contained in the concentrates we produce versus the portion of those metals actually paid for by our customers according to the terms of our sales contracts.

While value from lead and zinc is significant, we believe that identification of silver as the primary product of the Lucky Friday unit is appropriate because:

- silver has historically accounted for a higher proportion of revenue than any other metal and is expected to do so in the future;
- the Lucky Friday unit is situated in a mining district long associated with silver production; and
- the Lucky Friday unit generally utilizes selective mining methods to target silver production.

Likewise, we believe the identification of lead and zinc as by-product credits is appropriate because of their lower economic value compared to silver and due to the fact that silver is the primary product we intend to produce. In addition, we do not receive sufficient revenue from any single by-product metal to warrant classification of such as a co-product.

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We periodically review our revenues to ensure that reporting of primary products and by-products is appropriate. Because we consider zinc and lead to be by-products of our silver production, the values of these metals offset operating costs within our calculations of Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce.

The #4 Shaft project, an internal shaft at the Lucky Friday mine, is expected to provide deeper access which should in turn extend the mine's operational life and expand silver production. We commenced engineering and construction activities on the #4 Shaft in late 2008, and our Board of Directors gave its final approval of the project in August 2011. As of March 31, 2016, the #4 Shaft has been excavated to the 8575 level, with the final depth of the shaft to be the 8600 level. Construction of the #4 Shaft as currently designed is expected to cost approximately \$225 million, including approximately \$214.7 million already spent as of March 31, 2016, with completion expected in the fourth quarter of 2016. We believe that our current capital resources will allow us to complete the project. However, there are a number of factors that could affect completion of the project, including: (i) a significant decline in metals prices, (ii) a reduction in available cash or credit, whether arising from decreased cash flow or other uses of available cash, (iii) increased regulatory burden, or (iv) a significant increase in operating or capital costs.

Many of the employees at our Lucky Friday unit are represented by a union. The most recent collective bargaining agreement with the union expired on April 30, 2016, and negotiations on a new agreement are ongoing.

See Note 4 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited) for contingencies related to various accidents and other events occurring at the Lucky Friday mine in prior periods.

The Casa Berardi Segment

| <i>Dollars are in thousands (except per ounce and per ton amounts)</i> | Three Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------|-----------|
| | March 31, | |
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Sales | \$32,198 | \$31,846 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs | (20,659) | (22,528) |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | (8,501) | (8,643) |
| Gross profit | \$3,038 | \$675 |
| Tons of ore milled | 216,962 | 188,095 |
| Production: | | |
| Gold (ounces) | 30,378 | 25,411 |
| Silver (ounces) | 7,005 | 5,912 |
| Payable metal quantities sold: | | |
| Gold (ounces) | 27,427 | 26,183 |
| Silver (ounces) | 7,864 | 5,627 |

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Ore grades: | | |
| Gold ounces per ton | 0.163 | 0.160 |
| Silver ounces per ton | 0.04 | 0.036 |
| Mining cost per ton | \$87.54 | \$105.50 |
| Milling cost per ton | \$18.91 | \$21.94 |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce ⁽¹⁾ | \$781 | \$974 |

A reconciliation of this non-GAAP measure to cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization, the most comparable GAAP measure, can be found below in *Reconciliation of Cash*
⁽¹⁾ *Cost, Before By-product Credits and Cash Cost, After By-product Credits (non-GAAP) to Costs of Sales and Other Direct Production Costs and Depreciation, Depletion and Amortization (GAAP).*

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Gross profit increased by \$2.4 million for the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015. The increase is primarily due to increased ore tonnage. Ore grades remained consistent in the first quarter while throughput increased to an average of 2,384 tons per day in the first quarter of 2016 compared to 2,090 tons per day for the same period of 2015.

Mining cost per ton for the first quarter of 2016 was 17% lower than the first quarter of 2015 primarily due to higher ore production. Foreign exchange differences also contributed to the lower costs by approximately \$9.00 per ton, as the U.S. dollar was stronger relative to the Canadian dollar in the first quarter of 2016 than it was in the first quarter of 2015.

Milling cost per ton was down 14% in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015 mainly due to higher ore production and foreign exchange differences noted above.

The chart below illustrates the factors contributing to Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce for the first quarter of 2016:

The following table summarizes the components of Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce | \$784.66 | \$977.34 |
| By-product credits | (3.39) | (3.82) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce | \$781.27 | \$973.52 |

The decrease in Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce for the first quarter of 2016 compared to the first quarter of 2015 was primarily the result of higher gold production, which had an approximate \$153 per ounce impact, and foreign exchange differences, which had an approximate \$83 per ounce impact. These factors were partially offset by higher costs on a Canadian dollar basis.

The difference between what we report as "production" and "payable metal quantities sold" is mainly attributable to inventory changes incidental to the timing of sales of refined metals and shipping schedules.

We believe the identification of silver as a by-product credit is appropriate at Casa Berardi because of its lower economic value compared to gold and due to the fact that gold is the primary product we intend to produce there. In addition, we do not receive sufficient revenue from silver at Casa Berardi to warrant classification of such as a co-product. Because we consider silver to be a by-product of our gold production at Casa Berardi, the value of silver offsets operating costs within our calculations of Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce.

Table Of Contents*The San Sebastian Segment*

In the third quarter of 2015, we made the development decision to mine near surface, high grade portions of silver and gold deposits from shallow open pits at our San Sebastian unit in Mexico. We previously produced silver and gold from underground mines at San Sebastian from 2001 to 2005. A Preliminary Economic Assessment was completed, and development of the pits and mine production commenced in the fourth quarter of 2015. Mill production started in December 2015 with the ore processed at a leased mill. The first sales for the property came in early 2016 and included production from both December 2015 and first quarter 2016.

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 |
|--|---|
| <i>Dollars are in thousands (except per ounce and per ton amounts)</i> | |
| Sales | \$23,685 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs | (6,909) |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | (769) |
| Gross profit | \$16,007 |
| Tons of ore milled | 31,158 |
| Production: | |
| Silver (ounces) | 1,200,339 |
| Gold (ounces) | 9,329 |
| Payable metal quantities sold: | |
| Silver (ounces) | 958,007 |
| Gold (ounces) | 7,413 |
| Ore grades: | |
| Silver ounces per ton | 41.26 |
| Gold ounces per ton | 0.322 |
| Mining cost per ton | \$103.72 |
| Milling cost per ton | \$69.62 |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce (1) | \$(3.26) |

A reconciliation of this non-GAAP measure to cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization, the most comparable GAAP measure, can be found below in *Reconciliation of Cash (1) Cost, Before By-product Credits and Cash Cost, After By-product Credits (non-GAAP) to Cost of Sales and Other Direct Production Costs and Depreciation, Depletion and Amortization (GAAP)*.

The mill operated at 342 tons per day during the quarter, which is lower than the expected throughput rate going forward. The ore processed in the quarter had considerably higher grades than anticipated over the mine life, which is currently expected to be between 18 and 24 months.

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The chart below illustrates the factors contributing to Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, Per Silver Ounce for December 2016:

The following table summarizes the components of Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 |
|--|--|
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | \$ 6.00 |
| By-product credits | (9.26) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | \$ (3.26) |

The difference between what we report as "production" and "payable metal quantities sold" is mainly attributable to inventory changes incidental to the timing of sales of refined metals and shipping schedules.

We believe the identification of gold as a by-product credit is appropriate at San Sebastian because of its anticipated lower economic value compared to silver over the life of the mine. In addition, we will not receive sufficient revenue from gold at San Sebastian to warrant classification of such as a co-product. Because we consider gold to be a by-product of our silver production at San Sebastian, the value of gold offsets operating costs within our calculations of Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce. In addition to the impact of the by-product credits from gold, Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce at San Sebastian is lower compared to our other operations due to the orebody being near surface and having higher precious metal grades, resulting in a lower Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce.

Corporate Matters

Employee Benefit Plans

Our defined benefit pension plans, while affording a significant benefit to our employees, also represent a significant liability to us. The liability recorded for the funded status of our plans was \$46.3 million and \$46.9 million as of

March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively. In the first quarter of 2016, we contributed approximately \$2.6 million in shares of our common stock and cash to our defined benefit plans, with \$2.7 million of additional contributions anticipated in 2016. While the economic variables which will determine future funding requirements are uncertain, we expect contributions to continue to be required in future years under current plan provisions, and we periodically examine the plans for affordability and competitiveness. See *Note 7 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)* for more information.

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Income Taxes

Each reporting period we assess our deferred tax assets utilizing long-range forecasts to provide reasonable assurance that they will be realized through future earnings. We continue to have a net deferred tax asset in the U.S. and Mexico, and a net deferred tax liability in Canada.

Our U.S. net deferred tax asset at March 31, 2016 totaled \$42.3 million, or 2% of total assets, a decrease of \$0.6 million from the \$42.9 million net deferred tax asset at December 31, 2015. The largest component of the deferred tax asset is deferred foreign exchange losses. The next largest component is net operating loss carryforwards. In 2015, we determined that we are indefinite Alternative Minimum taxpayers, resulting in additional valuation allowance primarily related to forecasted utilization of regular net operating loss carryforwards and the effect of re-measuring temporary deferred tax assets using a tax rate of 20% which differed from the previous rate of 35%. At March 31, 2016, we retained a valuation allowance on U.S. deferred tax assets of \$102.3 million, primarily for net operating loss carryforwards.

Our net Canadian deferred tax liability at March 31, 2016 was \$127.1 million, an increase of \$6.8 million from the \$120.3 million net deferred tax liability at December 31, 2015. The increase is due to strengthening of the Canadian dollar relative to the U.S. dollar during the period, resulting in a higher U.S. dollar value for the liability. The deferred tax liability is the result of the acquisition of Aurizon completed on June 1, 2013, and is primarily related to the excess of the fair market value of the assets acquired over the tax bases of those assets for Canadian tax reporting, with the majority of that value allocated to mineral resources and reserves.

Our net Mexican deferred tax asset at March 31, 2016, was \$7.9 million, a decrease of \$3.8 million from the \$11.7 million net deferred tax asset at December 31, 2015. The deferred tax asset is the realized portion of net operating loss carryforwards supported by forecasted income from operations at San Sebastian. An \$11.0 million valuation allowance remains on deferred tax assets in foreign jurisdictions.

Our effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2016 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2015 was impacted by the effects of the U.S. deduction for percentage depletion and the impact of taxation in foreign jurisdictions, the impacts of which were amplified by relatively low worldwide pre-tax book income.

Reconciliation of Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits and Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, Per Ounce (non-GAAP) to Cost of Sales and Other Direct Production Costs and Depreciation, Depletion and Amortization (GAAP)

The tables below present reconciliations between the non-GAAP measures of Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Ounce and Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce to the most comparable GAAP measure of cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization for our operations at the Greens Creek, Lucky Friday, San Sebastian and Casa Berardi units for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2016 and 2015. Commercial production began at the San Sebastian unit late in 2015, and as a result there is no comparative data for the first quarter of 2015.

Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce is an important operating statistic that we utilize to measure each mine's operating performance. It also allows us to benchmark the performance of each of our mines versus those of our competitors. As a primary silver mining company, we also use the statistic on an aggregate basis - aggregating the Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and San Sebastian mines - to compare our performance with that of other primary silver mining companies. With regard to Casa Berardi, we use Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce to compare its performance with other gold mines. Similarly, the statistic is useful in identifying acquisition and investment opportunities as it provides a common tool for measuring the financial performance of other mines with varying geologic, metallurgical and operating characteristics.

Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Ounce includes all direct and indirect operating cash costs related directly to the physical activities of producing metals, including mining, processing and other plant costs, third-party refining expense, on-site general and administrative costs, royalties and mining production taxes. By-product credits include revenues earned from all metals other than the primary metal produced at each unit. Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce provides management and investors an indication of operating cash flow, after consideration of the average price, received from production. We also use this measurement for the comparative monitoring of performance of our mining operations period-to-period from a cash flow perspective. Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce is a measure developed by precious metals companies (including the Silver Institute) in an effort to provide a uniform standard for comparison purposes. There can be no assurance, however, that our reporting of this non-GAAP measure is the same as that reported by other mining companies.

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The Casa Berardi section below reports Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce for the production of gold, its primary product, and by-product revenues earned from silver, which is a by-product at Casa Berardi. Only costs and ounces produced relating to units with the same primary product are combined to represent Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Ounce. Thus, the gold produced at our Casa Berardi unit is not included as a by-product credit when calculating Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce for the total of Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and San Sebastian, our combined silver properties.

As depicted in the Greens Creek Unit, the Lucky Friday Unit and the San Sebastian Unit tables below, by-product credits comprise an essential element of our silver unit cost structure, distinguishing our silver operations due to the polymetallic nature of their orebodies. By-product credits included in our presentation of Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce include:

| <i>In thousands (except per ounce amounts)</i> | Total, Greens Creek, Lucky Friday, and San Sebastian Units Three months ended March 31, 2016 2015 | |
|--|--|----------|
| By-product credits, all silver properties: | | |
| Zinc | \$18,817 | \$21,690 |
| Gold | 27,456 | 15,508 |
| Lead | 15,057 | 13,893 |
| Total by-product credits | \$61,330 | \$51,091 |
| By-product credits per silver ounce, all silver properties | | |
| Zinc | \$4.06 | \$7.54 |
| Gold | 5.92 | 5.40 |
| Lead | 3.25 | 4.84 |
| By-product credits per silver ounce | \$13.23 | \$17.78 |

By-product credits included in our presentation of Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce for our Casa Berardi Unit include:

| <i>In thousands (except per ounce amounts)</i> | Casa Berardi Unit Three months ended March 31, 2016 2015 | |
|--|--|--|
|--|--|--|

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Silver by-product credits | \$103 | \$97 |
| By-product credits per gold ounce | \$3.39 | \$3.82 |

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Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization is the most comparable financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP to Cash Cost, After By-product Credits. The sum of the cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization for our operating units in the tables below is presented in our *Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) (Unaudited)*.

| | Total, Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and San Sebastian Units Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|---|----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| <i>In thousands (except per ounce amounts)</i> | | |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits ⁽¹⁾ | \$75,979 | \$65,246 |
| By-product credits | (61,330) | (51,090) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | 14,649 | 14,156 |
| Divided by ounces produced | 4,635 | 2,873 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | 16.39 | 22.71 |
| By-product credits per silver ounce | (13.23) | (17.78) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | \$3.16 | \$4.93 |
| Reconciliation to GAAP: | | |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | \$14,649 | \$14,156 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 17,374 | 16,612 |
| Treatment costs | (20,963) | (19,921) |
| By-product credits | 61,330 | 51,090 |
| Change in product inventory | (1,959) | 5,718 |
| Reclamation and other costs | 605 | 393 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization (GAAP) | \$71,036 | \$68,048 |

| | Greens Creek Unit Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|--|----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| <i>In thousands (except per ounce amounts)</i> | | |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits ⁽¹⁾ | \$48,133 | \$47,113 |
| By-product credits | (38,408) | (40,531) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | 9,725 | 6,582 |
| Divided by ounces produced | 2,458 | 2,036 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | 19.58 | 23.14 |
| By-product credits per silver ounce | (15.62) | (19.91) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | \$3.96 | \$3.23 |
| Reconciliation to GAAP: | | |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | \$9,725 | \$6,582 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 13,601 | 13,746 |

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| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Treatment costs | (15,638) | (15,233) |
| By-product credits | 38,408 | 40,531 |
| Change in product inventory | (1,640) | 5,694 |
| Reclamation and other costs | 398 | 388 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization (GAAP) | \$44,854 | \$51,708 |

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| | Lucky Friday Unit Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|--|----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits ⁽¹⁾ | \$20,648 | \$18,133 |
| By-product credits | (11,806) | (10,559) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | 8,842 | 7,574 |
| Divided by ounces produced | 977 | 837 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | 21.13 | 21.68 |
| By-product credits per silver ounce | (12.08) | (12.63) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | \$9.05 | \$9.05 |
| Reconciliation to GAAP: | | |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | \$8,842 | \$7,574 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 3,004 | 2,866 |
| Treatment costs | (5,334) | (4,688) |
| By-product credits | 11,806 | 10,559 |
| Change in product inventory | 21 | 24 |
| Reclamation and other costs | 166 | 5 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization (GAAP) | \$18,505 | \$16,340 |

In thousands (except per ounce amounts)

| | San Sebastian Unit Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|---|------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits (1) | \$7,198 | \$ — |
| By-product credits | (11,116) | — |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | (3,918) | — |
| Divided by ounces produced | 1,200 | — |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | 6.00 | — |
| By-product credits per silver ounce | (9.26) | — |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Silver Ounce | \$(3.26) | \$ — |
| Reconciliation to GAAP: | | |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | \$(3,918) | \$ — |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 769 | — |
| Treatment costs | 9 | — |
| By-product credits | 11,116 | — |
| Change in product inventory | (340) | — |
| Reclamation and other costs | 41 | — |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization (GAAP) | \$7,677 | \$ — |

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| | Casa Berardi Unit Three months ended March 31, | |
|---|--|----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits ⁽¹⁾ | \$23,836 | \$24,835 |
| By-product credits | (103) | (97) |
| Cash Cost, After by-product credits | 23,733 | 24,738 |
| Divided by gold ounces produced | 30,378 | 25,411 |
| Cash Cost, Before By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce | 784.66 | 977.34 |
| By-product credits per gold ounce | (3.39) | (3.82) |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits, per Gold Ounce | \$781.27 | \$973.52 |
| Reconciliation to GAAP: | | |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | \$23,733 | \$24,738 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 8,501 | 8,643 |
| Treatment costs | (171) | (153) |
| By-product credits | 103 | 97 |
| Change in product inventory | (3,118) | (2,272) |
| Reclamation and other costs | 111 | 118 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization (GAAP) | \$29,159 | \$31,171 |

In thousands

| | Total, All Locations Three months ended March 31, | |
|---|---|----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Reconciliation to GAAP: | | |
| Cash Cost, After By-product Credits | \$38,382 | \$38,894 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 25,875 | 25,255 |
| Treatment costs | (21,134) | (20,074) |
| By-product credits | 61,433 | 51,187 |
| Change in product inventory | (5,077) | 3,446 |
| Reclamation and other costs | 716 | 511 |
| Cost of sales and other direct production costs and depreciation, depletion and amortization (GAAP) | \$100,195 | \$99,219 |

- Includes all direct and indirect operating costs related directly to the physical activities of producing metals, including mining, processing and other plant costs, third-party refining and marketing expense, on-site general and administrative costs, royalties and mining production taxes, after by-product revenues earned from all metals other than the primary metal produced at each unit.
- (1)

Table Of Contents***Financial Liquidity and Capital Resources***

Our liquid assets include (in millions):

| | March 31, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents held in U.S. dollars | \$ 118.5 | \$ 137.0 |
| Cash and cash equivalents held in foreign currency | 15.5 | 18.2 |
| Total cash and cash equivalents | 134.0 | 155.2 |
| Marketable equity securities - non-current | 2.1 | 1.5 |
| Total cash, cash equivalents and investments | \$ 136.1 | \$ 156.7 |

Cash and cash equivalents decreased by \$21.2 million in the first three months of 2016, as discussed below, while the value of non-current marketable equity securities increased by \$0.6 million (see *Note 2 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)* for more information).

As discussed in *Note 9 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)*, on April 12, 2013, we completed an offering of Senior Notes in the total principal amount of US\$500 million, and our Senior Notes have a total principal balance of \$506.5 million as of March 31, 2016. The Senior Notes are due May 1, 2021 and bear interest at a rate of 6.875% per year from the date of original issuance or from the most recent payment date to which interest has been paid or provided for. Interest on the Senior Notes is payable on May 1 and November 1 of each year, commencing November 1, 2013.

The #4 Shaft project, which is discussed further in the *Lucky Friday Segment* section above, is expected to involve capital expenditures of approximately \$225 million through 2016, including approximately \$214.7 million that has been spent on the project as of March 31, 2016.

In the third quarter of 2015, we made a development decision to mine near surface, high grade portions of the silver and gold deposits at our San Sebastian project in Mexico and anticipate commencing ore production there by the end of 2015. As a result, we believe San Sebastian will generate positive cash flows in 2016 and 2017. However, our estimate of costs could change, and our ability to generate cash flow at San Sebastian could be impacted by changes in precious metals prices or other factors, and there can be no assurance that we will be able to develop and operate San Sebastian as anticipated.

In June 2015, we completed the acquisition of all of the outstanding common stock of Revett for total consideration of \$20.1 million, consisting of \$0.9 million in cash and \$19.1 million in our common stock. As a result of the acquisition, we anticipate incurring costs over the next three to four years totaling approximately \$18.8 million for reclamation of the Troy mine. We expect to recover approximately \$16.8 million of these costs over that time period through submittal of reimbursement claims pursuant to an insurance policy held by the Revett subsidiary owning the Troy mine, and this amount is recorded as an asset as of March 31, 2016. However, there can be no assurance that we will be successful in obtaining reimbursement for such costs as anticipated.

As discussed in *Note 4 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)*, we believe that it is probable that CoCa, our wholly-owned subsidiary, will incur a settlement liability for response costs at the Gilt Edge and Nelson Tunnel/Commodore sites, which we currently estimate to be \$9.9 million after payments from insurance proceeds and another party to the settlement. In the first quarter of 2016, we deposited \$3.9 million into an escrow account which would be applied towards the potential settlement. The deposit is reported as current restricted cash on our condensed consolidated balance sheet (unaudited). However, there can be no assurance the settlement will be finalized as outlined above or occur at all.

As discussed in *Note 8 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)*, in February 2016 we entered into an equity distribution agreement under which we may issue and sell shares of our common stock from time to time having an aggregate offering price of up to \$75 million, with the net proceeds available for general corporate purposes. Whether or not we engage in sales from time to time may depend on a variety of factors, including share price, our cash resources, customary black-out restrictions, and whether we have any material inside information, and the agreement can be terminated by us at any time. As of March 31, 2016, we had sold 737,275 shares under the agreement for total net proceeds of approximately \$2.1 million. To date, we have we have sold 2,780,087 shares through the at-the-market program for total net proceeds of \$8.1 million.

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Pursuant to our common stock dividend policy described in *Note 8 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)*, our Board of Directors declared and paid dividends on common stock totaling \$1.0 million in the first quarter of 2016 and \$0.9 million in the first quarter of 2015. On May 4, 2016, our Board of Directors declared a dividend on common stock totaling \$1.0 million payable in June 2016. Our dividend policy has a silver-price-linked component which ties the amount of declared common stock dividends to our realized silver price for the preceding quarter. Another component of our common stock dividend policy anticipates paying an annual minimum dividend. The declaration and payment of dividends on common stock is at the sole discretion of our board of directors, and there can be no assurance that we will continue to declare and pay common stock dividends in the future.

On May 8, 2012, we announced that our board of directors approved a stock repurchase program. Under the program, we are authorized to repurchase up to 20 million shares of our outstanding common stock from time to time in open market or privately negotiated transactions, depending on prevailing market conditions and other factors. The repurchase program may be modified, suspended or discontinued by us at any time. Whether or not we engage in repurchases from time to time may depend on a variety of factors, including not only price and cash resources, but customary black-out restrictions, whether we have any material inside information, limitations on share repurchases or cash usage that may be imposed by our credit agreement or in connection with issuances of securities, alternative uses for cash, applicable law, and other investment opportunities from time to time. As of March 31, 2016, 934,100 shares have been purchased in prior periods at an average price of \$3.99 per share, leaving 19.1 million shares that may yet be purchased under the program. The closing price of our common stock at May 3, 2016, was \$4.05 per share.

We may defer some capital investment and/or exploration and pre-development activities, engage in asset sales or secure additional capital if necessary to maintain liquidity. We also may pursue additional acquisition opportunities, which could require additional equity issuances or financing. There can be no assurance that such financing will be available to us.

As a result of our current cash balances, the performance of our current and expected operations, current metals prices, proceeds from potential at-the-market sales of common stock, and full availability of our \$100 million revolving credit facility, we believe our cash, cash equivalents, investments, projected cash from operations, and availability of financing (including equity issuances), if needed, will be adequate to meet our obligations and other potential cash requirements during the next 12 months. Our obligations and other uses of cash may include, but are not limited to: debt service obligations related to the Senior Notes, capital outlays for the #4 Shaft project and other capital expenditures, regulatory matters, litigation, potential repurchases of our common stock under the program described above, and payment of dividends on common stock, if declared by our board of directors. We currently estimate that a total of approximately \$150 million will be spent on capital expenditures, primarily for equipment, infrastructure, and development at our mines, in 2016. We also estimate that exploration and pre-development expenditures will total approximately \$15 million in 2016. However, capital, exploration, and pre-development expenditures may change based upon our financial position, metals prices, and other considerations. Our ability to fund the activities described above will depend on our operating performance, metals prices, our ability to estimate costs, sources of liquidity available to us, and other factors. A sustained downturn in metals prices or significant increase in operational or capital costs, other uses of cash, or other factors beyond our control could impact our plans.

| | Three Months Ended March March 31, 31, 2016 2015 | |
|--|---|----------------|
| Cash provided by operating activities (in millions) | \$18.7 | \$ 21.4 |

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Cash provided by operating activities in the first quarter of 2016 decreased by \$2.7 million compared to the same period in 2015. The reduction was primarily due to working capital and other operating asset and liability changes which resulted in a net cash flow decrease of \$21.5 million in the first three months of 2016 compared to a net decrease in cash flows of \$8.0 million in the 2015 period. The \$13.5 million variance in working capital changes is attributed to higher accounts receivable and inventory balances due to the timing of sales at Greens Creek and Casa Berardi, partially offset by higher accounts payable due to the timing of capital spending at the operations. In addition, income, as adjusted for non-cash items, was higher by \$10.8 million, due primarily to gross profit generated at San Sebastian in the first quarter of 2016 following commencement of production there in December 2015.

| | Three Months Ended | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| | March | March |
| | 31, | 31, |
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Cash used in investing activities (in millions) | \$(38.3) | \$(27.9) |

During the first quarter of 2016 we invested \$34.7 million in capital expenditures compared to \$27.0 million, not including \$1.6 million in capital lease additions, in the same period in 2015, with the variance primarily due to increased costs at Casa Berardi for equipment additions and construction of the new East Mine Crown Pillar pit. We incurred increases in restricted cash of \$3.9 million in the first quarter of 2016, as discussed above. In the first quarter of 2015, we purchased marketable securities having a cost basis of \$0.9 million.

| | Three Months Ended | |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| | March | March |
| | 31, | 31, |
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Cash used in financing activities (in millions) | \$(3.1) | \$(4.4) |

During the first quarter of 2016, we received \$2.1 million in proceeds from sale of shares of our common stock, as discussed above. We paid cash dividends of \$1.0 million and \$0.9 million on our common stock in the first quarter of 2016 and 2015, respectively, and cash dividends of \$0.1 million on our Series B Preferred Stock during the first quarter of each year. We made repayments on our capital leases of \$2.1 million and \$2.3 million in the three month periods ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. In the first quarter of 2016, we also made repayments of debt totaling \$0.7 million. In addition, during the first quarter of 2016 and 2015, respectively, we acquired treasury shares for \$1.3 million and \$0.9 million as the result of employees' elections to satisfy their tax withholding obligations related to incentive compensation paid in stock through net share settlement. See *Note 8 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)* for more information.

Contractual Obligations, Contingent Liabilities and Commitments

The table below presents our fixed, non-cancelable contractual obligations and commitments primarily related to our Senior Notes, outstanding purchase orders, certain capital expenditures, our credit facility and lease arrangements as of March 31, 2016 (in thousands):

| | Payments Due By Period | | | | Total |
|---|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Less than 1 year | 1-3 years | 4-5 years | More than 5 years | |
| Purchase obligations ⁽¹⁾ | \$8,689 | \$— | \$— | \$— | \$8,689 |
| Commitment fees ⁽²⁾ | 500 | 817 | — | — | 1,317 |
| Contractual obligations ⁽³⁾ | 11,717 | — | — | — | 11,717 |
| Capital lease commitments ⁽⁴⁾ | 7,955 | 7,767 | 587 | — | 16,309 |
| Operating lease commitments ⁽⁵⁾ | 3,913 | 2,589 | 2,192 | 299 | 8,993 |
| Supplemental executive retirement plan ⁽⁶⁾ | 408 | 895 | 1,152 | 3,764 | 6,219 |
| Defined benefit pension plans ⁽⁶⁾ | 2,696 | — | — | — | 2,696 |
| Senior Notes ⁽⁷⁾ | 34,822 | 69,644 | 69,644 | 509,402 | 683,512 |
| Total contractual cash obligations | \$70,700 | \$81,712 | \$73,575 | \$513,465 | \$739,452 |

Consist of open purchase orders of approximately \$3.0 million at the Greens Creek unit, \$1.5 million at the Lucky Friday unit and \$4.2 million at the Casa Berardi unit. Included in these amounts are approximately \$0.6 million, ⁽¹⁾ \$1.0 million, and \$0.7 million related to various capital projects at the Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and Casa Berardi units, respectively.

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We have a \$100 million revolving credit agreement under which we are required to pay a standby fee of 0.5% per annum on undrawn amounts under the revolving credit agreement. There was no amount drawn under the (2) revolving credit agreement as of March 31, 2016, and the amounts above assume no amounts will be drawn during the agreement's term. For more information on our credit facility, see *Note 9 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)*.

(3) As of March 31, 2016, we were committed to approximately \$11.7 million for various non-capital items.

(4) Includes scheduled capital lease payments of \$8.5 million, \$4.7 million, and \$3.1 million (including interest), respectively, for equipment at our Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and Casa Berardi units. These leases have fixed payment terms and contain bargain purchase options at the end of the lease periods (see *Note 9 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)* for more information).

(5) We enter into operating leases in the normal course of business. Substantially all lease agreements have fixed payment terms based on the passage of time. Some lease agreements provide us with the option to renew the lease or purchase the leased property. Our future operating lease obligations would change if we exercised these renewal options and if we entered into additional operating lease arrangements.

We sponsor defined benefit pension plans covering substantially all U.S. employees and provide certain post-retirement benefits for qualifying retired employees, along with a supplemental executive retirement plan. (6) These amounts represent our estimate of the future funding requirements for these plans. We believe we will have funding requirements related to our defined benefit plans beyond one year; however, such obligations are not fixed in nature and are difficult to estimate, as they involve significant assumptions. See *Note 7 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)* for more information.

On April 12, 2013, we completed an offering of \$500 million in aggregate principal amount of our Senior Notes due May 1, 2021. The Senior Notes bear interest at a rate of 6.875% per year from the date of original issuance or from the most recent payment date to which interest has been paid or provided for. Interest on the Senior Notes is (7) payable on May 1 and November 1 of each year, commencing November 1, 2013. Since the initial offering, we have issued an additional \$6.5 million in aggregate principal amount of the Senior Notes to fund obligations under our defined benefit pension plan. See *Note 9 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)* for more information.

We record liabilities for costs associated with mine closure, reclamation of land and other environmental matters. At March 31, 2016, our liabilities for these matters totaled \$96.7 million. Future expenditures related to closure, reclamation and environmental expenditures at our sites are difficult to estimate, although we anticipate we will incur expenditures relating to these obligations over the next 30 years. For additional information relating to our environmental obligations, see *Note 4 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)*.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

At March 31, 2016, we had no existing off-balance sheet arrangements, as defined under SEC regulations, that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on our financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources that are material to investors.

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Critical Accounting Estimates

Our significant accounting policies are described in *Note 1 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* in our annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015. As described in *Note 1* of the annual report, we are required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and related disclosures of assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenses. Our estimates are based on our experience and our interpretation of economic, political, regulatory, and other factors that affect our business prospects. Actual results may differ significantly from our estimates.

We believe that our most critical accounting estimates are related to future metals prices; obligations for environmental, reclamation, and closure matters; mineral reserves; and accounting for business combinations, as they require us to make assumptions that were highly uncertain at the time the accounting estimates were made and changes in them are reasonably likely to occur from period to period. Management has discussed the development and selection of these critical accounting estimates with the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors, and the Audit Committee has reviewed the disclosures presented below. In addition, there are other items within our financial statements that require estimation, but are not deemed to be critical. However, changes in estimates used in these and other items could have a material impact on our financial statements.

Future Metals Prices

Metals prices are key components in estimates that determine the valuation of some of our significant assets and liabilities, including properties, plants and equipment, deferred tax assets, and certain accounts receivable. Metals prices are also an important component in the estimation of reserves. As shown under *Item 1A. – Risk Factors* in our annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, metals prices have historically been volatile. Silver demand arises from investment demand - particularly in exchange-traded funds, industrial demand, and consumer demand. Gold demand arises primarily from investment and consumer demand. Investment demand for silver and gold is influenced by various factors, including: the value of the U.S. Dollar and other currencies, changing U.S. budget deficits, widening availability of exchange-traded funds, interest rate levels, the health of credit markets, and inflationary expectations. Uncertainty concerning a global economic recovery, including recent uncertainty in China, could result in continued investment demand for precious metals. Industrial demand for silver is closely linked to world Gross Domestic Product growth and industrial fabrication levels, as it is difficult to substitute for silver in industrial fabrication. Consumer demand is driven significantly by demand for jewelry and similar retail products. We believe that long-term industrial and economic trends, including urbanization and growth of the middle class in countries such as China and India, will result in continued consumer demand for silver and gold and industrial demand for silver. However, China has recently experienced a lower rate of economic growth which is ongoing and could continue in the near term. There can be no assurance whether these trends will continue or how they will impact prices of the metals we produce. In the past, we have recorded impairments to our asset carrying value because of low prices, and we can offer no assurance that prices will either remain at their current levels or increase.

Processes supporting valuation of our assets and liabilities that are most significantly affected by prices include analysis of asset carrying values, depreciation, reserves, and deferred income taxes. On at least an annual basis - and more frequently if circumstances warrant - we examine our depreciation rates, reserve estimates, and the valuation allowances on our deferred tax assets. We examine the carrying values of our assets as changes in facts and circumstances warrant. In our evaluation of carrying values and deferred taxes, we apply several pricing views to our forecasting model, including current prices, analyst price estimates, forward-curve prices, and historical prices (see *Mineral Reserves*, below, regarding prices used for reserve estimates). Using applicable accounting guidance and our view of metals markets, we use the probability-weighted average of the various methods to determine whether the values of our assets are fairly stated, and to determine the level of valuation allowances, if any, on our deferred tax assets. In addition, estimates of future metals prices are used in the valuation of certain assets in the determination of the purchase price allocations for our acquisitions (see *Business Combinations* below).

Sales of concentrates sold directly to customers are recorded as revenues when title and risk of loss transfer to the customer (generally at the time of shipment) at estimated forward metals prices for the estimated month of settlement. Due to the time elapsed between the time of shipment of concentrates to the customer and final settlement with the customer, we must estimate the prices at which sales of our metals will be settled. Previously recorded sales and trade accounts receivable are adjusted to estimated settlement metals prices until final settlement by the customer. Changes in metals prices between shipment and final settlement result in changes to revenues and accounts receivable previously recorded upon shipment. As a result, our trade accounts receivable balances related to concentrate sales are subject to changes in metals prices until final settlement occurs. For more information, see part *N. Revenue Recognition of Note 1 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* in our annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.

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We utilize financially-settled forward contracts to manage our exposure to changes in prices for silver, gold, zinc and lead. See *Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk - Commodity-Price Risk Management* below for more information on our contract programs. These contracts do not qualify for hedge accounting and are therefore marked-to-market through earnings each period. Changes in silver, gold, zinc and lead prices between the dates that the contracts are entered into and their settlements will result in changes to the fair value asset or liability associated with the contracts, with a corresponding gain or loss recognized in earnings.

Obligations for Environmental, Reclamation and Closure Matters

Accrued reclamation and closure costs can represent a significant and variable liability on our balance sheet. We have estimated our liabilities under appropriate accounting guidance, and on at least an annual basis - and more frequently if warranted - management reviews our liabilities with our Audit Committee. However, the ranges of liability could exceed the liabilities recognized. If substantial damages were awarded, claims were settled, or remediation costs incurred in excess of our accruals, our financial results or condition could be materially adversely affected.

Mineral Reserves

Critical estimates are inherent in the process of determining our reserves. Our reserves are affected largely by our assessment of future metals prices, as well as by engineering and geological estimates of ore grade, accessibility and production cost. Metals prices are estimated at long-term averages, as described in *Item 2. — Property Descriptions* in our annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015. Our assessment of reserves occurs at least annually, and periodically utilizes external audits.

Reserves are a key component in the valuation of our properties, plants and equipment. Reserve estimates are used in determining appropriate rates of units-of-production depreciation, with net book value of many assets depreciated over remaining estimated reserves. Reserves are also a key component in forecasts, with which we compare future cash flows to current asset values in an effort to ensure that carrying values are reported appropriately. Our forecasts are also used in determining the level of valuation allowances on our deferred tax assets. Reserves also play a key role in the valuation of certain assets in the determination of the purchase price allocations for acquisitions (see *Business Combinations* below). Reserves are a culmination of many estimates and are not guarantees that we will recover the indicated quantities of metals or that we will do so at a profitable level.

Business Combinations

We are required to allocate the purchase price of acquired companies to the tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values at the acquisition date. The valuation of assets acquired and liabilities assumed requires management to make significant estimates and assumptions, especially with respect to long-lived assets, including estimates of future metals prices and mineral reserves, as discussed above. In some cases, we use third-party appraisers to determine the fair values and lives of property and other identifiable assets. In addition, costs related to business combinations are included in earnings as incurred, and our financial results for periods in which business combinations are pursued could be adversely affected as a result.

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Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The following discussion about our risk management activities includes forward-looking statements that involve risk and uncertainties, as well as summarizes the financial instruments held by us at March 31, 2016, which are sensitive to changes in commodity prices and foreign exchange rates and are not held for trading purposes. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. In the normal course of business, we also face risks that are either non-financial or non-quantifiable (See *Part II, Item 1A. – Risk Factors* of our annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015).

Provisional Sales

Sales of all metals products sold directly to customers, including by-product metals, are recorded as revenues when title and risk of loss transfers to the customer (generally at the time of shipment) at forward prices for the estimated month of settlement. Due to the time elapsed between shipment to the customer and the final settlement with the customer we must estimate the prices at which sales of our metals will be settled. Previously recorded sales are adjusted to estimated settlement metals prices until final settlement by the customer. Changes in metals prices between shipment and final settlement will result in changes to revenues previously recorded upon shipment. Metals prices can and often do fluctuate widely and are affected by numerous factors beyond our control (see *Item 1A – Risk Factors – A substantial or extended decline in metals prices would have a material adverse effect on us* in our annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015). At March 31, 2016, metals contained in concentrates and exposed to future price changes totaled approximately 1.3 million ounces of silver, 4,444 ounces of gold, 11,045 tons of zinc, and 5,247 tons of lead. If the price for each metal were to change by 10%, the change in the total value of the concentrates sold would be approximately \$5.2 million. However, as discussed in *Commodity-Price Risk Management* below, we utilize a program designed and intended to mitigate the risk of negative price adjustments with limited mark-to-market financially-settled forward contracts for our silver, gold, zinc and lead sales.

Commodity-Price Risk Management

At times, we may use commodity forward sales commitments, commodity swap contracts and commodity put and call option contracts to manage our exposure to fluctuation in the prices of certain metals which we produce. Contract positions are designed to ensure that we will receive a defined minimum price for certain quantities of our production, thereby partially offsetting our exposure to fluctuations in the market. These instruments do, however, expose us to (i) credit risk in the event of non-performance by counterparties for contracts in which the contract price exceeds the spot price of a commodity and (ii) price risk to the extent that the spot price exceeds the contract price for quantities of our production covered under contract positions.

We are currently using financially-settled forward contracts to manage the exposure to changes in prices of silver, gold, zinc and lead contained in our concentrate shipments between the time of shipment and final settlement. In addition, at times we use financially-settled forward contracts to manage the exposure to changes in prices of zinc and lead (but not silver and gold) contained in our forecasted future concentrate shipments; however, there were no open contracts related to this program as of March 31, 2016 or December 31, 2015. These contracts do not qualify for hedge accounting and are marked-to-market through earnings each period. At March 31, 2016, we recorded a current liability of \$0.5 million on the contracts utilized to manage exposure to prices of metals in our concentrate shipments, which is included in other current liabilities.

We recognized a \$6.1 million net loss during the first three months of 2016 on the contracts utilized to manage exposure to prices of metals in our concentrate shipments, which is included in sales of products. The net loss recognized on the contracts offsets gains related to price adjustments on our provisional concentrate sales due to changes to silver, gold, lead and zinc prices between the time of sale and final settlement.

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The following tables summarize the quantities of metals committed under forward sales contracts at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015:

| March 31, 2016 | Ounces/pounds under contract (in 000's) | | | | Average price per ounce/pound | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Silver (ounces) | Gold (ounces) | Zinc (pounds) | Lead (pounds) | Silver (ounces) | Gold (ounces) | Zinc (pounds) | Lead (pounds) |
| Contracts on provisional sales | | | | | | | | |
| 2016 settlements | 1,196 | 4 | 15,818 | 9,700 | \$ 15.29 | \$ 1,225 | \$ 0.80 | \$ 0.77 |
| December 31, 2015 | Ounces/pounds under contract (in 000's) | | | | Average price per ounce/pound | | | |
| | Silver (ounces) | Gold (ounces) | Zinc (pounds) | Lead (pounds) | Silver (ounces) | Gold (ounces) | Zinc (pounds) | Lead (pounds) |
| Contracts on provisional sales | | | | | | | | |
| 2016 settlements | 1,368 | 5 | 23,755 | 8,433 | \$ 14.12 | \$ 1,076 | \$ 0.71 | \$ 0.77 |

Our concentrate sales are based on a provisional sales price containing an embedded derivative that is required to be separated from the host contract for accounting purposes. The host contract is the receivable from the sale of the concentrates at the forward price at the time of the sale. The embedded derivative, which does not qualify for hedge accounting, is marked-to-market through earnings each period prior to final settlement.

Foreign Currency

We operate or have mining interests in Canada and Mexico, which exposes us to risks associated with fluctuations in the exchange rates of the currencies involved, particularly between the U.S. dollar and Canadian dollar. We have determined that the functional currency for our Canadian operations is the U.S. dollar. As such, foreign exchange gains and losses associated with the re-measurement of monetary assets and liabilities from Canadian dollars to U.S. dollars are recorded to earnings each period. For the first quarter of 2016, we recognized a net foreign exchange loss of \$8.2 million. Foreign currency exchange rates are influenced by a number of factors beyond our control. A 1% change in the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and Canadian dollar from the rate at March 31, 2016 would have resulted in a change of approximately \$1.4 million in our net foreign exchange gain. In April 2016, we initiated a program to manage our exposure to fluctuations in the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and Canadian dollar and the impact on our future operating costs at our Casa Berardi unit. To date, we have entered into forward contracts to acquire Canadian dollars for approximately 3% of our forecasted cash operating costs at Casa Berardi from 2017 through the third quarter of 2018. We believe these contracts qualify for hedge accounting. We may expand this program to enter into contracts covering a maximum of 75% of our forecasted future operating costs at Casa Berardi for up to the next five years, or establish additional programs to manage other foreign currency-related exposure areas.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

An evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) and Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”), of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as required by Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, our CEO and CFO concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures, including controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us is accumulated and communicated to our management (including our CEO and CFO), were effective as of March 31, 2016, in assuring them in a timely manner that material information required to be disclosed in this report has been properly recorded, processed, summarized and reported. There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended March 31, 2016, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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Internal control systems, no matter how well designed and operated, have inherent limitations. Therefore, even a system which is determined to be effective cannot provide absolute assurance that all control issues have been detected or prevented. Our systems of internal controls are designed to provide reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation.

Part II - Other Information

Hecla Mining Company and Subsidiaries

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

For information concerning legal proceedings, refer to *Note 4 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)*, which is incorporated by reference into this Item 1.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Item 1A – Risk Factors of our annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 sets forth information relating to important risks and uncertainties that could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or operating results. Those risk factors continue to be relevant to an understanding of our business, financial condition and operating results.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

The information concerning mine safety violations or other regulatory matters required by Section 1503(a) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and Item 104 of Regulation S-K is included in exhibit 95 to this Quarterly Report.

Item 6. Exhibits

See the exhibit index to this Form 10-Q for the list of exhibits.

Items 2, 3 and 5 of Part II are not applicable and are omitted from this report.

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Hecla Mining Company and Subsidiaries

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 thereunto duly authorized.

HECLA MINING COMPANY
(Registrant)

Date: May 5, 2016 By: /s/ Phillips S. Baker, Jr.
Phillips S. Baker, Jr., President,
Chief Executive Officer and Director

Date: May 5, 2016 By: /s/ James A. Sabala
James A. Sabala, Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

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Hecla Mining Company and Wholly Owned Subsidiaries

Form 10-Q – March 31, 2016

Index to Exhibits

3.1 Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant. Filed as exhibit 3.1 to registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on December 12, 2014 (File No. 1-8491), and incorporated herein by reference.

3.2 Bylaws of the Registrant as amended to date. Filed as exhibit 3.1 to Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on August 22, 2014 (File No. 1-8491), and incorporated herein by reference.

4.1(a) Certificate of Designations, Preferences and Rights of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock of the Registrant. Filed as exhibit 3.1 to Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2010 (File No 1-8491), and incorporated herein by reference.

4.1(b) Certificate of Designations, Preferences and Rights of Series B Cumulative Convertible Preferred Stock of the Registrant. Filed as exhibit 3.1 to Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2010 (File No. 1-8491), and incorporated herein by reference.

4.2(a) Indenture dated as of April 12, 2013, among Hecla Mining Company, as Issuer, certain subsidiaries of Hecla Mining company, as Guarantors thereto, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as Trustee. Filed as exhibit 10.1 to Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 15, 2013 (File No. 1-8491), and incorporated herein by reference.

4.2(b) Supplemental Indenture, dated as of April 14, 2014, among Hecla Mining Company, as Issuer, certain subsidiaries of Hecla Mining Company, as Guarantors thereto, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as Trustee. Filed as exhibit 4.2 to Registrant's S-3ASR filed on April 14, 2014 (Registration No. 333-195246), and incorporated herein by reference.

4.2(c) Form of Indenture, between Hecla Mining Company, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., a national banking association. Filed as exhibit 4.2(d) to Registrant's S-3ASR filed February 23, 2016 (Registration No. 333-209652), and incorporated herein by reference.

4.2(d) Registration Rights Agreement, dated February 26, 2016, among Hecla Mining Company, as sponsor of the Hecla Mining Company Retirement Plan, Hecla Limited, as sponsor for the Lucky Friday Pension Plan, and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee of the Hecla Retirement Plan. Filed as exhibit 4.1 to Registrant's S-3ASR filed February 26, 2016 (Registration No. 333-209751), and incorporated herein by reference.

Form of Indemnification Agreement, dated March 1, 2016, between registrant and George R. Johnson and
10.1 Stephen F. Ralbovsky. Filed as exhibit 10.7 to Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended
September 30, 2006 (File No. 1-8491), and incorporated herein by reference. (1)

Equity Distribution Agreement, dated as of February 23, 2016, by and among Hecla Mining Company and BMO
10.2 Capital Markets Corp. Filed as exhibit 1.1 to Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed February 23, 2016
(File No. 1-8491), and incorporated herein by reference.

31.1 Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. *

31.2 Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. *

32.1 Certification pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. *

32.2 Certification pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. *

95 Mine safety information listed in Section 1503 of the Dodd-Frank Act. *

101.INS XBRL Instance. **

101.SCH XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema.**

101.CAL XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation.**

101.DEF XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition.**

101.LAB XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels.**

101.PRE XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation.**

(1) Indicates a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

* Filed herewith.

** XBRL information is furnished and not filed or a part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1933, as amended, is deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections.