

MARINER ENERGY INC  
Form 10-Q  
November 14, 2007

Table of Contents

**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 September 30, 2007**

**OR**

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

**Commission file number 1-32747**

**MARINER ENERGY, INC.**

*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*

**Delaware**

*(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)*

**86-0460233**

*(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)*

**One BriarLake Plaza, Suite 2000  
2000 West Sam Houston Parkway South  
Houston, Texas 77042**

*(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)*

**(713) 954-5500**

*(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)*

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act 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 is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

As of November 9, 2007, there were 87,202,363 shares issued and outstanding of the issuer's common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**PART I**

<u>Item 1. Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	3
<u>Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	26
<u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	33
<u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures</u>	34

**PART II**

<u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u>	35
<u>Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	36
<u>Item 6. Exhibits</u>	36
<u>Certification of CEO Pursuant to Section 302</u>	
<u>Certification of CFO Pursuant to Section 302</u>	
<u>Certification of CEO Pursuant to Section 906</u>	
<u>Certification of CFO Pursuant to Section 906</u>	

**Table of Contents****PART I****Item 1. Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements**

**MARINER ENERGY, INC.**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(In thousands except share data)

(Unaudited)

	<b>September 30, 2007</b>	<b>December 31, 2006</b>
<b>Current Assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,582	\$ 9,579
Receivables, net of allowances of \$1,710 and \$726 as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006, respectively	165,318	149,692
Insurance receivables	27,926	61,001
Derivative asset	22,246	54,488
Prepaid seismic	20,209	20,835
Prepaid expenses and other	24,806	12,846
Total current assets	266,087	308,441
<b>Property and Equipment:</b>		
Proved oil and gas properties, full-cost method	2,813,354	2,345,041
Unproved properties, not subject to amortization	26,716	40,246
Total oil and gas properties	2,840,070	2,385,287
Other property and equipment	14,965	13,512
Accumulated depreciation, depletion and amortization	(657,626)	(386,737)
Total property and equipment, net	2,197,409	2,012,062
<b>Restricted cash</b>		31,830
<b>Goodwill</b>	288,504	288,504
<b>Derivative asset</b>	1,596	17,153
<b>Insurance receivables</b>	60,215	
<b>Other Assets, net of amortization</b>	21,523	22,163
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,835,334</b>	<b>\$ 2,680,153</b>
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 4,498	\$ 1,822
Accrued liabilities	113,657	74,880
Accrued capital costs	129,879	99,028
Deferred income tax	2,850	26,857
Derivative liability	2,925	
Abandonment liability	31,136	29,660
Accrued interest	21,607	7,480
Total current liabilities	306,552	239,727
<b>Long-Term Liabilities:</b>		
Abandonment liability	169,776	188,310

Edgar Filing: MARINER ENERGY INC - Form 10-Q

Derivative liability	6,686	
Deferred income tax	315,146	262,888
Long-term debt, bank credit facility	33,000	354,000
Long-term debt, senior unsecured notes	600,000	300,000
Other long-term liabilities	37,624	32,637
Total long-term liabilities	1,162,232	1,137,835
<b>Commitments and Contingencies (see Note 7)</b>		
<b>Stockholders Equity:</b>		
Preferred stock, \$.0001 par value; 20,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006		
Common stock, \$.0001 par value; 180,000,000 shares authorized, 87,203,610 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2007; 180,000,000 shares authorized, 86,375,840 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2006	9	9
Additional paid-in capital	1,049,041	1,043,923
Accumulated other comprehensive income	8,245	43,097
Accumulated retained earnings	309,255	215,562
Total stockholders equity	1,366,550	1,302,591
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 2,835,334</b>	<b>\$ 2,680,153</b>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements*

Table of Contents

**MARINER ENERGY, INC.**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(In thousands except share data)

(Unaudited)

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Oil	\$ 69,842	\$ 59,427	\$ 196,971	\$ 141,102
Natural gas	111,455	120,546	386,069	270,308
Natural gas liquids	14,317	9,715	34,879	24,580
Other revenues	870	778	3,211	2,401
Total revenues	196,484	190,466	621,130	438,391
<b>Costs and Expenses:</b>				
Lease operating expense	35,066	28,744	110,119	62,863
Severance and ad valorem taxes	3,085	2,262	8,963	5,710
Transportation expense	2,215	1,754	5,520	4,031
General and administrative expense	9,572	7,577	31,089	25,050
Other miscellaneous expense	4,214		4,214	
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	91,136	82,416	283,769	192,222
Total costs and expenses	145,288	122,753	443,674	289,876
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>51,196</b>	<b>67,713</b>	<b>177,456</b>	<b>148,515</b>
<b>Other Income (Expense):</b>				
Interest income	475	237	997	486
Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized	(14,003)	(11,724)	(40,223)	(26,392)
Other income (expense)			5,058	
<b>Income before taxes</b>	<b>37,668</b>	<b>56,226</b>	<b>143,288</b>	<b>122,609</b>
<b>Provision for income taxes</b>	<b>(15,140)</b>	<b>(19,836)</b>	<b>(49,595)</b>	<b>(44,385)</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 22,528</b>	<b>\$ 36,390</b>	<b>\$ 93,693</b>	<b>\$ 78,224</b>
<b>Earnings per share:</b>				
<b>Net income per share basic</b>	<b>\$ 0.26</b>	<b>\$ 0.43</b>	<b>\$ 1.09</b>	<b>\$ 1.07</b>
<b>Net income per share diluted</b>	<b>\$ 0.26</b>	<b>\$ 0.43</b>	<b>\$ 1.09</b>	<b>\$ 1.06</b>
<b>Weighted average shares outstanding basic</b>	<b>85,701,696</b>	<b>85,493,237</b>	<b>85,615,542</b>	<b>73,270,309</b>
<b>Weighted average shares outstanding diluted</b>	<b>85,964,108</b>	<b>85,581,108</b>	<b>85,808,112</b>	<b>73,694,727</b>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements*

**Table of Contents**

**MARINER ENERGY, INC.**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

	<b>Nine Months</b>	
	<b>Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Operating Activities:</b>		
Net income	\$ 93,693	\$ 78,224
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Allowance for doubtful receivables	984	(163)
Deferred income tax	48,164	44,243
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	283,769	192,222
Amortization of deferred financing costs	2,019	2,736
Ineffectiveness of derivative instruments	2,645	(1,439)
Stock compensation	5,892	9,016
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Receivables	(16,610)	(25,227)
Insurance receivables	(27,140)	(41,916)
Prepaid expenses and other	(11,400)	12,226
Other assets	1,746	(3,935)
Accounts payable and other liabilities	18,692	(98,342)
Net realized loss on derivative contracts acquired		5,144
Net cash provided by operating activities	402,454	172,789
<b>Investing Activities:</b>		
Additions to properties and equipment	(411,840)	(404,670)
Property conveyances	2,017	2,012
Purchase price adjustment		(20,808)
Restricted cash designated for investment	31,830	
Net cash used in investing activities	(377,993)	(423,466)
<b>Financing Activities:</b>		
Repayment of term note		(4,000)
Credit facility (repayments) borrowings, net	(321,000)	162,000
Debt and working capital acquired from Forest Energy Resources, Inc.		(176,200)
Proceeds from note offering	300,000	300,000
Repurchase of stock	(1,421)	(14,027)
Deferred offering costs	(6,685)	(12,343)
Net realized loss on derivative contracts acquired		(5,144)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	648	709
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(28,458)	250,995
<b>(Decrease) Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>(3,997)</b>	<b>318</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period</b>	<b>9,579</b>	<b>4,556</b>

<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period</b>	\$ 5,582	\$ 4,874
---	----------	----------

**Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information:**

Cash paid during the year for:

Interest (net of amount capitalized)	\$ 21,592	\$ 10,401
--------------------------------------	-----------	-----------

Income taxes	\$ 550	\$
--------------	--------	----

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements*

5

---



**Table of Contents**

**MARINER ENERGY, INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(Unaudited)**

**1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

*Operations* Mariner Energy, Inc. ( Mariner or the Company ) is an independent oil and gas exploration, development and production company with principal operations in the Gulf of Mexico, both shelf and deepwater, and in West Texas. Unless otherwise indicated, references to Mariner , the Company , we , our , ours and us refer to Energy, Inc. and its subsidiaries collectively.

*Interim Financial Statements* The accompanying unaudited 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 financial statements prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles ( GAAP ) have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of a normal and recurring nature) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the entire year. These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included herein should be read in conjunction with the Financial Statements and Notes included in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

*Use of Estimates* The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the dates of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Our most significant financial estimates are based on remaining proved natural gas and oil reserves. Estimates of proved reserves are key components of our depletion rate for natural gas and oil properties, our unevaluated properties and our full cost ceiling test. In addition, estimates are used in computing taxes, preparing accruals of operating costs and production revenues, asset retirement obligations, fair value and effectiveness of derivative instruments and fair value of stock options and the related compensation expense. Because of the inherent nature of the estimation process, actual results could differ materially from these estimates.

*Principles of Consolidation* Our consolidated financial statements as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006 and for the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 include our accounts and the accounts of our wholly-owned subsidiaries. All significant inter-company balances and transactions have been eliminated.

*Reclassifications* Commencing January 1, 2007, revenues associated with natural gas liquids are being reported separately. In addition, certain other prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to current year presentation.

*Income Taxes* Our provision for taxes includes both federal and state taxes. The Company records its federal income taxes using an asset and liability approach which results in the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the book carrying amounts and the tax bases of assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences and carryforwards are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount more likely than not to be recovered.

In July 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 ( FIN 48 ), which clarifies the accounting and disclosure for uncertainty in tax positions, as defined. FIN 48 seeks to reduce the diversity in practice associated with certain aspects of the recognition and measurement related to accounting for income taxes. On May 2, 2007, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 48-1, Definition of Settlement in FASB Interpretation No. 48 ( FIN 48-1), which provides guidance on how an enterprise should determine whether a tax position is effectively settled for the purpose of recognizing previously unrecognized tax benefits.



**Table of Contents**

The Company adopted FIN 48 and applied the guidance of FIN 48-1 as of January 1, 2007. As of the adoption date, Mariner did not have a gross tax-affected unrecognized tax benefit and does not reasonably estimate that situation to change significantly within the next 12 months. In addition, as of the adoption date, the Company did not record a cumulative effect adjustment related to the adoption of FIN 48.

The Company has analyzed filing positions in all of the federal and state jurisdictions where it is required to file income tax returns, as well as all open tax years in these jurisdictions. The Company has identified its federal tax return and its state tax return filing in Texas as major tax jurisdictions.

The periods subject to examination for the Company's federal return are the years 2004 through 2006. The tax years 1999, 2000 and 2002 are subject to adjustment to the extent of net operating losses generated in those years. In the first quarter of 2007, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts performed a tax audit for the years 2004 through 2006. The Company's Texas tax filing positions and deductions were sustained on audit and, therefore, no reserves for uncertain income tax positions were recorded pursuant to FIN 48.

Interest on unrecognized tax benefits, if incurred, would be reported in interest expense. Penalties, if incurred, would be reported in general and administrative expense.

*Recent Accounting Pronouncements* In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements, ( SFAS No. 157 ) which establishes guidelines for measuring fair value and expands disclosures regarding fair value measurements. SFAS No. 157 does not require any new fair value measurements but rather it eliminates inconsistencies in the guidance found in various prior accounting pronouncements. SFAS No. 157 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. Earlier adoption is encouraged, provided a company has not yet issued financial statements, including for interim periods, for that fiscal year. We are evaluating the impact that this standard will have on our financial statements.

During February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities ( SFAS No. 159 ), which permits all entities to choose, at specified election dates, to measure eligible items at fair value. SFAS No. 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value that are not currently required to be measured at fair value, and thereby mitigate volatility in reported earnings caused by measuring related assets and liabilities differently without having to apply complex hedge accounting provisions. This Statement also establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. SFAS No. 159 is effective as of the beginning of an entity's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. We are evaluating the impact that this standard will have on our financial statements.

In April 2007, FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 39-1, Amendment of FASB Interpretation No. 39 ( FIN 39-1 ), which addresses certain modifications to FASB Interpretation No. 39, Offsetting of Amounts Related to Certain Contracts, and whether a reporting entity that is party to a master netting arrangement can offset fair value amounts recognized for the right to reclaim or obligation to return cash collateral against fair value amounts recognized for derivative instruments that have been offset under the same master netting arrangement in accordance with Interpretation 39. FIN 39-1 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, with early application permitted. We are evaluating the impact that FIN 39-1 will have on our financial statements.

**2. Acquisitions and Dispositions**

*Forest Gulf of Mexico Operations* On March 2, 2006, a subsidiary of the Company completed a merger transaction with Forest Energy Resources, Inc. (the Forest Merger ). Prior to the consummation of the Forest Merger, Forest Oil Corporation ( Forest ) transferred and contributed the assets of, and certain liabilities associated with, its offshore Gulf of Mexico operations to Forest Energy Resources, Inc. Immediately prior to the Forest Merger, Forest distributed all of the outstanding shares of Forest Energy Resources, Inc. to Forest shareholders on a pro rata basis. Forest Energy Resources, Inc. then merged with a newly-formed subsidiary of Mariner, became a new wholly-owned subsidiary of Mariner and changed its name to Mariner Energy Resources, Inc. ( MERI ). Immediately following the Forest Merger, approximately 59% of Mariner common stock was held by shareholders of Forest and approximately 41% of Mariner common stock was held by the pre-Forest Merger stockholders of Mariner.

**Table of Contents**

To acquire MERI, Mariner issued 50,637,010 shares of its common stock to the shareholders of Forest Energy Resources, Inc. The aggregate consideration was valued at \$890.0 million, comprised of \$3.8 million in pre-Forest Merger costs and \$886.2 million in common stock, based on the closing price of the Company's common stock of \$17.50 per share on September 12, 2005 (which was the date that the terms of the acquisition were announced).

The Forest Merger was accounted for using the purchase method of accounting under the accounting standards established in SFAS No. 141, Business Combinations (SFAS 141) and No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets. As a result, the assets and liabilities acquired by Mariner in the Forest Merger are included in the Company's December 31, 2006 balance sheet. The Company reflected the results of operations of the Forest Merger beginning March 2, 2006. The Company recorded the estimated fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the March 2, 2006 closing date, which are summarized in the following table:

	<b>(In millions)</b>
Oil and natural gas properties	\$ 1,211.4
Abandonment liabilities	(165.2)
Long-term debt	(176.2)
Fair value of oil and natural gas derivatives	(17.5)
Deferred tax liability	(199.4)
Other assets and liabilities	(24.5)
Goodwill	261.4
 Net Assets Acquired	 \$ 890.0

Assets acquired in the Forest Merger include a large undeveloped offshore acreage position which complements the Company's large seismic database and a large portfolio of potential exploratory prospects. The initial fair value estimate of the underlying assets and liabilities acquired is determined by estimating the value of the underlying proved reserves at the transaction date plus or minus the fair value of other assets and liabilities, including inventory, unproved oil and gas properties, gas imbalances, debt (at face value), derivatives, and abandonment liabilities. The deferred tax liability recognizes the difference between the historical tax basis of the assets of Forest Energy Resources, Inc. and the acquisition cost recorded for book purposes. Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the estimated fair value of the assets acquired net of the fair value of liabilities assumed in the acquisition. The entire goodwill balance is non-deductible for tax purposes.

The purchase price allocation has been finalized. In 2006, we recorded a \$27.1 million increase to goodwill primarily related to insurance receivables and deferred taxes. In April 2006, Mariner made a preliminary cash payment of \$20.8 million to Forest pursuant to the distribution agreement that was part of the merger documentation. The payment reduced current liabilities. Carryover basis accounting applies for tax purposes.

On March 2, 2006, Mariner and MERI entered into a \$500 million bank credit facility and an additional \$40 million senior secured letter of credit. Please refer to Note 3, Long-Term Debt for further discussion of the amended and restated bank credit facility.

*Interest in Cottonwood* On December 1, 2006, we completed the sale of our 20% interest in the Garden Banks 244 (Cottonwood) project to Petrobras America, Inc., for \$31.8 million. The sale was effective November 1, 2006 and represented approximately 6.6 Bcfe of proved reserves. Proceeds from the sale were deposited in trust with a qualified intermediary to preserve our ability to reinvest them in a tax-deferred, like-kind exchange transaction for federal income tax purposes. Inasmuch as we elected not to identify replacement like-kind property to facilitate the exchange, proceeds and related interest totaling \$32.0 million were disbursed to us on January 19, 2007 and used to repay borrowings under our bank credit facility. No gain was recorded for book purposes on this disposition.

**3. Long-Term Debt**

*Bank Credit Facility* On March 2, 2004, the Company obtained a revolving line of credit subject to a borrowing base. The borrowing base is based upon the evaluation by the lenders of the Company's oil and gas reserves and other factors. Any increase in the borrowing base requires the consent of all lenders. Substantially all of the Company's

assets are pledged to secure the bank credit facility.

In connection with the Forest Merger, the Company amended and restated its existing bank credit facility on March 2, 2006 to, among other things, increase maximum credit availability to \$500 million for revolving loans,

**Table of Contents**

including up to \$50 million in letters of credit, with a \$400 million borrowing base as of that date; add an additional dedicated \$40 million letter of credit that does not affect the borrowing base (the Dedicated Letter of Credit ); and add MERI as a co-borrower. The bank credit facility will mature on March 2, 2010, and the Dedicated Letter of Credit will mature on March 2, 2009. The Company used borrowings under its bank credit facility to facilitate the Forest Merger and to retire existing debt, and it may use borrowings in the future for general corporate purposes.

The Dedicated Letter of Credit was obtained in favor of Forest to secure the Company's performance of its obligations to drill and complete 150 wells under an existing drill-to-earn program and is not included as a use of the borrowing base. This letter of credit will reduce periodically by an amount equal to the product of \$0.5 million times the number of wells exceeding 75 that are drilled and completed. As of September 30, 2007, 144 wells had been drilled and completed. The Dedicated Letter of Credit balance as of September 30, 2007 was \$7.5 million.

On April 23, 2007, the Company's secured bank credit facility was further amended to increase from \$350 million to \$600 million the aggregate principal amount of certain unsecured bonds that the Company may issue with a non-default interest rate of 10% or less per annum and a scheduled maturity date after March 1, 2012. The amendment provided that upon a new bond issuance of up to \$300 million before May 1, 2007, the borrowing base under the credit facility would remain at its then current level of \$450 million, subject to redetermination or adjustment under the credit agreement. Accordingly, the borrowing base was reaffirmed at \$450 million upon the April 30, 2007 issuance by the Company of its 8% Senior Notes due 2017 discussed below.

As of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006, \$33.0 million and \$354.0 million, respectively, was outstanding under the bank credit facility, and the interest rate was 7.75% and 7.29%, respectively. In addition, five letters of credit totaling \$6.3 million (excluding the Dedicated Letter of Credit) were outstanding, of which \$4.2 million is required for plugging and abandonment obligations at certain of the Company's offshore fields. The outstanding principal balance of loans under the bank credit facility may not exceed the borrowing base. If the borrowing base falls below the outstanding balance under the bank credit facility, the Company will be required to prepay the deficit, pledge additional unencumbered collateral, repay the deficit and cash collateralize certain letters of credit, or effect some combination of such prepayment, pledge and repayment and collateralization.

The bank credit facility contains various restrictive covenants and other usual and customary terms and conditions, including limitations on the payment of cash dividends and other restricted payments, the incurrence of additional debt, the sale of assets, and speculative hedging. The financial covenants under the bank credit facility require the Company to, among other things:

maintain a ratio of consolidated current assets plus the unused borrowing base to consolidated current liabilities of not less than 1.0 to 1.0; and

maintain a ratio of total debt to EBITDA, as defined in the credit agreement, of not more than 2.5 to 1.0.

The Company was in compliance with the financial covenants under the bank credit facility as of September 30, 2007.

The Company must pay a commitment fee of 0.250% to 0.375% per year on the unused availability under the bank credit facility.

*Senior Notes* On April 24, 2006, the Company sold and issued to eligible purchasers \$300 million aggregate principal amount of its 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% Senior Notes due 2013 (the 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% Notes ) pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% Notes were priced to yield 7.75% to maturity. Net proceeds, after deducting initial purchasers' discounts and commissions and offering expenses, were approximately \$287.9 million. Mariner used the net proceeds of the offering to repay debt under the bank credit facility. The issuance of the 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% Notes was a qualifying bond issuance under Mariner's bank credit facility and resulted in an automatic reduction of its borrowing base to \$362.5 million as of April 24, 2006. On November 9, 2006, the Company replaced the original

**Table of Contents**

Notes issued in the private placement with new Notes with identical terms and tenor through an exchange offer registered under the Securities Act of 1933.

On April 30, 2007, the Company sold and issued \$300 million aggregate principal amount of its 8% Senior Notes due 2017 (the 8% Notes and together with the 7 1/2% Notes, the Notes ). The 8% Notes were sold at par in an underwritten offering registered under the Securities Act of 1933. Net offering proceeds, after deducting underwriters discounts and estimated offering expenses, were approximately \$292.4 million. The Company used the net offering proceeds to repay debt under its bank credit facility.

The Notes are senior unsecured obligations of the Company, rank senior in right of payment to any future subordinated indebtedness, rank equally in right of payment with each other and with the Company's existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness, and are effectively subordinated in right of payment to the Company's senior secured indebtedness, including its obligations under its bank credit facility, to the extent of the collateral securing such indebtedness, and to all existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of any non-guarantor subsidiaries.

The Notes are jointly and severally guaranteed on a senior unsecured basis by the Company's existing and future domestic subsidiaries. In the future, the guarantees may be released or terminated under certain circumstances. Each subsidiary guarantee ranks senior in right of payment to any future subordinated indebtedness of the guarantor subsidiary, ranks equally in right of payment to all existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness of the guarantor subsidiary and effectively subordinate to all existing and future secured indebtedness of the guarantor subsidiary, including its guarantees of indebtedness under the Company's bank credit facility, to the extent of the collateral securing such indebtedness.

Interest on the 7 1/2% Notes is payable on April 15 and October 15 of each year. The 7 1/2% Notes mature on April 15, 2013. Interest on the 8% Notes is payable on May 15 and November 15 of each year, beginning November 15, 2007. The 8% Notes mature on May 15, 2017. There is no sinking fund for the Notes.

The Company may redeem the 7 1/2% Notes at any time before April 15, 2010 and the 8% Notes at any time before May 15, 2012, in each case at a price equal to the principal amount redeemed plus a make-whole premium, using a discount rate of the Treasury rate plus 0.50% and accrued but unpaid interest. Beginning on the dates indicated below, the Company may redeem the Notes from time to time, in whole or in part, at the prices set forth below (expressed as percentages of the principal amount redeemed) plus accrued but unpaid interest:

**7 1/2% Notes**

April 15, 2010 at 103.750%

April 15, 2011 at 101.875%

April 15, 2012 and thereafter at 100.000%

**8% Notes**

May 15, 2012 at 104.000%

May 15, 2013 at 102.667%

May 15, 2014 at 101.333%

May 15, 2015 and thereafter at 100.000%

In addition, before April 15, 2009, the Company may redeem up to 35% of the 7 1/2% Notes with the proceeds of equity offerings at a price equal to 107.50% of the principal amount of the 7 1/2% Notes redeemed. Before May 15, 2010, the Company may redeem up to 35% of the 8% Notes with the proceeds of equity offerings at a price equal to 108% of the principal amount of the 8% Notes redeemed plus accrued but unpaid interest.

If the Company experiences a change of control (as defined in each of the indentures governing the Notes), subject to certain exceptions, the Company must give holders of the Notes the opportunity to sell to the Company their Notes, in whole or in part, at a purchase price equal to 101% of the principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest and liquidated damages to the date of purchase.

The Company and its restricted subsidiaries are subject to certain negative covenants under each of the indentures governing the Notes. The indentures limit the ability of the Company and each of its restricted subsidiaries to, among other things:

make investments;

incur additional indebtedness or issue preferred stock;

create certain liens;





**Table of Contents**

sell assets;

enter into agreements that restrict dividends or other payments from its subsidiaries to itself;

consolidate, merge or transfer all or substantially all of its assets;

engage in transactions with affiliates;

pay dividends or make other distributions on capital stock or subordinated indebtedness; and

create unrestricted subsidiaries.

Costs associated with the 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% Notes offering were approximately \$8.5 million, excluding discounts of \$3.8 million. Costs associated with the 8% Notes offering included aggregate underwriting discounts of approximately \$5.3 million and estimated offering expenses of \$2.3 million.

*JEDI Term Promissory Note* On March 2, 2004, the Company issued a \$10 million term promissory note to Joint Energy Development Investments Limited Partnership ( JEDI ) as a part of consideration in a merger that resulted in JEDI s disposition of its ownership interest in the Company s indirect parent. The note matured on March 2, 2006, and bore interest, payable in kind at our option, at a rate of 10% per annum until March 2, 2005, and 12% per annum thereafter unless paid in cash in which event the rate remained 10% per annum. We chose to pay interest in cash rather than in kind. In March 2005, the Company repaid \$6.0 million of the note utilizing proceeds from the private equity placement in March 2005. The \$4.0 million balance remaining on the JEDI note was repaid in full on its maturity date of March 2, 2006.

*Capitalized Interest* For the three-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, capitalized interest totaled \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million, respectively. For the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, capitalized interest totaled \$0.4 million and \$1.1 million, respectively.

*Bank Debt Issuance Costs* The Company capitalizes certain direct costs associated with the issuance of long-term debt. In conjunction with the Forest Merger, the Company s bank credit facility was amended and restated to, among other things, increase the borrowing capacity from \$185 million to \$400 million, based upon an initial borrowing base of that amount. The amendment and restatement was treated as an extinguishment of debt for accounting purposes. This treatment resulted in a charge of approximately \$1.2 million in the first quarter of 2006. This charge is included in the interest expense line of the consolidated statement of operations.

**4. Oil and Gas Properties**

Oil and gas properties are accounted for using the full-cost method of accounting. All direct costs and certain indirect costs associated with the acquisition, exploration and development of oil and gas properties are capitalized, including certain general and administrative expenses ( G&A ). For the three-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, capitalized G&A totaled \$2.2 million and \$2.6 million, respectively. For the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, capitalized G&A totaled \$6.7 million and \$8.1 million, respectively. Amortization of oil and gas properties is calculated using the unit-of-production method based on estimated proved oil and gas reserves.

GAAP requires that a quarterly full-cost ceiling limitation calculation be performed whereby net capitalized costs related to proved and unproved properties, less related deferred income taxes, may not exceed a ceiling limitation. The ceiling limitation is equal to the present value discounted at 10% of estimated future net revenues from proved reserves, plus the lower of cost or fair value of unproved properties, less estimated future production and development costs, all net of related income tax effect. The full-cost ceiling limitation is calculated using natural gas and oil prices in effect as of the balance sheet date and is adjusted for basis or location differential. Price is held constant over the life of the reserves. We use derivative financial instruments that qualify for cash flow hedge accounting under SFAS 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, to hedge against the volatility of oil and natural gas prices and, in accordance with SEC guidelines, we include estimated future cash flows from our hedging program in our ceiling test calculation. If net capitalized costs, less related deferred income taxes, were to exceed the ceiling

limitation, the excess would be impaired and a permanent write-down taken.

**Table of Contents**

Additional guidance was provided in Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 47, Topic 12(D)(c)(3), primarily regarding the use of cash flow hedges, asset retirement obligations, and the effect of subsequent events on the ceiling test calculation. Mariner had no write downs due to the ceiling test for current quarter.

**5. Accrual for Future Abandonment Liabilities**

SFAS No. 143, Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations, ( SFAS 143 ) addresses accounting and reporting for obligations associated with the retirement of tangible long-lived assets and the associated asset retirement costs. The Company adopted SFAS No. 143 on January 1, 2003. SFAS No. 143 requires that the fair value of a liability for an asset's retirement obligation be recorded in the period in which it is incurred and the corresponding cost capitalized by increasing the carrying amount of the related long-lived asset. The liability is accreted to its then present value each period, and the capitalized cost is depreciated over the useful life of the related asset.

The following roll forward is provided as a reconciliation of the beginning and ending aggregate carrying amounts of the asset retirement obligation.

	<b>(In millions)</b>
Abandonment liability as of December 31, 2006 (1)	\$ 218.0
Liabilities Incurred	1.8
Liabilities Settled	(45.5)
Accretion Expense	12.9
Revisions to previous estimates	13.7
 Abandonment Liability as of September 30, 2007 (2)	 \$ 200.9

(1) Includes \$29.7 million classified as a current liability at December 31, 2006.

(2) Includes \$31.1 million classified as a current liability at September 30, 2007.

**6. Stockholders Equity**

We recorded compensation expense related to restricted stock and stock options of \$5.9 million and \$9.0 million for the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively, and \$2.5 million and \$1.1 million for the three-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

The following table presents a summary of stock option activity under the Company's Stock Incentive Plan, as amended and restated from time to time (the Stock Incentive Plan), and under rollover options granted to certain former Forest employees for the nine months ended September 30, 2007:

	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Weighted Average Exercise Price</b>	<b>Aggregate Intrinsic Value (1) (In thousands)</b>
Outstanding at beginning of year	802,322	\$13.77	
Granted			
Exercised (2)	(50,222)	\$12.90	
Forfeited	(17,165)	\$14.75	
 Outstanding at September 30, 2007	 734,935	 \$13.96	 \$ 5,075

(1) Based upon the difference between the

market price of  
the common  
stock on the last  
trading date of  
the quarter and  
the option  
exercise price of  
in-the-money  
options.

- (2) Options were  
exercised for  
cash proceeds of  
\$647,723.

**Table of Contents**

A summary of the activity for unvested restricted stock awards under the Stock Incentive Plan as of September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively, and changes during the nine-month periods is as follows:

	<b>Restricted Shares under Stock Incentive Plan September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Total unvested shares at beginning of period: January 1	875,380	
Shares granted	876,954	796,171
Shares vested	(228,691)	(1,500)
Shares forfeited	(34,105)	(22,441)
 Total unvested shares at end of period: September 30	 1,489,538	 772,230
 Available for future grant as options or restricted stock	 4,084,584	 4,967,914

A summary of the activity for unvested restricted stock awards under the Company's Equity Participation Plan, as amended (which expired May 31, 2006), as of September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively, and changes during the nine-month periods is as follows:

	<b>Restricted Shares under Equity Participation Plan September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Total unvested shares at beginning of period: January 1		2,267,270
Shares granted		
Shares vested		(2,267,270)
Shares forfeited		
 Total unvested shares at end of period: September 30		
 Available for future grant under Equity Participation Plan		

**7. Commitments and Contingencies**

*Minimum Future Lease Payments* The Company leases certain office facilities and other equipment under long-term operating lease arrangements. The increase in future minimum lease payments as compared to the Company's obligations as of December 31, 2006 is due primarily to a 10-year office lease executed in August 2007. Minimum rental obligations under the Company's operating leases in effect at September 30, 2007 are as follows:

	<b>(In millions)</b>
2008	\$ 1.6
2009	1.7
2010	2.0
2011	2.0
2012 and thereafter	10.6

*Hedging Program* The energy markets have historically been very volatile, and we can reasonably expect that oil and gas prices will be subject to wide fluctuations in the future. In an effort to reduce the effects of the volatility of the price of oil and natural gas on the Company's operations, management has elected to hedge oil and natural gas prices from time to time through the use of commodity price swap agreements and costless collars. While the use of these hedging arrangements limits the downside risk of adverse price movements, it also limits future gains from favorable movements. In addition, forward price curves and estimates of future volatility are used to assess and measure the

ineffectiveness of our open contracts at the end of each period. If open contracts cease to qualify for hedge accounting, the mark-to-market change in fair value is recognized in oil and natural gas revenue. Loss of hedge accounting and cash flow designation will cause volatility in earnings. The fair values we report in our financial statements change as estimates are revised to reflect actual results, changes in market conditions or other factors, many of which are beyond our control.

**Table of Contents**

The effects on our oil and gas revenues from our hedging activities were as follows:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September</b>		<b>September</b>	
	<b>30,</b>		<b>30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(In millions)</b>		<b>(In millions)</b>	
Cash Gain (Loss) on Settlements	\$ 11.5	\$ 3.5	\$ 42.0	\$ (8.3)
Gain (Loss) on Hedge Ineffectiveness (1)	(0.6)	2.5	(2.6)	1.4
Non-cash Gain (Loss) on hedges acquired (2)		4.4		8.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 10.9</b>	<b>\$ 10.4</b>	<b>\$ 39.4</b>	<b>\$ 1.4</b>

(1) Unrealized gain (loss) recognized in natural gas revenue related to the ineffective portion of open contracts that are not eligible for deferral under SFAS 133 due primarily to the basis differentials between the contract price and the indexed price at the point of sale.

(2) Relating to the hedges acquired through the Forest transaction.

As of September 30, 2007, the Company had the following hedge contracts outstanding:

<b>Fixed Price Swaps</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Weighted Average Fixed Price</b>	<b>September 30, 2007 Fair Value Gain/(Loss) (In millions)</b>
<b>Crude Oil (Bbls)</b>			
October 1 December 31, 2007	303,600	\$ 69.20	\$ (3.4)
January 1 December 31, 2008	992,350	\$ 69.34	(7.1)
January 1 December 31, 2009	1,280,750	\$ 68.93	(6.0)

**Natural Gas (MMbtus)**

October 1 December 31, 2007	4,750,972	\$ 8.72	8.2
January 1 December 31, 2008	10,833,979	\$ 8.87	10.2
January 1 December 31, 2009	8,052,820	\$ 8.30	
Total			\$ 1.9

<b>Costless Collars</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Weighted Average Floor</b>	<b>Weighted Average Cap</b>	<b>September 30, 2007 Fair Value Gain/(Loss) (In millions)</b>
<b>Crude Oil (Bbls)</b>				
October 1 December 31, 2007	415,288	\$ 59.20	\$ 83.14	\$ (2.2)
January 1 December 31, 2008	1,195,495	\$ 61.66	\$ 86.80	(0.7)
<b>Natural Gas (MMbtus)</b>				
October 1 December 31, 2007	3,914,600	\$ 6.94	\$ 12.08	6.7
January 1 December 31, 2008	12,347,000	\$ 7.83	\$ 14.60	8.5
Total				\$ 12.3

As of November 14, 2007, the Company has not entered into any hedge transactions subsequent to September 30, 2007 except as follows:

<b>Fixed Price Swaps</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Weighted Average Fixed Price</b>
<b>Crude Oil (Bbls)</b>		
January 1 December 31, 2008	1,271,202	\$ 86.54
January 1 December 31, 2009	891,460	\$ 86.54
<b>Natural Gas (MMbtus)</b>		
January 1 December 31, 2008	29,749,868	\$ 8.30
January 1 December 31, 2009	23,589,264	\$ 8.54

The Company has reviewed the financial strength of its counterparties and believes the credit risk associated with these swaps and costless collars to be minimal.

*Other Commitments* In the ordinary course of business, the Company enters into long-term commitments to purchase seismic data. At September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006, the Company's seismic obligations totaled



**Table of Contents**

\$21.2 million and \$23.5 million, respectively. The September 30, 2007 balance includes remaining amounts payable under two new commitments the Company made in 2007 to purchase seismic data for an aggregate \$22.0 million. The remaining minimum annual payments under the Company's seismic contracts are \$6.2 million in 2007 and \$15.0 million in 2008. In 2005, the Company entered into a two-year joint exploration agreement granting the joint venture partner the right to participate in prospects covered by certain seismic data licenses in return for \$6.0 million reimbursement to the Company to be paid in quarterly installments through December 2007.

**MMS Proceedings** Mariner and a subsidiary own numerous properties in the Gulf of Mexico. Certain of such properties were leased from the Minerals Management Service ( MMS ) subject to the 1995 Royalty Relief Act. This Act relieved lessees of the obligation to pay royalties on certain leases until a designated volume was produced. Two of these leases held by the Company and one held by MERI contained language that limited royalty relief if commodity prices exceeded predetermined levels. Since 2000, commodity prices have exceeded some of the predetermined levels, except in 2002. The Company and MERI believe the MMS did not have the authority to include commodity price threshold language in these leases and have withheld payment of royalties on the leases while disputing the MMS' authority in pending proceedings. The Company has recorded a liability for 100% of its estimated exposure on these leases, which at September 30, 2007 was \$27.2 million, including interest. The potential liability of MERI under its lease relates to production from the lease commencing July 1, 2005, the effective date of Mariner's acquisition of MERI. Pending legal proceedings include:

In April 2005, the Interior Board of Land Appeals denied Mariner's administrative appeal of the MMS' April 2001 order asserting royalties were due for production during calendar year 2000 because price thresholds had been exceeded. In October 2005, Mariner filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas seeking judicial review of the dismissal. Upon motion of the MMS, the Company's lawsuit was dismissed on procedural grounds. In August 2006, the Company filed an appeal of such dismissal. In August 2007, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit affirmed the dismissal on procedural grounds. The Company has not appealed this ruling. The Company believes the royalties asserted in the MMS' April 2001 order are covered by its May 2006 order noted below which the Company is appealing.

In May 2006, the MMS issued an order asserting price thresholds were exceeded in calendar years 2000, 2001, 2003 and 2004 and, accordingly, that royalties were due under such leases on oil and gas produced in those years. Mariner has filed and is pursuing an administrative appeal of that order. The MMS has not yet made demand for non-payment of royalties alleged to be due for calendar years subsequent to 2004 on the basis of price thresholds being exceeded.

The enforceability of the price threshold provisions of leases granted pursuant to the 1995 Royalty Relief Act currently is being litigated in several administrative appeals filed by other companies in addition to Mariner, as well as in *Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas Corp. v. Burton*, C.A. No. 06-0439, pending in federal court for the Western District of Louisiana. By order entered October 30, 2007, the court granted Kerr-McGee's motion for summary judgment, ruling that the price threshold provisions are unlawful. We continue to monitor resolution of the case, including any appeals.

**Insurance Matters - Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (2005)**

In 2005, our operations were adversely affected by one of the most active and severe hurricane seasons in recorded history, resulting in substantial shut-in and delayed production, as well as necessitating extensive facility repairs and hurricane-related abandonment operations. Throughout 2006 we completed substantial facility repairs that successfully returned substantially all of our shut-in properties to production without the loss of material reserves.

As of September 30, 2007, we had incurred approximately \$118.0 million in hurricane expenditures resulting from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, of which \$97.4 million were repairs and \$20.6 million were hurricane-related abandonment costs. Substantially all of the costs incurred to date pertained to the Gulf of Mexico assets acquired from Forest. We estimate that we will incur additional hurricane-related abandonment costs of approximately \$14.0 million during the remainder of 2007, as well as additional facility repair costs that cannot be estimated at this time but which we do not believe will be material. In connection with the Forest Merger, we may have additional hurricane-related plugging and abandonment costs of approximately \$16.0 million for which insurance coverage is anticipated, however no claims have been made as of November 14, 2007.

**Table of Contents**

Under the terms of the acquisition from Forest, we are responsible for performing all facility repairs and hurricane-related abandonment operations on Forest's Gulf of Mexico assets at our expense, and we are entitled to receive all related insurance proceeds under Forest's insurance policies at the time of the storms, subject to our meeting Forest's deductibles. In 2006, we recorded an insurance receivable, net of deductibles, for facility repair costs in excess of insurance deductibles inasmuch as we believe it is probable that these costs will be reimbursed under Forest's insurance policies. Moreover, we believe substantially all hurricane-related abandonment costs expended to date also should be covered under Forest's insurance.

Forest's primary insurance coverage for Katrina and Rita was provided through OIL Insurance, Ltd., an energy industry insurance cooperative. The terms of Forest's coverage included a deductible of \$5 million per occurrence and a \$1 billion industry-wide loss limit per occurrence. OIL has advised us that the aggregate claims resulting from each of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita are expected to exceed the \$1 billion per occurrence loss limit and that our insurance recovery relating to Forest's Gulf of Mexico assets is therefore expected to be reduced pro rata with all other competing claims from the storms. To the extent insurance recovery under the primary OIL policy is reduced, Mariner believes the shortfall would be covered under Forest's commercial excess insurance coverage. Forest's excess coverage is not subject to an additional deductible and has a stated limit of \$50 million per storm. Mariner now believes the hurricane related costs associated with Mariner's legacy properties (as opposed to those acquired from Forest) will exceed Mariner's \$3.8 million deductible. We anticipate making a claim under our insurance for \$3.0 million, net of deductible.

At September 30, 2007 the insurance receivable balance under Forest's insurance policies was approximately \$83.9 million. Taking into account Forest's insurance coverage in effect at the time of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, we currently estimate our unreimbursed losses from hurricane-related repairs and abandonments should not exceed \$15 million. However, due to the magnitude of the storms and the complexity of the insurance claims being processed by the insurance industry, the timing of our ultimate insurance recovery cannot be ascertained. During the third quarter of 2007, Mariner evaluated its insurance receivable and determined that a portion is not expected to be settled within the next 12 months. As a result, \$60.2 million of the \$83.9 million balance has been reclassified from current to non-current insurance receivables. We expect to maintain a possibly significant insurance receivable for the indefinite future while we actively pursue settlement of our claims to minimize the impact to our working capital and liquidity. Any differences between our insurance recoveries and insurance receivables will be recorded as adjustments to our oil and gas properties.

*Hurricane Ivan (2004)*

In September 2004, we incurred damage from Hurricane Ivan that affected the Mississippi Canyon 66 (Ochre) and Mississippi Canyon 357 fields. Ochre production was shut-in until September 2006, when host platform repairs were completed and production recommenced at approximately the same net rate. Mississippi Canyon 357 production was shut-in until March 2005, when necessary repairs were completed and production recommenced. However, production was subsequently shut-in due to Hurricane Katrina and did not return to production until the first quarter of 2007. As of September 30, 2007, we had incurred approximately \$8.2 million of property damage related to Hurricane Ivan. As of September 30, 2007, approximately \$2.4 million has been recovered through insurance, with the balance of \$4.2 million, net of deductible, recorded as current insurance receivable, as we believe it is probable that these costs will be reimbursed under our insurance policies.

*Litigation* The Company, in the ordinary course of business, is a claimant and/or a defendant in various legal proceedings, including proceedings as to which the Company has insurance coverage and those that may involve the filing of liens against the Company or its assets. The Company does not consider its exposure in these proceedings, individually or in the aggregate, to be material. See *MMS Proceedings* above.

*Letters of Credit* On March 2, 2006, Mariner obtained the Dedicated Letter of Credit under its bank credit facility that is not included as a use of the borrowing base. The Dedicated Letter of Credit balance as of September 30, 2007 was \$7.5 million. A further reduction of \$4.3 million is expected to occur in fourth quarter 2007 in respect of wells drilled in the third quarter under the existing drill-to-earn program, which would result in a remaining Dedicated Letter of Credit balance of \$3.2 million. As of October 31, 2007, the Company had drilled and completed 150 wells under the program and anticipates that the Dedicated Letter of Credit will be terminated no later than first quarter

2008.

Mariner's bank credit facility also has a letter of credit facility for up to \$50 million that is included as a use of the borrowing base. As of September 30, 2007, five such letters of credit totaling \$6.3 million were outstanding.

**Table of Contents**

Please refer to Note 3, Long-Term Debt for further discussion of these letters of credit.

**8. Net Income per Share**

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing net income by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Fully diluted earnings per share assumes the conversion of all potentially dilutive securities and is calculated by dividing net income by the sum of the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding plus all potentially dilutive securities.

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(In thousands, except per share data)</b>			
<b>Numerator:</b>				
Net Income	\$ 22,528	\$ 36,390	\$ 93,693	\$ 78,224
<b>Denominator:</b>				
Weighted average shares outstanding	85,702	85,493	85,616	73,270
Add dilutive securities	262	88	192	425
Total weighted average shares outstanding and dilutive securities	85,964	85,581	85,808	73,695
<b>Earnings per share basic:</b>	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.43	\$ 1.09	\$ 1.07
<b>Earnings per share diluted:</b>	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.43	\$ 1.09	\$ 1.06

Shares issuable upon exercise of options to purchase common stock that would have been anti-dilutive are excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share. Approximately 560,000 and 565,000 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options were excluded from the computation for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007, respectively. Approximately 752,000 and 736,000 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options were excluded from the computation for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively.

Please refer to Note 6, Stockholders Equity for option and share activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006.

**9. Comprehensive Income**

Comprehensive income includes net income and certain items recorded directly to stockholders equity and classified as other comprehensive income. The table below summarizes comprehensive income and provides the components of the change in accumulated other comprehensive income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in thousands)</b>		<b>(in thousands)</b>	
Net Income	\$ 22,528	\$ 36,390	\$ 93,693	\$ 78,224
Other comprehensive income (loss):				
Derivative contracts settled and reclassified, net of income taxes of \$3,841, \$3,651, \$13,820 and \$527	7,107	6,781	25,571	979
Change in unrealized mark-to-market (losses) gains arising during period, net of income taxes of \$4,375, (\$31,383), \$33,733 and (\$53,493)	(8,094)	52,555	(60,423)	92,679
Change in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(987)	59,336	(34,852)	93,658

Comprehensive income	\$ 21,541	\$ 95,726	\$ 58,841	\$ 171,882
----------------------	-----------	-----------	-----------	------------

17

---

**Table of Contents**

**10. Supplemental Guarantor Information**

On March 2, 2006, a subsidiary of the Company completed the Forest Merger. Prior to the transaction, Forest transferred and contributed the assets of, and certain liabilities associated with, its Gulf of Mexico operations to Forest Energy Resources, Inc. Immediately prior to the Forest Merger, Forest distributed all of the outstanding shares of Forest Energy Resources, Inc. to Forest shareholders on a pro rata basis. Forest Energy Resources, Inc. then merged with a newly-formed subsidiary of Mariner, became a new wholly-owned subsidiary of Mariner and changed its name to Mariner Energy Resources, Inc.

On April 24, 2006, the Company sold and issued to eligible purchasers the 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% Notes. On April 30, 2007, the Company sold and issued the 8% Notes. Please refer to Note 3, Long-Term Debt for further discussion of the Notes. The Notes are jointly and severally guaranteed on a senior unsecured basis by the Company's existing and future domestic subsidiaries ( Subsidiary Guarantors ). In the future, the guarantees may be released or terminated under certain circumstances. Each subsidiary guarantee ranks senior in right of payment to any future subordinated indebtedness of the guarantor subsidiary, ranks equally in right of payment to all existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness of the guarantor subsidiary and effectively subordinate to all existing and future secured indebtedness of the guarantor subsidiary, including its guarantees of indebtedness under the Company's bank credit facility, to the extent of the collateral securing such indebtedness.

The following information sets forth our Consolidating Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006, our Consolidating Statement of Operations for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, and our Consolidating Statement of Cash Flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006. Investments in our subsidiaries are accounted for on the consolidation method; accordingly, entries necessary to consolidate the Parent Company and the Subsidiary Guarantors are reflected in the eliminations column. In the opinion of management, separate complete financial statements of the Subsidiary Guarantors would not provide additional material information that would be useful in assessing their financial composition.

**Table of Contents**

**MARINER ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEET**  
**September 30, 2007**  
(In thousands except share data)  
(Unaudited)

	Parent Company	Subsidiary Guarantors	Eliminations	Consolidated Mariner Energy, Inc.
<b>Current Assets:</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,582	\$	\$	\$ 5,582
Receivables, net	88,748	76,570		165,318
Insurance receivables	3,950	23,976		27,926
Derivative asset	22,246			22,246
Prepaid seismic	20,209			20,209
Prepaid expenses and other	22,587	2,219		24,806
Total current assets	163,322	102,765		266,087
<b>Property and Equipment:</b>				
Proved oil and gas properties, full-cost method	1,262,205	1,551,149		2,813,354
Unproved properties, not subject to amortization	26,250	466		26,716
Total oil and gas properties	1,288,455	1,551,615		2,840,070
Other property and equipment	14,915	50		14,965
Accumulated depreciation, depletion and amortization	(356,666)	(300,960)		(657,626)
Total property and equipment, net	946,704	1,250,705		2,197,409
<b>Investment in subsidiaries</b>	982,839		(982,839)	
<b>Intercompany receivable</b>	59,889		(59,889)	
<b>Intercompany note receivable</b>	176,200		(176,200)	
<b>Goodwill</b>		288,504		288,504
<b>Derivative asset</b>	1,596			1,596
<b>Insurance receivables</b>	2,663	57,552		60,215
<b>Other Assets, Net of Amortization</b>	21,523			21,523
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,354,736</b>	<b>\$ 1,699,526</b>	<b>\$ (1,218,928)</b>	<b>\$ 2,835,334</b>
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>				
Accounts payable	\$ 4,498	\$	\$	\$ 4,498
Accrued liabilities	84,592	29,065		113,657
Accrued capital costs	71,244	58,635		129,879
Deferred income tax	2,850			2,850
Derivative liability	2,925			2,925
Abandonment liability	10,251	20,885		31,136
Accrued interest	21,607			21,607
Total current liabilities	197,967	108,585		306,552

**Long-Term Liabilities:**

Abandonment liability	45,985	123,791		169,776
Derivative liability	6,686			6,686
Deferred income tax	70,645	244,501		315,146
Intercompany payable		59,889	(59,889)	
Long-term debt, bank credit facility	33,000			33,000
Long-term debt, senior unsecured notes	600,000			600,000
Other long-term liabilities	33,903	3,721		37,624
Intercompany note payable		176,200	(176,200)	
Total long-term liabilities	790,219	608,102	(236,089)	1,162,232

**Commitments and Contingencies (see Note 7)****Stockholders Equity:**

Preferred stock, \$.0001 par value; 20,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2007				
Common stock, \$.0001 par value; 180,000,000 shares authorized, 87,203,610 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2007	9	5	(5)	9
Additional paid-in capital	1,049,041	886,142	(886,142)	1,049,041
Accumulated other comprehensive income	8,245			8,245
Accumulated retained earnings	309,255	96,692	(96,692)	309,255
Total stockholders equity	1,366,550	982,839	(982,839)	1,366,550

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND**

<b>STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>	\$ 2,354,736	\$ 1,699,526	\$ (1,218,928)	\$ 2,835,334
----------------------------	--------------	--------------	----------------	--------------



Table of Contents

**MARINER ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEET**  
**December 31, 2006**  
(In thousands except share data)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Subsidiary Guarantors</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated Mariner Energy, Inc.</b>
<b>Current Assets:</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,579	\$	\$	\$ 9,579
Receivables, net	51,118	98,574		149,692
Insurance receivables	4,673	56,328		61,001
Derivative financial instruments	54,488			54,488
Prepaid seismic	19,468	1,367		20,835
Prepaid expenses and other	10,927	1,919		12,846
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>150,253</b>	<b>158,188</b>		<b>308,441</b>
<b>Property and Equipment:</b>				
Proved oil and gas properties, full-cost method	922,385	1,422,656		2,345,041
Unproved properties, not subject to amortization	39,885	361		40,246
<b>Total oil and gas properties</b>	<b>962,270</b>	<b>1,423,017</b>		<b>2,385,287</b>
Other property and equipment	13,444	68		13,512
Accumulated depreciation, depletion and amortization	(233,087)	(153,650)		(386,737)
<b>Total property and equipment, net</b>	<b>742,627</b>	<b>1,269,435</b>		<b>2,012,062</b>
<b>Investment in subsidiaries</b>	<b>945,108</b>		<b>(945,108)</b>	
<b>Intercompany receivable</b>	<b>153,793</b>		<b>(153,793)</b>	
<b>Intercompany note receivable</b>	<b>176,200</b>		<b>(176,200)</b>	
<b>Restricted cash</b>	<b>31,830</b>			<b>31,830</b>
<b>Goodwill</b>		<b>288,504</b>		<b>288,504</b>
<b>Derivative financial instruments</b>	<b>17,153</b>			<b>17,153</b>
<b>Other Assets, Net of Amortization</b>	<b>22,163</b>			<b>22,163</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,239,127</b>	<b>\$ 1,716,127</b>	<b>\$ (1,275,101)</b>	<b>\$ 2,680,153</b>
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>				
Accounts payable	\$ 1,822	\$	\$	\$ 1,822
Accrued liabilities	61,779	13,101		74,880
Accrued capital costs	60,146	38,882		99,028
Deferred income tax	26,857			26,857
Abandonment liability	9,312	20,348		29,660
Accrued interest	7,355	125		7,480
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>167,271</b>	<b>72,456</b>		<b>239,727</b>

**Long-Term Liabilities:**

Abandonment liability	48,509	139,801		188,310
Deferred income tax	36,701	226,187		262,888
Intercompany payable		153,793	(153,793)	
Long-term debt, bank credit facility	354,000			354,000
Long-term debt, senior unsecured notes	300,000			300,000
Other long-term liabilities	30,055	2,582		32,637
Intercompany note payable		176,200	(176,200)	
Total long-term liabilities	769,265	698,563	(329,993)	1,137,835

**Commitments and Contingencies (see Note 7)****Stockholders Equity:**

Preferred stock, \$.0001 par value; 20,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2006				
Common stock, \$.0001 par value; 180,000,000 shares authorized, 86,375,840 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2006	9	5	(5)	9
Additional paid-in capital	1,043,923	886,142	(886,142)	1,043,923
Accumulated other comprehensive income	43,097			43,097
Accumulated retained earnings	215,562	58,961	(58,961)	215,562
Total stockholders equity	1,302,591	945,108	(945,108)	1,302,591

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND**

<b>STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>	\$ 2,239,127	\$ 1,716,127	\$ (1,275,101)	\$ 2,680,153
----------------------------	--------------	--------------	----------------	--------------

Table of Contents

**MARINER ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
**Three Months Ended September 30, 2007**  
(In thousands)  
(Unaudited)

	Parent	Subsidiary		Consolidated
	Company	Guarantors	Eliminations	Mariner Energy, Inc.
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Oil	\$ 36,293	\$ 33,549	\$	\$ 69,842
Natural gas	56,985	54,470		111,455
Natural gas liquids	8,462	5,855		14,317
Other revenues	870			870
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>102,610</b>	<b>93,874</b>		<b>196,484</b>
<b>Costs and Expenses:</b>				
Lease operating expense	12,324	22,742		35,066
Severance and ad valorem taxes	2,156	929		3,085
Transportation expense	1,075	1,140		2,215
General and administrative expense	9,123	449		9,572
Other miscellaneous expense	278	3,936		4,214
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	41,892	49,244		91,136
<b>Total costs and expenses</b>	<b>66,848</b>	<b>78,440</b>		<b>145,288</b>
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>35,762</b>	<b>15,434</b>		<b>51,196</b>
<b>Earnings of Affiliates</b>	8,174		(8,174)	
<b>Other Income (Expense):</b>				
Interest income	4,108		(3,633)	475
Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized	(13,900)	(3,736)	3,633	(14,003)
<b>Income before taxes</b>	<b>34,144</b>	<b>11,698</b>	<b>(8,174)</b>	<b>37,668</b>
<b>Provision for income taxes</b>	<b>(11,616)</b>	<b>(3,524)</b>		<b>(15,140)</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 22,528</b>	<b>\$ 8,174</b>	<b>\$ (8,174)</b>	<b>\$ 22,528</b>

Table of Contents

**MARINER ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
**Three Months Ended September 30, 2006**  
(In thousands)  
(Unaudited)

	Parent	Subsidiary		Consolidated
	Company	Guarantors	Eliminations	Mariner Energy, Inc.
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Oil	\$ 29,775	\$ 29,652	\$	\$ 59,427
Natural gas	47,936	72,610		120,546
Natural gas liquids	5,886	3,829		9,715
Other revenues	778			778
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>84,375</b>	<b>106,091</b>		<b>190,466</b>
<b>Costs and Expenses:</b>				
Lease operating expense	12,175	16,569		28,744
Severance and ad valorem taxes	1,757	505		2,262
Transportation expense	1,201	553		1,754
General and administrative expense	6,947	630		7,577
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	34,064	48,352		82,416
<b>Total costs and expenses</b>	<b>56,144</b>	<b>66,609</b>		<b>122,753</b>
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>28,231</b>	<b>39,482</b>		<b>67,713</b>
<b>Earnings of Affiliates</b>	35,719		(35,719)	
<b>Other Income (Expense):</b>				
Interest income	3,725		(3,488)	237
Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized	(11,449)	(3,763)	3,488	(11,724)
<b>Income before taxes</b>	<b>56,226</b>	<b>35,719</b>	<b>(35,719)</b>	<b>56,226</b>
<b>Provision for income taxes</b>	<b>(19,836)</b>			<b>(19,836)</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 36,390</b>	<b>\$ 35,719</b>	<b>\$ (35,719)</b>	<b>\$ 36,390</b>

Table of Contents

**MARINER ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
**Nine Months Ended September 30, 2007**  
(In thousands)  
(Unaudited)

	Parent	Subsidiary		Consolidated
	Company	Guarantors	Eliminations	Mariner Energy, Inc.
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Oil	\$ 100,525	\$ 96,446	\$	\$ 196,971
Natural gas	192,901	193,168		386,069
Natural gas liquids	20,545	14,334		34,879
Other revenues	3,111	100		3,211
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>317,082</b>	<b>304,048</b>		<b>621,130</b>
<b>Costs and Expenses:</b>				
Lease operating expense	35,659	74,460		110,119
Severance and ad valorem taxes	6,135	2,828		8,963
Transportation expense	2,890	2,630		5,520
General and administrative expense	29,440	1,649		31,089
Other miscellaneous expense	278	3,936		4,214
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	127,382	156,387		283,769
<b>Total costs and expenses</b>	<b>201,784</b>	<b>241,890</b>		<b>443,674</b>
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>115,298</b>	<b>62,158</b>		<b>177,456</b>
<b>Earnings of Affiliates</b>	37,731		(37,731)	
<b>Other Income (Expense):</b>				
Interest income	11,877	1	(10,881)	997
Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized	(39,932)	(11,172)	10,881	(40,223)
Other income (expense)		5,058		5,058
<b>Income before taxes</b>	<b>124,974</b>	<b>56,045</b>	<b>(37,731)</b>	<b>143,288</b>
<b>Provision for income taxes</b>	<b>(31,281)</b>	<b>(18,314)</b>		<b>(49,595)</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 93,693</b>	<b>\$ 37,731</b>	<b>\$ (37,731)</b>	<b>\$ 93,693</b>

Table of Contents

**MARINER ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
**Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006**  
(In thousands)  
(Unaudited)

	Parent	Subsidiary		Consolidated
	Company	Guarantors	Eliminations	Mariner Energy, Inc.
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Oil	\$ 84,009	\$ 57,093	\$	\$ 141,102
Natural gas	109,230	161,078		270,308
Natural gas liquids	14,700	9,880		24,580
Other revenues	2,401			2,401
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>210,340</b>	<b>228,051</b>		<b>438,391</b>
<b>Costs and Expenses:</b>				
Lease operating expense	28,073	34,790		62,863
Severance and ad valorem taxes	5,205	505		5,710
Transportation expense	2,728	1,303		4,031
General and administrative expense	23,613	1,437		25,050
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	82,191	110,031		192,222
<b>Total costs and expenses</b>	<b>141,810</b>	<b>148,066</b>		<b>289,876</b>
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>68,530</b>	<b>79,985</b>		<b>148,515</b>
<b>Earnings of Affiliates</b>	72,103		(72,103)	
<b>Other Income (Expense):</b>				
Interest income	4,432		(3,946)	486
Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized	(22,456)	(7,882)	3,946	(26,392)
<b>Income before taxes</b>	<b>122,609</b>	<b>72,103</b>	<b>(72,103)</b>	<b>122,609</b>
<b>Provision for income taxes</b>	<b>(44,385)</b>			<b>(44,385)</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 78,224</b>	<b>\$ 72,103</b>	<b>\$ (72,103)</b>	<b>\$ 78,224</b>

Table of Contents

**MARINER ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**Nine Months Ended September 30, 2007**  
(In thousands)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Subsidiary Guarantors</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated Mariner Energy, Inc.</b>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	\$ 251,459	\$ 188,726	\$ (37,731)	\$ 402,454
<b>Investing Activities:</b>				
Additions to properties and equipment	(315,019)	(96,821)		(411,840)
Property conveyances	18	1,999		2,017
Restricted cash designated for investment	31,830			31,830
Net cash used in investing activities	(283,171)	(94,822)		(377,993)
<b>Financing Activities:</b>				
Credit facility repayments, net	(321,000)			(321,000)
Proceeds from note offering	300,000			300,000
Repurchase of stock	(1,421)			(1,421)
Deferred offering costs	(6,685)			(6,685)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	648			648
Net activity in investment from subsidiaries	56,173	(93,904)	37,731	
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	27,715	(93,904)	37,731	(28,458)
<b>Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	(3,997)			(3,997)
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period</b>	9,579			9,579
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period</b>	\$ 5,582	\$	\$	\$ 5,582

**MARINER ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006**  
(In thousands)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Subsidiary Guarantors</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated Mariner Energy, Inc.</b>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	\$ 201,978	\$ 42,914	\$ (72,103)	\$ 172,789
<b>Investing Activities:</b>				
Additions to properties and equipment	(266,848)	(137,822)		(404,670)
Property conveyances	2,012			2,012

Edgar Filing: MARINER ENERGY INC - Form 10-Q

Purchase price adjustment		(20,808)		(20,808)
Net cash used in investing activities	(264,836)	(158,630)		(423,466)
<b>Financing Activities:</b>				
Repayment of term note	(4,000)			(4,000)
Credit facility borrowings, net	162,000			162,000
Debt and working capital acquired from Forest Energy Resources, Inc.		(176,200)		(176,200)
Proceeds from note offering	300,000			300,000
Repurchase of stock	(14,027)			(14,027)
Deferred offering costs	(12,343)			(12,343)
Net realized loss on derivative contracts acquired		(5,144)		(5,144)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	709			709
Net activity in investments from subsidiaries	(369,163)	297,060	72,103	
Net cash provided by financing activities	63,176	115,716	72,103	250,995
<b>Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	318			318
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period</b>	4,556			4,556
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period</b>	\$ 4,874	\$	\$	\$ 4,874



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

The following discussion is intended to assist you in understanding our business and the results of operations together with our present financial condition. This section should be read in conjunction with our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and the accompanying notes included in this Quarterly Report, as well as our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006.

Statements in our discussion may be forward-looking. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. We caution that a number of factors could cause future production, revenues and expenses to differ materially from our expectations. Please see **Risk Factors** in Item 1A of this Quarterly Report regarding certain risk factors relating to the Company.

**Overview**

We are an independent oil and natural gas exploration, development and production company with principal operations in the Gulf of Mexico and West Texas. As of December 31, 2006, approximately 57% of our proved reserves were classified as proved developed, with approximately 18% of the reserves located in the Gulf of Mexico deepwater, 46% on the Gulf of Mexico shelf and 36% in West Texas.

On March 2, 2006, a subsidiary of Mariner completed a merger transaction with Forest Energy Resources, Inc. (the **Forest Merger**) pursuant to which Mariner effectively acquired the Gulf of Mexico operations of Forest Oil Corporation ( **Forest** ). Our acquisition of Forest Energy Resources added approximately 298 Bcfe of estimated proved reserves as of the date of acquisition. The **Forest Merger** has had a significant effect on the comparability of operating and financial results between periods.

Our revenues, profitability and future growth depend substantially on prevailing prices for oil and gas, and on our ability to find, develop and acquire oil and gas reserves that are economically recoverable while controlling and reducing costs. The energy markets have historically been very volatile. Commodity prices may fluctuate significantly in the future. Although we attempt to mitigate the impact of price declines and provide for more predictable cash flows through our hedging strategy, a substantial or extended decline in oil and natural gas prices or poor drilling results could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations, cash flows, quantities of natural gas and oil reserves that we can economically produce and our access to capital. Conversely, the use of derivative instruments also can prevent us from realizing the full benefit of upward price movements.

**Third Quarter 2007 Highlights**

**Offshore** Mariner drilled five offshore wells in the third quarter of 2007 of which two were successful. Information regarding the two successful wells is shown below:

<b>Well Name</b>	<b>Operator</b>	<b>Working Interest</b>	<b>Water Depth (Ft)</b>	<b>Location</b>
Sabine Pass 8#1	Mariner	57%	40	Conventional Shelf
Viosca Knoll 917#1ST1	Noble	15%	4,370	Deepwater

Mariner has been successful in 15 of 21 offshore wells drilled from January 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007. As of September 30, 2007, two offshore wells were drilling.

In addition, Mariner was the apparent high bidder on 23 of 61 blocks on which it bid at the Minerals Management Service (MMS) OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sale 205 held on October 3, 2007. Mariner's net obligation for the high bids is approximately \$66 million. The MMS will evaluate the bids and is expected to give notice of the blocks being awarded in the coming months.

**Onshore** In the third quarter of 2007, Mariner drilled 33 development wells in West Texas, all of which were successful. Mariner has been successful in all 88 onshore wells drilled from January 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007. As of September 30, 2007, five rigs were operating on our West Texas properties.

**Table of Contents****Results of Operations**

*Three Months Ended September 30, 2007 Compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 2006*

The following table sets forth summary information with respect to our oil and gas operations. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to current year presentation. Commencing January 1, 2007, revenues associated with natural gas liquids are reported separately.

<b>Summary Operating Information:</b>	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>		<b>Increase</b>	<b>%</b>
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>(Decrease)</b>	<b>Change</b>
	<b>(In thousands, except net production, average sales prices and % change)</b>			
<b>Net Production:</b>				
Oil (MBbls)	988	911	77	8.5%
Natural gas (MMcf)	15,520	16,125	(605)	(3.8%)
Natural gas liquids (MBbls)	292	183	109	59.6%
Total natural gas equivalent (MMcfe)	23,201	22,686	515	2.3%
Average daily production (MMcfe/d)	252	247	5	2.0%
<b>Average Sales Prices:</b>				
Oil (per Bbl) (1)	\$ 70.68	\$ 65.25	\$ 5.43	8.3%
Natural gas (per Mcf) (1)	7.18	7.48	(0.30)	(4.0%)
Natural gas liquids (per Bbl)	49.02	53.12	(4.10)	(7.7%)
Total natural gas equivalent (\$/Mcf) (1)	8.43	8.36	0.07	0.8%
<b>Oil and Gas Revenues:</b>				
Oil	\$ 69,842	\$ 59,427	\$ 10,415	17.5%
Natural gas	111,455	120,546	(9,091)	(7.5%)
Natural gas liquids	14,317	9,715	4,602	47.4%
Total oil and gas revenues	195,614	189,688	5,926	3.1%
Other revenues	870	778	92	11.8%
Total revenues	196,484	190,466	6,018	3.2%
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Lease operating expense	35,066	28,744	6,322	22.0%
Severance and ad valorem taxes	3,085	2,262	823	36.4%
Transportation expense	2,215	1,754	461	26.3%
General and administrative expense	9,572	7,577	1,995	26.3%
Other miscellaneous expense	4,214		4,214	
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	91,136	82,416	8,720	10.6%
Net interest expense	13,528	11,487	2,041	17.8%
Provision for income taxes	15,140	19,836	(4,696)	(23.7%)
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>22,528</b>	<b>36,390</b>	<b>(13,862)</b>	<b>(38.1%)</b>

(1) Average sales prices include the effects of hedging

*Net income* for third quarter 2007 was \$22.5 million compared to \$36.4 million for third quarter 2006, which included a non-cash hedging gain of \$4.5 million. Basic and fully-diluted EPS for third quarter 2007 were \$0.26 for each measure, compared to \$0.43 for each measure in third quarter 2006, \$0.05 of which represented a non-cash hedging gain.

The decrease in net income was primarily the result of increased operating expenses. Additionally, third quarter 2007 net income was impacted by non-recurring expenses relating to Mariner's 2006 acquisition of Forest's Gulf of Mexico operations. These include \$4.2 million primarily related to plugging and abandonment obligations and the write-off of gas balancing receivables and litigation expense. Third quarter 2007 results also reflect a loss of \$0.4 million due to hedging ineffectiveness under FAS 133.

*Net production* during third quarter 2007 was 23.2 Bcfe, up 2.3% from third quarter 2006. Production from the Company's shelf and deepwater Gulf of Mexico operations was nearly flat quarter-over-quarter, totaling 20.3 Bcfe in both 2007 and 2006, while production from West Texas increased 0.6 Bcfe for third quarter 2007 compared to 2006. Third-quarter 2007 production was negatively impacted by numerous recompletion delays, most notably at the

**Table of Contents**

Mariner-operated High Island 116 field, as well as drilling delays at the Company's Vermillion 380 and Eugene Island 342 projects.

*Oil and gas revenues* increased \$6.0 million for third quarter 2007 as compared to third quarter 2006, primarily due to increased oil prices and production volumes from the Company's West Texas operations, offset in part by a decrease in natural gas production as well as lower natural gas price realizations.

Natural gas prices (excluding the effects of hedging) for third quarter 2007 averaged \$6.23/Mcf compared to \$6.78/Mcf for the comparable period of 2006. Oil prices (excluding the effects of hedging) for third quarter 2007 averaged \$74.53/Bbl compared to \$66.21/Bbl for the comparable period of 2006.

The impact of hedges in third quarter 2007 increased average natural gas prices by \$0.95/Mcf to \$7.18/Mcf and decreased average oil prices by \$3.85/Bbl to \$70.68/Bbl, resulting in a net recognized hedge gain of \$10.9 million. The impact of hedges during third quarter 2006 increased average natural gas prices by \$0.70/Mcf to \$7.48/Mcf and decreased average oil prices by \$0.96/Bbl to \$65.25/Bbl, resulting in a net recognized hedging gain of \$10.4 million.

The cash gains on our hedge contracts settled during third quarter 2007 and 2006 were \$11.5 million and \$3.5 million, respectively. A \$4.4 million non-cash gain was also recorded for the three-month period ended September 30, 2006 relating to the hedges acquired through the Forest Merger. Additionally, during third quarters of 2007 and 2006, the Company recognized an unrealized loss of \$0.6 million and an unrealized gain of \$2.5 million, respectively, related to the ineffective portion of open contracts that are not eligible for deferral under SFAS 133 due primarily to the basis differentials between the contract price and the indexed price at the point of sale.

*Lease operating expense ( LOE )* increased quarter-over-quarter primarily as the result of increased windstorm insurance premiums and increased activity levels, particularly at South Pass 24 where the Company has resumed production after a hurricane-related shut in, and in West Texas where the Company is continuing its active infill drilling operation. LOE was also impacted quarter-over-quarter by general inflation in oil field services, including labor, boat and helicopter transportation, and fuel. Third quarter 2007 LOE increase was partially offset by a decrease in workover expenses from third quarter 2006.

*Severance and ad valorem tax* increased quarter-over-quarter due primarily to higher property valuations in West Texas resulting from the drilling and completion of additional wells.

*Transportation expense* increased quarter-over-quarter due primarily to an increase in onshore production in West Texas.

*General and administrative ( G&A ) expense* increased quarter-over-quarter primarily due to higher stock compensation expense and also due to health insurance expense, professional fees associated with our Sarbanes-Oxley compliance efforts, acquisition activities, and systems enhancement projects.

*Other miscellaneous expense* in third quarter 2007 reflects post-allocation period adjustments related primarily to bad debt associated with plugging and abandonment obligations and the write-off of gas balancing receivables and litigation expense from Mariner's 2006 acquisition of Forest's Gulf of Mexico operations.

*Depreciation, depletion, and amortization ( DD&A ) expense* increased quarter-over-quarter primarily due to increased DD&A rates as a result of higher costs and associated accretion of asset retirement obligations.

*Net interest expense* increased quarter-over-quarter primarily as a result of the higher interest rate under our 8% Senior Notes due 2017 issued in April 2007.

*Income before taxes and provision for income taxes* decreased due to lower operating income, increased net interest expense and increased other expense as discussed above. Our effective tax rate was 40.2% and 35.3% for third quarter 2007 and 2006, respectively. The increase in our effective tax rate quarter-over-quarter is primarily due to post-allocation period activity attributable to the Forest Merger which is excluded from taxable income.

**Table of Contents***Nine Months Ended September 30, 2007 Compared to Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006*

The following table sets forth summary information with respect to our oil and gas operations. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to current year presentation. Commencing January 1, 2007, revenues associated with natural gas liquids are reported separately.

<b>Summary Operating Information:</b>	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>		<b>Increase</b>	<b>%</b>
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>(Decrease)</b>	<b>Change</b>
	<b>(In thousands, except net production, average sales prices and % change)</b>			
<b>Net Production:</b>				
Oil (MBbls)	3,116	2,269	847	37.3%
Natural gas (MMcf)	49,388	37,825	11,563	30.6%
Natural gas liquids (MBbls)	851	511	340	66.5%
Total natural gas equivalent (MMcfe)	73,186	54,503	18,683	34.3%
Average daily production (MMcfe/d)	268	200	68	34.0%
<b>Average Sales Prices:</b>				
Oil (per Bbl) (1)	\$ 63.22	\$ 62.18	\$ 1.04	1.7%
Natural gas (per Mcf) (1)	7.82	7.15	0.67	9.4%
Natural gas liquids (per Bbl)	41.00	48.14	(7.14)	(14.8%)
Total natural gas equivalent (\$/Mcf) (1)	8.44	8.00	0.44	5.5%
<b>Oil and Gas Revenues:</b>				
Oil	\$ 196,971	\$ 141,102	\$ 55,869	39.6%
Natural gas	386,069	270,308	115,761	42.8%
Natural gas liquids	34,879	24,580	10,299	41.9%
Total oil and gas revenues	617,919	435,990	181,929	41.7%
Other revenues	3,211	2,401	810	33.7%
Total revenues	621,130	438,391	182,739	41.7%
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Lease operating expense	110,119	62,863	47,256	75.2%
Severance and ad valorem taxes	8,963	5,710	3,253	57.0%
Transportation expense	5,520	4,031	1,489	36.9%
General and administrative expense	31,089	25,050	6,039	24.1%
Other miscellaneous expense	4,214		4,214	
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	283,769	192,222	91,547	47.6%
Net interest expense	39,226	25,906	13,320	51.4%
Other (income) expense	(5,058)		(5,058)	
Provision for income taxes	49,595	44,385	5,210	11.7%
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>93,693</b>	<b>78,224</b>	<b>15,469</b>	<b>19.8%</b>

(1) Average sales prices include the effects of hedging

*Net income* for the first nine months of 2007 was \$93.7 million compared to \$78.2 million for the first nine months of 2006, which included a non-cash hedging gain of \$6.3 million. Basic and fully-diluted EPS for the first nine months of 2007 were \$1.09 for each measure, compared to \$1.07 and \$1.06 for each measure, respectively, for the first nine months of 2006, \$.09 of which represented a non-cash hedging gain for each measure.

The increase in net income was primarily due to higher production and oil and natural gas prices. Increased revenues were partially offset by increased operating expenses. 2007 net income was impacted by a non-recurring cash settlement of \$5.8 million offset by first and second quarter (\$0.8 million) and third quarter (\$4.2 million) non-recurring expenses related to plugging and abandonment obligations and the write-off of gas balancing receivables and litigation expenses. The non-recurring transactions were a result of Mariner's 2006 acquisition of Forest's Gulf of Mexico operations.

*Net production* during the first nine months of 2007 was 73.2 Bcfe, up 34.3% from the first nine months of 2006. Production from the Company's shelf and deepwater Gulf of Mexico operations increased 36.3% to 65.0 Bcfe compared to 47.7 Bcfe for the first nine months of 2006, while onshore production in West Texas increased 20.6% to 8.2 Bcfe for the first nine months of 2007 compared to 6.8 Bcfe for the first nine months of 2006. Increased production was due to the restoration of production from fields shut-in by Hurricanes Rita and Katrina, an additional

**Table of Contents**

two months of offshore production in 2007 attributable to our acquisition of Forest's Gulf of Mexico operations in March 2006, and additional wells drilled and completed in West Texas.

*Oil and gas revenues* increased \$182.7 million period-over-period primarily due to increased oil and natural gas prices and production volumes as discussed above, offset in part by lower natural gas liquids prices.

Natural gas prices (excluding the effects of hedging) for the first nine months of 2007 averaged 6.95/Mcf, compared to \$6.94/Mcf for the comparable period of 2006. Oil prices (excluding the effects of hedging) for the first nine months of 2007 averaged \$64.29/Bbl compared \$65.03/Bbl for the comparable period of 2006.

For the first nine months of 2007, hedges increased average natural gas prices by \$0.87/Mcf to \$7.82/Mcf and decreased average oil prices by \$1.07/Bbl to \$63.22/Bbl, resulting in a net recognized hedge gain of \$39.4 million. For the first nine months of 2006, hedges increased average natural gas prices by \$0.21/Mcf to \$7.15/Mcf and decreased average oil prices by \$2.85/Bbl to \$62.18/Bbl, resulting in a net recognized hedging gain of \$1.5 million.

During the first nine months of 2007 and 2006, the cash activity on our hedge contracts settled was a \$42.0 million gain and an \$8.3 million loss, respectively. An \$8.3 million non-cash gain was also recorded for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2006, relating to the hedges acquired through the Forest Merger. Ineffectiveness recognized during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 was a \$2.6 million loss and a \$1.4 million gain, respectively.

*Other revenues* increased period-over-period due primarily to non-recurring platform rental income.

*Lease operating expense ( LOE )* increased period-over-period primarily as the result of increased windstorm insurance premiums and increased activity levels, particularly at South Pass 24 where the Company has resumed production after a hurricane-related shut in and West Texas where the Company is continuing its active infill drilling operation. LOE was also impacted period-over-period by general inflation in oil field services, including labor, boat and helicopter transportation, and fuel costs.

*Severance and ad valorem tax* increased period-over-period due primarily to increased severance taxes as a result of increased production in West Texas and in Louisiana state waters, primarily as the result of resumed production at South Pass 24. Ad valorem tax increase is primarily due to higher property valuations in West Texas resulting from the drilling and completion of additional wells.

*Transportation expense* increased period-over-period due primarily to an increase in production in West Texas and the Gulf of Mexico.

*General and administrative ( G&A ) expense* increased period-over-period due primarily to the addition of personnel, computer licensing expense, consulting fees, and professional fees associated with our Sarbanes-Oxley compliance efforts, which were partially offset by decreased stock compensation expense. G&A expense for the first nine months of 2006 included severance, retention, relocation and transition costs related to the Forest Merger.

*Other miscellaneous expense* reflects post-allocation period adjustments related primarily to bad debt associated with plugging and abandonment obligations and the write-off of gas balancing receivables and litigation expense from Mariner's 2006 acquisition of Forest's Gulf of Mexico operations.

*Depreciation, depletion, and amortization ( DD&A ) expense* increased period-over-period primarily due to increased depletion rates as a result of the restoration of production from fields shut-in by Hurricanes Rita and Katrina.

*Net interest expense* increased period-over-period primarily as a result of the higher interest rate under our 8% Senior Notes due 2017 issued during April 2007.

*Other (income) expense* reflects a partial cash settlement of \$5.8 million in 2007 related to the Forest Merger, offset by \$5.0 million of additional non-recurring expenses attributable to the Forest Merger.

*Income before taxes and provision for income taxes* increased period-over-period due to higher operating income offset in part by increased net interest expense. Our effective tax rate decreased period-over-period from 36.2% to

**Table of Contents**

34.6% due primarily to 2007 post-allocation period activity attributable to the Forest Merger which is excluded from taxable income.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Net cash flows from operations increased by \$229.7 million to \$402.5 million from \$172.8 million for the first nine months of 2007 and 2006, respectively. The increase was due to greater operating revenue offset by higher lease operating expense as a result of the restoration of production from fields shut-in due to the 2005 hurricanes. The increase also resulted from increased drilling activity and lower insurance receivables due to fewer hurricane-related expenditures.

Net cash flows used for investing activities decreased to \$378.0 million from \$423.5 million for the first nine months of 2007 and 2006, respectively, primarily due to increased capital expenditures of approximately \$7.2 million attributable to increased activity in our drilling programs. This increase was partially offset by \$31.8 million of restricted cash received in January 2007 from the sale of our interest in Cottonwood and \$20.8 million of Forest Merger acquisition costs paid in 2006.

Net cash flows used in financing activities were \$28.5 million for the first nine months of 2007 compared to net cash flows provided by financing activities of \$251.0 million for the comparable period in 2006. The \$279.5 million increase in net cash flows used was due primarily to repayment of \$321.0 million of debt under our bank credit facility offset by proceeds from our issuance in April 2007 of \$300.0 million aggregate principal amount of 8% senior notes, and financings in 2006 which were primarily used to fund the Forest Merger. On March 2, 2006, Mariner also paid the remaining balance of a term note payable to Joint Energy Development Investments Limited Partnership.

*Capital Expenditures* During the nine months ended September 30, 2007, we incurred approximately \$482.9 million in capital expenditures for exploration and development activities, with approximately \$145.4 million or 30% associated with exploration activities and \$337.5 million or 70% associated with development activities, of which \$297.3 million was attributable to offshore and \$40.2 million to onshore development. In addition, we expended an additional \$8.1 million on capitalized overhead and other corporate items. Non-cash capital accruals of \$30.9 million are a component of working capital changes in the statement of cash flows.

*Bank Credit Facility* Mariner is party to a revolving line of credit with a syndicate of banks led by Union Bank of California, N.A. and BNP Paribas. The bank credit facility, which is secured by substantially all of our assets, provides up to \$500 million of revolving borrowing commitment, including a \$50 million subfacility for letters of credit, subject to a borrowing base, and a \$40 million dedicated letter of credit (the Dedicated Letter of Credit). The borrowing base is presently \$450 million, and is subject to periodic re-determination by the lenders of the Company's oil and gas reserves and other factors. Any increase in the borrowing base requires the consent of all lenders. The bank credit facility will mature on March 2, 2010, and the Dedicated Letter of Credit will mature on March 2, 2009. At September 30, 2007, the Company had \$33.0 million in advances outstanding under its bank credit facility and five outstanding letters of credit totaling \$6.3 million (excluding the Dedicated Letter of Credit), of which \$4.2 million is required for plugging and abandonment obligations at certain of its offshore fields. The Dedicated Letter of Credit balance as of September 30, 2007 was \$7.5 million.

*Future Uses of Capital.* Our identified needs for liquidity in the future are as follows:

funding future capital expenditures;

funding hurricane repairs and hurricane-related abandonment operations;

financing any future acquisitions that Mariner may identify;

paying routine operating and administrative expenses; and

paying other commitments comprised largely of cash settlement of hedging obligations and debt service.

*2007 Capital Expenditures.* We anticipate that total capital expenditures for 2007 will range between \$660 million and \$730 million (excluding hurricane expenditures). The total amount of our capital expenditures will be





**Table of Contents**

determined primarily by the extent to which the \$66.6 million of leases with respect to which Mariner was apparent high bidder at the October 2007 MMS Lease Sale are awarded prior to year end. The Company's election to accelerate drilling of its Sofia prospect at East Breaks 414 and its expansion initiative in West Texas may also affect total capital expenditures in 2007. In addition, we expect to incur additional hurricane-related abandonment costs related to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita of approximately \$19.1 million during 2007, as well as additional facility repair costs that cannot be estimated at this time but which we do not believe will be material. While this will be a cash outflow in 2007, we expect to recover these costs through insurance reimbursements beginning in 2008, although complete insurance settlement of all hurricane-related claims is not expected to occur prior to 2009. For additional information see Note 7, Commitments and Contingencies under Item 1. Since we believe these costs to be reimbursable, they will not be reflected in reported 2007 capital expenditures. In connection with the Forest Merger, we may have additional hurricane-related plugging and abandonment costs of approximately \$16.0 million for which insurance coverage is anticipated; however, no claims have been made as of November 14, 2007.

*Future Capital Resources.* Our anticipated sources of liquidity in the future are as follows:

cash flow from operations in future periods;

proceeds under our bank credit facility;

proceeds from insurance policies relating to hurricane repairs; and

proceeds from future capital markets transactions as needed.

In 2007, we tailored our capital program within our projected operating cash flow so that our operating capital requirements are largely self-sustaining under normal commodity price assumptions. Based upon our anticipated cash flow given the level of production currently forecast for the remainder of 2007, and taking into account that the MMS may award the Company leases from the October 2007 MMS Lease Sale, bonus payments for which may total up to \$66.6 million, and the uncertainty of when our year-end deepwater projects commence production, our actual 2007 capital program could potentially exceed our cash flows by more than \$100 million. To the extent this occurs, we anticipate using proceeds under our bank credit facility to fund these expenditures. We would generally expect to fund future acquisitions on a case-by-case basis through a combination of bank debt and capital markets activities. Based on our current operating plan and assumed price case, our expected cash flow from operations and continued access to our bank credit facility allow us ample liquidity to conduct our operations as planned for the foreseeable future.

The timing of expenditures (especially regarding deepwater projects) is difficult to predict accurately. Also, our cash flows are heavily dependent on the oil and natural gas commodity markets. Our ability to hedge oil and natural gas prices is limited by our bank credit facility to no more than 90% and 75% of our expected production from proved developed producing reserves during the first three years and fourth and fifth years, respectively, of hedging arrangements. If either oil or natural gas commodity prices decrease from their current levels, our ability to finance our planned capital expenditures could be affected negatively. Amounts available for borrowing under our bank credit facility are largely dependent on our level of proved reserves and current oil and natural gas prices. If either our proved reserves or commodity prices decrease, amounts available to us to borrow under our bank credit facility could be reduced. If our cash flows are less than anticipated or amounts available for borrowing are reduced, we may be forced to defer planned capital expenditures.

**Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

*Letters of Credit* On March 2, 2006, Mariner obtained the Dedicated Letter of Credit under its bank credit facility that is not included as a use of the borrowing base. The Dedicated Letter of Credit balance as of September 30, 2007 was \$7.5 million. A further reduction of \$4.3 million is expected to occur in fourth quarter 2007 in respect of wells drilled in the third quarter, which would result in a remaining Dedicated Letter of Credit balance of \$3.2 million that the Company anticipates will be eliminated no later than the first quarter 2008.

Mariner's bank credit facility also has a letter of credit facility for up to \$50 million that is included as a use of the borrowing base. As of September 30, 2007, five such letters of credit totaling \$6.3 million were outstanding.



**Table of Contents**

Please refer to **Liquidity and Capital Resources Bank Credit Facility** for further discussion of these letters of credit.

**Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk****Commodity Prices and Related Hedging Activities**

Our major market risk exposure continues to be the prices applicable to our natural gas and oil production. The sales price of our production is primarily driven by the prevailing market price. The energy markets have historically been very volatile, and we can reasonably expect that oil and gas prices will be subject to wide fluctuations in the future. In an effort to reduce the effects of the volatility of the price of oil and natural gas on our operations, management has adopted a policy of hedging oil and natural gas prices from time to time primarily through the use of commodity price swap agreements and costless collar arrangements. While the use of these hedging arrangements limits the downside risk of adverse price movements, it also limits future gains from favorable movements. In addition, forward price curves and estimates of future volatility are used to assess and measure the ineffectiveness of our open contracts at the end of each period. If open contracts cease to qualify for hedge accounting, the mark-to-market change in fair value is recognized in oil and natural gas revenue. Loss of hedge accounting and cash flow designation will cause volatility in earnings. The fair values we report in our financial statements change as estimates are revised to reflect actual results, changes in market conditions or other factors, many of which are beyond our control.

The effects on our oil and gas revenues from our hedging activities were as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September		September	
	30,		30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	(In millions)		(In millions)	
Cash Gain (Loss) on Settlements	\$ 11.5	\$ 3.5	\$ 42.0	\$ (8.3)
Gain (Loss) on Hedge Ineffectiveness (1)	(0.6)	2.5	(2.6)	1.4
Non-cash Gain (Loss) on hedges acquired (2)		4.4		8.3
Total	\$ 10.9	\$ 10.4	\$ 39.4	\$ 1.4

(1) Unrealized gain (loss) recognized in natural gas revenue related to the ineffective portion of open contracts that are not eligible for deferral under SFAS 133 due primarily to the basis differentials between the contract price and the indexed price at the point of sale.

(2)

Relating to the hedges acquired through the Forest transaction.

As of September 30, 2007, the Company had the following hedge contracts outstanding:

<b>Fixed Price Swaps</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Weighted Average Fixed Price</b>	<b>September 30, 2007 Fair Value Gain/(Loss) (In millions)</b>
<b>Crude Oil (Bbls)</b>			
October 1 December 31, 2007	303,600	\$ 69.20	\$ (3.4)
January 1 December 31, 2008	992,350	\$ 69.34	(7.1)
January 1 December 31, 2009	1,280,750	\$ 68.93	(6.0)
<b>Natural Gas (MMbtus)</b>			
October 1 December 31, 2007	4,750,972	\$ 8.72	8.2
January 1 December 31, 2008	10,833,979	\$ 8.87	10.2
January 1 December 31, 2009	8,052,820	\$ 8.30	
Total			\$ 1.9

**Table of Contents**

<b>Costless Collars</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Weighted Average Floor</b>	<b>Weighted Average Cap</b>	<b>September 30, 2007 Fair Value Gain/(Loss) (In millions)</b>
<b>Crude Oil (Bbls)</b>				
October 1 December 31, 2007	415,288	\$ 59.20	\$ 83.14	\$ (2.2)
January 1 December 31, 2008	1,195,495	\$ 61.66	\$ 86.80	(0.7)
<b>Natural Gas (MMbtus)</b>				
October 1 December 31, 2007	3,914,600	\$ 6.94	\$ 12.08	6.7
January 1 December 31, 2008	12,347,000	\$ 7.83	\$ 14.60	8.5
Total				\$ 12.3

As of November 14, 2007, the Company has not entered into any hedge transactions subsequent to September 30, 2007 except as follows:

<b>Fixed Price Swaps</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Weighted Average Fixed Price</b>
<b>Crude Oil (Bbls)</b>		
January 1 December 31, 2008	1,271,202	\$ 86.54
January 1 December 31, 2009	891,460	\$ 86.54
<b>Natural Gas (MMbtus)</b>		
January 1 December 31, 2008	23,749,868	\$ 8.30
January 1 December 31, 2009	23,589,264	\$ 8.54

The Company has reviewed the financial strength of its counterparties and believes the credit risk associated with these swaps and costless collars to be minimal.

**Interest Rate Market Risk** Borrowings under our bank credit facility, as discussed under the caption **Liquidity and Capital Resources**, mature on March 2, 2010, and bear interest at either a LIBOR-based rate or a prime-based rate, at our option, plus a specified margin. Both options expose us to risk of earnings loss due to changes in market rates. We have not entered into interest rate hedges that would mitigate such risk. During the third quarter and first nine months of 2007, the interest rate on our outstanding bank debt averaged 8.25% and 7.22%, respectively. If the balance of our bank debt at September 30, 2007 were to remain constant, a 10% change in market interest rates would impact our cash flow by approximately \$64,000 per quarter or \$192,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2007.

**Item 4. Controls and Procedures***Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures*

Mariner, under the supervision and with the participation of its management, including Mariner's principal executive officer and principal financial officer, evaluated the effectiveness of its disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report. Based on that evaluation, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that Mariner's disclosure controls and procedures are effective as of September 30, 2007 to ensure that information required to be disclosed by Mariner in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms, and include controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in such reports is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely

decisions regarding required disclosure.

*Changes in Internal Controls Over Financial Reporting*

During the quarter ended September 30, 2007, there were no changes that occurred that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

**Table of Contents**

**PART II OTHER INFORMATION**

**Item 1A. Risk Factors.**

Please refer to Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

Various statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q ( Quarterly Report ), including those that express a belief, expectation, or intention, as well as those that are not statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The forward-looking statements may include projections and estimates concerning the timing and success of specific projects and our future production, revenues, income, indebtedness and capital spending. Our forward-looking statements are generally accompanied by words such as may, estimate, project, predict, believe, expect, anticipate, potential, plan, goal or o convey the uncertainty of future events or outcomes. The forward-looking statements in this Quarterly Report speak only as of the date of this Quarterly Report; we disclaim any obligation to update these statements unless required by law, and we caution you not to rely on them unduly. We have based these forward-looking statements on our current expectations and assumptions about future events. While our management considers these expectations and assumptions to be reasonable, they are inherently subject to significant business, economic, competitive, regulatory and other risks, contingencies and uncertainties, most of which are difficult to predict and many of which are beyond our control. We disclose important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from our expectations described in Item 2 Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and elsewhere in this Quarterly Report. These risks, contingencies and uncertainties relate to, among other matters, the following:

the volatility of oil and natural gas prices;

discovery, estimation, development and replacement of oil and natural gas reserves;

cash flow, liquidity and financial position;

business strategy;

amount, nature and timing of capital expenditures, including future development costs;

availability and terms of capital;

timing and amount of future production of oil and natural gas;

availability of drilling and production equipment;

operating costs and other expenses;

prospect development and property acquisitions;

risks arising out of our hedging transactions;

marketing of oil and natural gas;

competition in the oil and natural gas industry;

the impact of weather and the occurrence of natural events and natural disasters such as loop currents, hurricanes, fires, floods and other natural events, catastrophic events and natural disasters;

governmental regulation of the oil and natural gas industry;



environmental liabilities;

developments in oil-producing and natural gas-producing countries;

35

---

**Table of Contents**

timing of insurance recoveries and uninsured or underinsured losses in our oil and natural gas operations;

risks related to our level of indebtedness; and

our acquisition of Forest Oil Corporation's Gulf of Mexico operations including strategic plans, expectations and objectives for future operations, and the realization of expected benefits from the transaction.

**Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.****Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased</b>	<b>Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)</b>	<b>Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs</b>	<b>Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs</b>
July 1, 2007 to July 31, 2007				
August 1, 2007 to August 31, 2007(1)	1,437	\$20.31		
September 1, 2007 to September 30, 2007(1)	4,468	\$19.38		
Total	5,905	\$19.85		

(1) These shares were withheld upon the vesting of employee restricted stock grants in connection with payment of required withholding taxes.

**Item 6. Exhibits**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
2.1*	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of September 9, 2005, among Forest Oil Corporation, SML Wellhead Corporation, Mariner Energy, Inc. and MEI Sub, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Mariner's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-129096) filed on October 18, 2005).
2.2*	Letter Agreement, dated as of February 3, 2006, among Forest Oil Corporation, Forest Energy Resources, Inc., Mariner Energy, Inc., and MEI Sub, Inc. amended the transaction agreements (incorporated by

## Edgar Filing: MARINER ENERGY INC - Form 10-Q

reference to Exhibit 2.2 to Amendment No. 3 to Mariner's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-129096) filed on February 8, 2006).

- 2.3\* Letter Agreement, dated as of February 28, 2006, among Forest Oil Corporation, Forest Energy Resources, Inc., Mariner Energy, Inc. and MEI Sub, Inc. amended the transaction agreements (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on March 3, 2006).
- 2.4\* Letter Agreement, dated April 12, 2006, among Forest Oil Corporation, Mariner Energy Resources, Inc. and Mariner Energy, Inc. amended the transaction agreements (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 13, 2006).
- 3.1\* Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Mariner Energy, Inc., as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Mariner's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-132800) filed on March 29, 2006).
- 3.2\* Fourth Amended and Restated Bylaws of Mariner Energy, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to Mariner's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-129096) filed on October 18, 2005).
- 4.1\* Indenture, dated as of April 30, 2007, among Mariner Energy, Inc., the guarantors party thereto and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as trustee (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on May 1, 2007).
- 4.2\* Indenture, dated as of April 24, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc., the guarantors party thereto and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as trustee (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 25, 2006).
- 4.3\* Exchange and Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of April 24, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc., the guarantors party thereto and the initial purchasers party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 25, 2006).
- 4.4\* Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of March 2, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc. and Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., as Borrowers, the Lenders party thereto from time to time, as Lenders, and Union Bank of California, N.A., as Administrative Agent and as Issuing Lender (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on March 3, 2006).

**Table of Contents**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
4.5*	Amendment No. 1 and Consent, dated as of April 7, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc. and Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., as Borrowers, the Lenders party thereto, and Union Bank of California, N.A., as Administrative Agent for such Lenders and as Issuing Lender for such Lenders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 13, 2006).
4.6*	Amendment No. 2, dated as of October 13, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc. and Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., as Borrowers, the Lenders party thereto, and Union Bank of California, N.A., as Administrative Agent for such Lenders and as Issuing Lender for such Lenders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on October 18, 2006).
4.7*	Amendment No. 3 and Consent, dated as of April 23, 2007, among Mariner Energy, Inc. and Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., as Borrowers, the Lenders party thereto, and Union Bank of California, N.A., as Administrative Agent for such Lenders and as Issuing Lender for such Lenders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 24, 2007).
4.8*	Amendment No. 4, dated as of August 24, 2007, among Mariner Energy, Inc. and Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., as Borrowers, the Lenders party thereto, and Union Bank of California, N.A., as Administrative Agent for such Lenders and as Issuing Lender for such Lenders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on August 27, 2007).
10.1*	Underwriting Agreement, dated April 25, 2007, among J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., as Representative of the several Underwriters listed in Schedule 1 thereto, Mariner Energy, Inc., Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., Mariner LP LLC, and Mariner Energy Texas LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 26, 2007).
10.2*	Purchase Agreement, dated as of April 19, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc., Mariner LP LLC, Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., Mariner Energy Texas LP and the initial purchasers party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 25, 2006).
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

\* Incorporated by reference as indicated.

In accordance with SEC Release 33-8238, Exhibits 32.1 and 32.2 are being furnished and not filed.

**Table of Contents**

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Mariner Energy, Inc. has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, on November 14, 2007.

Mariner Energy, Inc.

By: /s/ Scott D. Josey

Name: Scott D. Josey  
Title: Chairman of the Board,  
Chief Executive Officer and President

By: /s/ John H. Karnes

Name: John H. Karnes  
Title: Senior Vice President, Chief Financial  
Officer  
and Treasurer

**Table of Contents****Index to Exhibits**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
2.1*	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of September 9, 2005, among Forest Oil Corporation, SML Wellhead Corporation, Mariner Energy, Inc. and MEI Sub, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Mariner's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-129096) filed on October 18, 2005).
2.2*	Letter Agreement, dated as of February 3, 2006, among Forest Oil Corporation, Forest Energy Resources, Inc., Mariner Energy, Inc., and MEI Sub, Inc. amended the transaction agreements (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.2 to Amendment No. 3 to Mariner's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-129096) filed on February 8, 2006).
2.3*	Letter Agreement, dated as of February 28, 2006, among Forest Oil Corporation, Forest Energy Resources, Inc., Mariner Energy, Inc. and MEI Sub, Inc. amended the transaction agreements (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on March 3, 2006).
2.4*	Letter Agreement, dated April 12, 2006, among Forest Oil Corporation, Mariner Energy Resources, Inc. and Mariner Energy, Inc. amended the transaction agreements (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 13, 2006).
3.1*	Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Mariner Energy, Inc., as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Mariner's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-132800) filed on March 29, 2006).
3.2*	Fourth Amended and Restated Bylaws of Mariner Energy, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to Mariner's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-129096) filed on October 18, 2005).
4.1*	Indenture, dated as of April 30, 2007, among Mariner Energy, Inc., the guarantors party thereto and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as trustee (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on May 1, 2007).
4.2*	Indenture, dated as of April 24, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc., the guarantors party thereto and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as trustee (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 25, 2006).
4.3*	Exchange and Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of April 24, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc., the guarantors party thereto and the initial purchasers party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 25, 2006).
4.4*	Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of March 2, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc. and Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., as Borrowers, the Lenders party thereto from time to time, as Lenders, and Union Bank of California, N.A., as Administrative Agent and as Issuing Lender (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on March 3, 2006).

---

**Table of Contents**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
4.5*	Amendment No. 1 and Consent, dated as of April 7, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc. and Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., as Borrowers, the Lenders party thereto, and Union Bank of California, N.A., as Administrative Agent for such Lenders and as Issuing Lender for such Lenders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 13, 2006).
4.6*	Amendment No. 2, dated as of October 13, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc. and Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., as Borrowers, the Lenders party thereto, and Union Bank of California, N.A., as Administrative Agent for such Lenders and as Issuing Lender for such Lenders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on October 18, 2006).
4.7*	Amendment No. 3 and Consent, dated as of April 23, 2007, among Mariner Energy, Inc. and Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., as Borrowers, the Lenders party thereto, and Union Bank of California, N.A., as Administrative Agent for such Lenders and as Issuing Lender for such Lenders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 24, 2007).
4.8*	Amendment No. 4, dated as of August 24, 2007, among Mariner Energy, Inc. and Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., as Borrowers, the Lenders party thereto, and Union Bank of California, N.A., as Administrative Agent for such Lenders and as Issuing Lender for such Lenders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on August 27, 2007).
10.1*	Underwriting Agreement, dated April 25, 2007, among J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., as Representative of the several Underwriters listed in Schedule 1 thereto, Mariner Energy, Inc., Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., Mariner LP LLC, and Mariner Energy Texas LP (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 26, 2007).
10.2*	Purchase Agreement, dated as of April 19, 2006, among Mariner Energy, Inc., Mariner LP LLC, Mariner Energy Resources, Inc., Mariner Energy Texas LP and the initial purchasers party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Mariner's Form 8-K filed on April 25, 2006).
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

\* Incorporated by reference as indicated.

In accordance with SEC Release 33-8238, Exhibits 32.1 and 32.2 are being furnished and not filed.