# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## FORM 8-K

#### **CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 2, 2016

## NuStar Energy L.P.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware** 

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

001-16417

(Commission File Number)

74-2956831

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

19003 IH-10 West San Antonio, Texas 78257

(Address of principal executive offices)

(210) 918-2000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

#### Not applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

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

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

## Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On November 2, 2016, NuStar Energy L.P., a Delaware limited partnership, issued a press release announcing financial results for the quarter ended September 30, 2016. A copy of the press release announcing the financial results is furnished with this report as Exhibit 99.01 and is incorporated herein by reference.

### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Exhibit

Exhibit 99.01 Press Release dated November 2, 2016.

## **SIGNATURES**

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

## NUSTAR ENERGY L.P.

By: Riverwalk Logistics, L.P.

its general partner

By: NuStar GP, LLC

its general partner

Date: November 2, 2016 By: /s/ Amy L. Perry

Name: Amy L. Perry

Title: Senior Vice President, General Counsel-

Corporate & Commercial Law and

Corporate Secretary

## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Exhibit

Exhibit 99.01

Press Release dated November 2, 2016.

#### NuStar Energy L.P. Reports Solid Earnings Results for the Third Quarter of 2016

Net Income of \$0.49 per Limited Partner Unit Meets Partnership's Guidance Expectations

Covers Distribution for Tenth Consecutive Quarter and On Track to Cover for Third Consecutive Year

Plan to Close on Terminal Acquisition by End of Fourth Quarter of 2016

#### Quarterly Distribution Previously Announced at \$1.095 per Unit

SAN ANTONIO, November 2, 2016 - NuStar Energy L.P. (NYSE: NS) today announced that the partnership reported net income applicable to limited partners of \$38.6 million, or \$0.49 per unit, for the third quarter of 2016 and \$123.4 million, or \$1.58 per unit, for the nine months ended September 30, 2016.

Distributable cash flow (DCF) from continuing operations available to limited partners was \$87.6 million for the third quarter of 2016, which allowed NuStar to cover its distribution to the limited partners by 1.02 times. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, DCF from continuing operations available to limited partners was \$277.5 million, which covered the distribution to the limited partners by 1.08 times.

Third quarter 2016 earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) from continuing operations were \$142.3 million. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, the partnership reported \$434.5 million of EBITDA from continuing operations.

As previously announced on October 28, 2016, the third quarter 2016 distribution of \$1.095 per unit will be paid on November 14, 2016 to holders of record as of November 8, 2016.

"We continued to benefit from strong refined product pipeline throughput volumes during the third quarter," said Brad Barron, President and Chief Executive Officer of NuStar Energy L.P. and NuStar GP Holdings, LLC. "In addition, 1.8 million barrels of recently leased storage at our Piney Point, Maryland facility and higher revenues at some of our terminal locations contributed to solid results from our storage segment."

Barron went on to say, "These strong results from our base business, in combination with lower than expected operating expenses across all of our businesses during the quarter, allowed us to cover our distribution for the tenth consecutive quarter and we are on track to cover our distribution for a third consecutive year."

Barron closed by saying, "By the end of the fourth quarter, we plan to close on the 1.15 million barrel terminal acquisition from Martin Midstream Partners L.P. in the Port of Corpus Christi that we announced on October 21, 2016. We are very pleased to make this acquisition that will not only solidify our presence in Corpus Christi, but will also give us the ability to serve a new pipeline as part of our Eagle Ford operations and provide us greater connectivity to domestic and international crude oil and refined products markets.

#### Third Quarter 2016 Earnings Conference Call Details

A conference call with management is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. CT today, November 2, 2016, to discuss the financial and operational results for the third quarter of 2016. Investors interested in listening to the discussion may dial toll-free 844/889-7787, passcode 94604384. International callers may access the discussion by dialing 661/378-9931, passcode 94604384. The partnership intends to have a playback available following the discussion, which may be accessed by dialing toll-free 855/859-2056, passcode 94604384. International callers may access the playback by dialing 404/537-3406, passcode 94604384. The playback will be available until 1:00 p.m. CT on December 2, 2016.

Investors interested in listening to the live discussion or a replay via the internet may access the discussion directly at http://edge.media-server.com/m/p/m6imjyxy/lan/en or by logging on to NuStar Energy L.P.'s website at www.nustarenergy.com.

The discussion will disclose certain non-GAAP financial measures. Reconciliations of certain of these non-GAAP financial measures to U.S. GAAP may be found in this press release, with additional reconciliations located on the Financials page of the Investors section of NuStar Energy L.P.'s website at www.nustarenergy.com.

NuStar Energy L.P., a publicly traded master limited partnership based in San Antonio, is one of the largest independent liquids terminal and pipeline operators in the nation. NuStar currently has approximately 8,700 miles of pipeline and 79 terminal and storage facilities that store and distribute crude oil, refined products and specialty liquids. The partnership's combined system has approximately 94 million barrels of storage capacity, and NuStar has operations in the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Netherlands, including St. Eustatius in the Caribbean, and the United Kingdom. For more information, visit NuStar Energy L.P.'s website at www.nustarenergy.com.

This release serves as qualified notice to nominees under Treasury Regulation Sections 1.1446-4(b)(4) and (d). Please note that 100% of NuStar Energy L.P.'s distributions to foreign investors are attributable to income that is effectively connected with a United States trade or business. Accordingly, all of NuStar Energy L.P.'s distributions to foreign investors are subject to federal income tax withholding at the highest effective tax rate for individuals and corporations, as applicable. Nominees, and not NuStar Energy L.P., are treated as the withholding agents responsible for withholding on the distributions received by them on behalf of foreign investors.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release includes and/or the related conference call will include forward-looking statements regarding future events, such as the partnership's future performance. All forward-looking statements are based on the partnership's beliefs as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to the partnership. These statements reflect the partnership's current views with respect to future events and are subject to various risks, uncertainties and assumptions. These risks, uncertainties and assumptions are discussed in NuStar Energy L.P.'s and NuStar GP Holdings, LLC's 2015 annual reports on Form 10-K and subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Actual results may differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements.

## NuStar Energy L.P. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Financial Information (Unaudited, Thousands of Dollars, Except Unit and Per Unit Data)

	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,				
		2016		2015		2016		2015
Statement of Income Data:								
Revenues:								
Service revenues	\$	277,758	\$	288,574	\$	814,727	\$	833,128
Product sales		163,660		204,992		470,198		785,993
Total revenues		441,418		493,566		1,284,925		1,619,121
Costs and expenses:								
Cost of product sales		155,129		193,958		441,736		738,074
Operating expenses		117,432		122,634		335,315		355,419
General and administrative expenses		26,957		23,679		73,399		75,425
Depreciation and amortization expense		53,946		52,301		160,739		157,523
Total costs and expenses		353,464		392,572		1,011,189		1,326,441
Operating income		87,954	,	100,994		273,736		292,680
Interest expense, net		(35,022)		(33,448)		(103,374)		(98,309
Other income (expense), net		362		1,776		(10)		61,892
Income from continuing operations before income tax expense		53,294		69,322		170,352		256,263
Income tax expense		2,153		4,306		9,293		9,797
Income from continuing operations		51,141		65,016		161,059		246,466
Income from discontinued operations, net of tax				_				774
Net income	\$	51,141	\$	65,016	\$	161,059	\$	247,240
Net income applicable to limited partners	\$	38,592	\$	52,911	\$	123,410	\$	209,881
Basic and diluted net income per unit applicable to limited partners:								
Continuing operations	\$	0.49	\$	0.68	\$	1.58	\$	2.68
Discontinued operations		_		_		_		0.01
Total	\$	0.49	\$	0.68	\$	1.58	\$	2.69
Basic weighted-average limited partner units outstanding	_	78,031,053		77,886,078		77,934,802		77,886,078
Other Data (Note 1):								
EBITDA from continuing operations	\$	142,262	\$	155,071	\$	434,465	\$	512,095
DCF from continuing operations available to limited partners	\$	87,613	\$	89,360	\$	277,460	\$	288,280
		September 30,						December 31,
		2016		2015				2015
Balance Sheet Data:								
Total debt	\$	3,160,049	\$	3,151,359			\$	3,139,612
Partners' equity	\$	1,469,993	\$	1,653,900			\$	1,609,844

## NuStar Energy L.P. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Financial Information - Continued (Unaudited, Thousands of Dollars, Except Barrel Data)

	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,				
		2016		2015		2016		2015
Pipeline:								
Refined products pipelines throughput (barrels/day)		536,509		531,034		532,275		512,340
Crude oil pipelines throughput (barrels/day)		384,359		477,537		398,229		483,974
Total throughput (barrels/day)		920,868		1,008,571		930,504		996,314
Throughput revenues	\$	122,481	\$	131,395	\$	362,929	\$	378,030
Operating expenses		41,331		41,199		110,494		113,141
Depreciation and amortization expense		22,228		21,660		65,696		62,893
Segment operating income	\$	58,922	\$	68,536	\$	186,739	\$	201,996
Storage:								
Throughput (barrels/day)		810,470		872,877		788,963		903,506
Throughput terminal revenues	\$	30,239	\$	32,051	\$	88,307	\$	98,365
Storage terminal revenues		127,528		130,052		373,733		371,714
Total revenues		157,767		162,103		462,040		470,079
Operating expenses		69,722		73,505		206,883		220,137
Depreciation and amortization expense		29,625		28,612		88,661		88,227
Segment operating income	\$	58,420	\$	59,986	\$	166,496	\$	161,715
Fuels Marketing:								
Product sales and other revenue	\$	166,191	\$	206,696	\$	476,499	\$	790,719
Cost of product sales		157,567		198,006		450,705		750,086
Gross margin		8,624	_	8,690		25,794		40,633
Operating expenses		8,961		10,509		25,512		29,877
Segment operating (loss) income	\$	(337)	\$	(1,819)	\$	282	\$	10,756
Consolidation and Intersegment Eliminations:								
Revenues	\$	(5,021)	\$	(6,628)	\$	(16,543)	\$	(19,707)
Cost of product sales		(2,438)		(4,048)		(8,969)		(12,012)
Operating expenses		(2,582)		(2,579)		(7,574)		(7,736)
Total	\$	(1)	\$	(1)	\$	_	\$	41
Consolidated Information:								
Revenues	\$	441,418	\$	493,566	\$	1,284,925	\$	1,619,121
Cost of product sales		155,129		193,958		441,736		738,074
Operating expenses		117,432		122,634		335,315		355,419
Depreciation and amortization expense		51,853		50,272		154,357		151,120
Segment operating income		117,004		126,702		353,517		374,508
General and administrative expenses		26,957		23,679		73,399		75,425
Other depreciation and amortization expense		2,093		2,029		6,382		6,403
Consolidated operating income	\$	87,954	\$	100,994	\$	273,736	\$	292,680

#### NuStar Energy L.P. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Financial Information - Continued (Unaudited, Thousands of Dollars, Except Ratio Data)

#### Notes:

(1) NuStar Energy L.P. utilizes financial measures, such as earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA), distributable cash flow (DCF) and distribution coverage ratio, which are not defined in U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Management believes these financial measures provide useful information to investors and other external users of our financial information because (i) they provide additional information about the operating performance of the partnership's assets and the cash the business is generating and (ii) investors and other external users of our financial statements benefit from having access to the same financial measures being utilized by management and our board of directors when making financial, operational, compensation and planning decisions.

Our board of directors and management use EBITDA and/or DCF when assessing the following: (i) the performance of our assets, (ii) the viability of potential projects, (iii) our ability to fund distributions, (iv) our ability to fund capital expenditures and (v) our ability to service debt. In addition, our board of directors uses a distribution coverage ratio, which is calculated based on DCF, as the metric for determining the company-wide bonus and the vesting of performance units awarded to management as our board of directors believes DCF appropriately aligns management's interest with our unitholders' interest in increasing distributions in a prudent manner. DCF is a widely accepted financial indicator used by the master limited partnership (MLP) investment community to compare partnership performance. DCF is used by the MLP investment community, in part, because the value of a partnership unit is partially based on its yield, and its yield is based on the cash distributions a partnership can pay its unitholders.

None of these financial measures are presented as an alternative to net income, or for any period presented reflecting discontinued operations, income from continuing operations. They should not be considered in isolation or as substitutes for a measure of performance prepared in accordance with GAAP. The following is a reconciliation of our non-GAAP financial measures:

	 Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2016		2015		2016		2015
Income from continuing operations	\$ 51,141	\$	65,016	\$	161,059	\$	246,466
Interest expense, net	35,022		33,448		103,374		98,309
Income tax expense	2,153		4,306		9,293		9,797
Depreciation and amortization expense	53,946		52,301		160,739		157,523
EBITDA from continuing operations	142,262		155,071		434,465		512,095
Interest expense, net	(35,022)		(33,448)		(103,374)		(98,309)
Reliability capital expenditures	(8,512)		(9,239)		(25,834)		(22,066)
Income tax expense	(2,153)		(4,306)		(9,293)		(9,797)
Distributions from joint venture	_		_		_		2,500
Mark-to-market impact of hedge transactions (a)	(3,954)		(4,852)		6,492		(4,531)
Unit-based compensation (b)	1,291		_		3,499		_
Other items (c)	6,567		(1,100)		9,903		(53,314)
DCF from continuing operations	\$ 100,479	\$	102,126	\$	315,858	\$	326,578
Less DCF from continuing operations available to general partner	12,866		12,766		38,398		38,298
DCF from continuing operations available to limited partners	\$ 87,613	\$	89,360	\$	277,460	\$	288,280
Distributions applicable to limited partners	\$ 85,943	\$	85,285	\$	256,513	\$	255,855
Distribution coverage ratio (d)	1.02x		1.05x		1.08x		1.13x

- (a) DCF from continuing operations excludes the impact of unrealized mark-to-market gains and losses that arise from valuing certain derivative contracts, as well as the associated hedged inventory. The gain or loss associated with these contracts is realized in DCF from continuing operations when the contracts are settled.
- (b) In connection with the employee transfer from NuStar GP, LLC on March 1, 2016, we assumed obligations related to awards issued under a long-term incentive plan, and we intend to satisfy the vestings of equity-based awards with the issuance of our units. As such, the expenses related to these awards are considered non-cash and added back to DCF. Certain awards include distribution equivalent rights (DERs). Payments made in connection with DERs are deducted from DCF.
- (c) Other items consist of (i) adjustments for throughput deficiency payments and construction reimbursements for all periods presented and (ii) in 2015, a \$56.3 million non-cash gain associated with the Linden terminal acquisition on January 2, 2015.
- (d) Distribution coverage ratio is calculated by dividing DCF from continuing operations available to limited partners by distributions applicable to limited partners.