

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

---

**FORM 10-K**

---

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

**For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014**

Commission file number 000-20557

---

**THE ANDERSONS, INC.**

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

---

OHIO

(State of incorporation  
or organization)

34-1562374

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

480 W. Dussel Drive, Maumee, Ohio

(Address of principal executive offices)

43537

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (419) 893-5050

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: Common Shares

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

---

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. [ ]

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

|                         |                                     |                           |                          |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Large accelerated filer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Accelerated Filer         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Non-accelerated filer   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Smaller reporting company | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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

The aggregate market value of the registrant's voting stock which may be voted by persons other than affiliates of the registrant was \$1,367.9 million as of June 30, 2014, computed by reference to the last sales price for such stock on that date as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market.

The registrant had approximately 28.8 million common shares outstanding, no par value, at February 17, 2015.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on May 8, 2015, are incorporated by reference into Part III (Items 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14) of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The Proxy Statement will be filed with the Commission on or about March 16, 2015.

THE ANDERSONS, INC.

Table of Contents

|   | <u>Page No.</u> |
|---|-----------------|
| PART I.   | <b>3</b>        |
| Item 1. Business  | <b>3</b>        |
| Item 1A. Risk Factors   | <b>7</b>        |
| Item 2. Properties  | <b>12</b>       |
| Item 3. Legal Proceedings   | <b>13</b>       |
| Item 4. Mine Safety   | <b>13</b>       |
| PART II.  | <b>15</b>       |
| Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Equity and Related Stockholder Matters             | <b>15</b>       |
| Item 6. Selected Financial Data   | <b>18</b>       |
| Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations | <b>20</b>       |
| Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk                           | <b>35</b>       |
| Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data   | <b>36</b>       |
| Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosures | <b>111</b>      |
| Item 9A. Controls and Procedures  | <b>111</b>      |
| PART III.   | <b>112</b>      |
| Item 10. Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant                                   | <b>112</b>      |
| Item 11. Executive Compensation   | <b>112</b>      |
| Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management                       | <b>112</b>      |
| Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions                                       | <b>112</b>      |
| Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services   | <b>112</b>      |
| PART IV.  | <b>113</b>      |
| Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules, and Reports on Form 8-K                     | <b>113</b>      |
| Signatures  | <b>116</b>      |
| Exhibits  | <b>118</b>      |

## **Part I.**

### **Item 1. Business**

#### ***Company Overview***

The Andersons, Inc. (the "Company") is a diversified company rooted in agriculture. Founded in Maumee, Ohio in 1947, the Company conducts business across North America in the grain, ethanol, plant nutrient and rail sectors. The Company also produces turf and cob products and has a consumer retailing presence.

#### ***Segment Descriptions***

The Company's operations are classified into six reportable business segments: Grain, Ethanol, Rail, Plant Nutrient, Turf & Specialty, and Retail. Each of these segments is organized based upon the nature of products and services offered. See Note 7 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 for information regarding business segments.

#### **Grain Group**

The Grain business primarily operates grain elevators in various states in the U.S. Corn Belt. Income is earned on grain bought and sold or "put thru" the elevator, grain that is purchased and conditioned for resale, and space income. Space income consists of appreciation or depreciation in the basis value of grain held and represents the difference between the cash price of a commodity in one of the Company's facilities and an exchange traded futures price ("basis"); appreciation or depreciation between the future exchange contract months ("spread"); and grain stored for others upon which storage fees are earned. The Grain business also offers a number of unique grain marketing, risk management and corn origination services to its customers and affiliated ethanol facilities for which it collects fees.

The Company has a lease and marketing agreement with Cargill, Incorporated ("Cargill") for Cargill's Maumee and Toledo, Ohio grain handling and storage facilities. As part of the agreement, Cargill is given the marketing rights to grain in the Cargill-owned facilities as well as the adjacent Company-owned facilities in Maumee and Toledo. The lease of the Cargill-owned facilities covers approximately 5%, or 8.9 million bushels, of the Company's total storage space.

Grain prices are not predetermined, so sales are negotiated by the Company's merchandising staff. The principal grains sold by the Company are corn, soybeans and wheat. Approximately 90% of the grain bushels sold by the Company in 2014 were purchased by U.S. grain processors and feeders, and approximately 10% were exported. Most of the Company's exported grain sales are done through intermediaries while some grain is shipped directly to foreign countries, mainly Canada. Most grain shipments from our facilities are by rail or boat. Rail shipments are made primarily to grain processors and feeders with some rail shipments made to exporters on the Gulf of Mexico or east coast. Boat shipments are from the Port of Toledo. In addition, grain is transported via truck for direct ship transactions where customers sell grain to the Company but have it delivered directly to the end user.

The Company's grain operations rely principally on forward purchase contracts with producers, dealers and commercial elevators to ensure an adequate supply of grain to the Company's facilities throughout the year. The Company makes grain purchases at prices referenced to the Chicago Mercantile Exchange ("the CME").

The Company competes in the sale of grain with other public and private grain brokers, elevator operators and farmer owned cooperative elevators. Some of the Company's competitors are also its customers. Competition is based primarily on price, service and reliability. Because the Company generally buys in smaller lots, its competition for the purchase of grain is generally local or regional in scope, although there are some large national and international companies that maintain regional grain purchase and storage facilities. Significant portions of grain bushels purchased and sold are done so using forward contracts.

The grain handling business is seasonal in nature in that the largest portion of the principal grains are harvested and delivered from the farm and commercial elevators in July, October and November although a significant portion of the principal grains are bought, sold and handled throughout the year.

Fixed price purchase and sale commitments as well as grain held in inventory expose the Company to risks related to adverse changes in market prices. The Company attempts to manage these risks by entering into exchange-traded futures and option contracts with the CME. The contracts are economic hedges of price risk, but are not designated or accounted for as hedging

instruments. The CME is a regulated commodity futures exchange that maintains futures markets for the grains merchandised by the Company. Futures prices are determined by worldwide supply and demand.

The Company's grain risk management practices are designed to reduce the risk of changing commodity prices. In that regard, such practices also limit potential gains from further changes in market prices. The Company has policies that provide key controls over its risk management practices. These policies include a description of the objectives of the programs and review of position limits by key management outside of the trading function on a daily basis along with other internal controls. The Company monitors current market conditions and may expand or reduce the purchasing program in response to changes in those conditions. In addition, the Company monitors its counterparties on a regular basis for credit worthiness, defaults and non-delivery.

Purchases of grain can be made the day the grain is delivered to a terminal or via a forward contract made prior to actual delivery. Sales of grain generally are made by contract for delivery in a future period. When the Company purchases grain at a fixed price or at a price where a component of the purchase price is fixed via reference to a futures price on the CME, it also enters into an offsetting sale of a futures contract on the CME. Similarly, when the Company sells grain at a fixed price, the sale is offset with the purchase of a futures contract on the CME. At the close of business each day, inventory and open purchase and sale contracts as well as open futures and option positions are marked-to-market. Gains and losses in the value of the Company's ownership positions due to changing market prices are netted with, and generally offset in the income statement by, losses and gains in the value of the Company's futures positions.

When a futures contract is entered into, an initial margin deposit must be sent to the CME. The amount of the margin deposit is set by the CME and varies by commodity. If the market price of a futures contract moves in a direction that is adverse to the Company's position, an additional margin deposit, called a maintenance margin, is required by the CME. Subsequent price changes could require additional maintenance margin deposits or result in the return of maintenance margin deposits by the CME. Significant increases in market prices, such as those that occur when grain supplies are affected by unfavorable weather conditions and/or when increases in demand occur, can have an effect on the Company's liquidity and, as a result, require it to maintain appropriate short-term lines of credit. The Company may utilize CME option contracts to limit its exposure to potential required margin deposits in the event of a rapidly rising market.

The Company owns 40% of the equity in Lansing Trade Group LLC ("LTG"). LTG is largely focused on the movement of physical commodities, including grain and ethanol and is exposed to some of the same risks as the Company's grain and ethanol businesses. LTG also trades in commodities that the Company's grain and ethanol businesses do not trade in, some of which are not exchange traded. This investment provides the Company with further opportunity to diversify and complement its income through activity outside of its traditional product and geographic regions. This investment is accounted for under the equity method. The Company, along with LTG, also established joint ventures and purchased a grain and food-bean handler and agronomy input provider with 12 locations across Ontario and Minnesota. These investments are accounted for under the equity method. The Company periodically enters into transactions with these joint ventures as disclosed in Note 8 of Item 8.

#### Ethanol Group

The Ethanol Group has ownership interests in four Limited Liability Companies ("the ethanol LLCs" or "LLCs"). Each of the LLCs owns an ethanol plant that is operated by the Company's Ethanol Group. The plants are located in Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio and have combined nameplate capacity of 330 million gallons of ethanol. The Group purchases and sells ethanol, offers facility operations, risk management, and ethanol and corn oil marketing services to the ethanol plants it invests in and operates.

The Company holds a majority interest (85%) in The Andersons Denison Ethanol LLC ("TADE"), which is a consolidated entity that was acquired on May 1, 2012. The Company holds a 53% interest in The Andersons Albion Ethanol LLC ("TAAE") and a 38% interest in The Andersons Clymers Ethanol LLC ("TACE"). The Company holds a 50% interest in The Andersons Marathon Ethanol LLC ("TAME") through its majority owned subsidiary The Andersons Ethanol Investment LLC ("TAEI"). A third party owns 34% of TAEI. All operating ethanol LLC investments, except TADE, are accounted for using the equity method of accounting.

The Company has a management agreement with each of the LLCs. As part of these agreements, the Ethanol Group runs the day-to-day operations of the plants and provides all administrative functions. The Company is compensated for these services based on a fixed cost plus an indexed annual increase determined by a consumer price index and is accounted for on a gross basis. Additionally, the Company has entered into agreements with each of the unconsolidated LLCs under which it has the exclusive right to act as supplier for 100% of the corn used by the LLCs in the production of ethanol. For this service, the Company receives a fee for each bushel of corn sold. The Company has entered into marketing agreements with each of the

ethanol LLCs. Under the ethanol marketing agreements, the Company purchases 100% of the ethanol produced by TAAE, TACE and TADE and 50% of the ethanol produced by TAME at the same price it will resell the ethanol to external customers. The Ethanol Group receives a fee for each gallon of ethanol sold to external customers. Under the distillers dried grains ("DDG") and corn oil marketing agreements, the Company markets the DDG and corn oil and receives a fee on units sold.

### Plant Nutrient Group

The Plant Nutrient Group is a leading manufacturer, distributor and retailer of agricultural and related plant nutrients, and pelleted lime and gypsum products in the U.S. Corn Belt, Florida and Puerto Rico. The Group provides warehousing, packaging and manufacturing services to basic nutrient producers and other distributors. The Group also manufactures and distributes a variety of industrial products throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico including nitrogen reagents for air pollution control systems used in coal-fired power plants, and water treatment and dust abatement products.

In its plant nutrient businesses, the Company competes with regional and local cooperatives, wholesalers and retailers, predominantly publicly owned manufacturers and privately owned retailers, wholesalers and importers. Some of these competitors are also suppliers and have considerably larger resources than the Company. Competition in the nutrient business is based largely on depth of product offering, price, location and service. Sales and warehouse shipments of agricultural nutrients are heaviest in the spring and fall.

Wholesale Nutrients - The Wholesale Nutrients business manufactures, stores, and distributes dry and liquid agricultural nutrients, and pelleted lime and gypsum products annually. The major nutrient products sold by the business principally contain nitrogen, phosphate, potassium and sulfur.

Farm Centers - The Farm Centers offer a variety of essential crop nutrients, crop protection chemicals and seed products in addition to application and agronomic services to commercial and family farmers. Soil and tissue sampling along with global satellite assisted services provide for pinpointing crop or soil deficiencies and prescriptive agronomic advice is provided to farmers.

### Rail Group

The Company's Rail Group leases, repairs, and sells various types of railcars, locomotives and barges. In addition, the Rail Group offers fleet management services to private railcar owners. The Rail Group is also an investor in the short-line railroad, Iowa Northern Railway Company ("IANR").

The Company has a diversified fleet of car types (boxcars, gondolas, covered and open top hopper cars, tank cars and pressure differential cars), locomotives and barges serving a broad customer base. The Company operates in both the new and used car markets, allowing the Company to diversify its fleet both in terms of car types, industries and age of cars, as well as repairing and refurbishing used cars for specific markets and customers.

A significant portion of the railcars, locomotives and barges managed by the Company are included on the balance sheet as long-lived assets. The others are either in off-balance sheet operating leases (with the Company leasing assets from financial intermediaries and leasing those same assets to the end-users) or non-recourse arrangements (in which the Company is not subject to any lease arrangement related to the assets, but provides management services to the owner of the assets). The Company generally holds purchase options on most assets owned by financial intermediaries. We are under contract to provide maintenance services for many of the Rail Group assets that we own or manage. Refer to the Off-Balance Sheet Transactions section of Management's Discussion and Analysis for a breakdown of our railcar, locomotive and barge positions at December 31, 2014.

In the case of our off-balance sheet Rail Group assets, the Company's risk management philosophy is to match-fund the lease commitments where possible. Match-funding (in relation to lease transactions) means matching the terms of the financial intermediary funding arrangement with the lease terms of the customer where the Company is both lessee and sublessor. If the Company is unable to match-fund, it will attempt to get an early buyout provision within the funding arrangement to match the underlying customer lease. The Company does not attempt to match-fund lease commitments for Rail Group assets that are on our balance sheet.

Competition for marketing and fleet maintenance services is based primarily on price, service ability, and access to both used equipment and third-party financing. Repair facility competition is based primarily on price, quality and location.

### Turf & Specialty Group

The Turf & Specialty Group produces granular fertilizer and control products for the turf and ornamental markets. It also produces private label fertilizer and control products, and a variety of corn-cob-based products.

Cob Products - Corn-cob-based products are manufactured for a variety of uses including laboratory animal bedding and private-label cat litter, as well as absorbents, blast cleaners, carriers and polishers. The products are distributed throughout the United States and Canada and into Europe and Asia. The principal sources for corn-cobs are seed corn producers.

Turf Products - Proprietary professional turf care products are produced for the golf course and professional turf care markets, serving both U.S. and international customers. These products are sold both directly and through distributors to golf courses and lawn service applicators. The Company also produces and sells fertilizer and control products for “do-it-yourself” application, to mass merchandisers, small independent retailers and other lawn fertilizer manufacturers and performs contract manufacturing of fertilizer and control products.

The turf products industry is seasonal with the majority of sales occurring from early spring to early summer. Principal raw materials for the turf care products are nitrogen, phosphate and potash, which are purchased primarily from the Company's Plant Nutrient Group. Competition is based principally on merchandising ability, logistics, service, quality and technology.

The Company attempts to minimize the amount of finished goods inventory it must maintain for customers, however, because demand is highly seasonal and influenced by local weather conditions, it may be required to carry inventory that it has produced into the next season. Also, because a majority of the consumer and industrial businesses use private label packaging, the Company closely manages production to anticipated orders by product and customer.

### Retail Group

The Company's Retail Group includes large retail stores operated as “The Andersons,” which are located in the Columbus and Toledo, Ohio markets. The retail concept is *A Store Like No Other* and the stores focus on providing significant product breadth with offerings in home improvement and other mass merchandise categories as well as specialty foods, wine and indoor and outdoor garden centers. Each store has 100,000 square feet or more of in-store display space plus 40,000 or more square feet of outdoor garden center space, and features do-it-yourself clinics, special promotions and varying merchandise displays. The Company also operates a specialty food store operated as “The Andersons Market”™ located in the Toledo, Ohio market area. The specialty food store concept has product offerings with a strong emphasis on “freshness” that features produce, deli and bakery items, fresh meats, specialty and conventional dry goods and wine. The majority of the Company's non-perishable merchandise is received at a distribution center located in Maumee, Ohio. The Company also operates a sales and service facility for outdoor power equipment near one of its retail stores.

The retail merchandising business is highly competitive. The Company competes with a variety of retail merchandisers, including grocery stores, home centers, department and hardware stores. Many of these competitors have substantially greater financial resources and purchasing power than the Company. The principal competitive factors are location, quality of product, price, service, reputation and breadth of selection. The Company's retail business is affected by seasonal factors with significant sales occurring in the spring and during the holiday season.

### ***Employees***

The Andersons offers a broad range of full-time and part-time career opportunities. Each position in the Company is important to our success, and we recognize the worth and dignity of every individual. We strive to treat each person with respect and utilize his or her unique talents. At December 31, 2014, the Company had 2,214 full-time and 1,131 part-time or seasonal employees.

### ***Government Regulation***

Grain sold by the Company must conform to official grade standards imposed under a federal system of grain grading and inspection administered by the United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”).

The production levels, markets and prices of the grains that the Company merchandises are affected by United States government programs, which include acreage control and price support programs of the USDA. In regards to our investments in ethanol production facilities, the U.S. government has mandated a ten percent blend for motor fuel gasoline sold.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) has developed bioterrorism prevention regulations for food facilities, which require that we register our grain operations with the FDA, provide prior notice of any imports of food or other agricultural commodities coming into the United States and maintain records to be made available upon request that identifies the immediate previous sources and immediate subsequent recipients of our grain commodities.

The Company, like other companies engaged in similar businesses, is subject to a multitude of federal, state and local environmental protection laws and regulations including, but not limited to, laws and regulations relating to air quality, water quality, pesticides and hazardous materials. The provisions of these various regulations could require modifications of certain of the Company's existing facilities and could restrict the expansion of future facilities or significantly increase the cost of their operations. Compliance with environmental laws and regulations did not materially affect our earnings or competitive position in 2014.

In addition, the Company continues to assess the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) and has concluded that the Company is not a major swap dealer or major swap participant. New federal regulations, studies and reports addressing all of the major areas of the new law, including the regulation of swaps and derivatives, are in the process of being finalized and adopted and we will continue to monitor these developments.

### ***Available Information***

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports are available on our Company website soon after filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Our Company website is <http://www.andersonsinc.com>. The public may read and copy any materials the Company files with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. These reports are also available at the SEC's website: <http://www.sec.gov>.

### **Item 1A. Risk Factors**

Our operations are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in this Form 10-K and could have a material adverse impact on our financial results. These risks can be impacted by factors beyond our control as well as by errors and omissions on our part. The following risk factors should be read carefully in connection with evaluating our business and the forward-looking statements contained elsewhere in this Form 10-K.

***Certain of our business segments are affected by the supply and demand of commodities, and are sensitive to factors outside of our control. Adverse price movements could negatively affect our profitability and results of operations.***

Our Grain, Ethanol and Plant Nutrient businesses buy, sell and hold inventories of agricultural input and output commodities, some of which are readily traded on commodity futures exchanges. In addition, our Turf & Specialty business uses some of the same nutrient commodities sourced by the Plant Nutrient business as base raw materials in manufacturing turf products. Unfavorable weather conditions, both local and worldwide, as well as other factors beyond our control, can affect the supply and demand of these commodities and expose us to liquidity pressures to finance hedges in the grain business in rapidly rising markets. In our Plant Nutrient and Turf & Specialty businesses, changes in the supply and demand of these commodities can also affect the value of inventories that we hold, as well as the price of raw materials as we are unable to effectively hedge these commodities. Increased costs of inventory and prices of raw material would decrease our profit margins and adversely affect our results of operations.

Corn - The principal raw material the ethanol LLCs use to produce ethanol and co-products is corn. As a result, changes in the price of corn in the absence of a corresponding increase in petroleum based fuel prices will decrease ethanol margins thus adversely affecting financial results in the ethanol LLCs. At certain levels, corn prices may make ethanol uneconomical to produce for fuel markets. The price of corn is influenced by weather conditions and other factors affecting crop yields, shift in acreage allocated to corn versus other major crops and general economic and regulatory factors. These factors include government policies and subsidies with respect to agriculture and international trade, and global and local demand and supply. The significance and relative effect of these factors on the price of corn is difficult to predict. Any event that tends to negatively affect the supply of corn, such as adverse weather or crop disease, could increase corn prices and potentially harm our share of the ethanol LLCs results. In addition, we may also have difficulty, from time to time, in physically sourcing corn on economical terms due to supply shortages. High costs or shortages could require us to suspend ethanol operations until corn is available on economical terms, which would have an adverse effect on operating results.

Grains - While we attempt to manage the risk associated with commodity price changes for our grain inventory positions with derivative instruments, including purchase and sale contracts, we are unable to offset 100% of the price risk of each transaction due to timing, availability of futures and options contracts and third-party credit risk. Furthermore, there is a risk that the derivatives we employ will not be effective in offsetting all of the risks we are trying to manage. This can happen when the derivative and the underlying value of grain inventories and purchase and sale contracts are not perfectly matched. Our grain derivatives, for example, do not perfectly correlate with the basis component of our grain inventory and contracts. (Basis is defined as the difference between the cash price of a commodity and the corresponding exchange-traded futures price.) Differences can reflect time periods, locations or product forms. Although the basis component is smaller and generally less volatile than the futures component of our grain market price, basis moves on a large grain position can significantly impact the profitability of the Grain business.

Our futures, options and over-the-counter contracts are subject to margin calls. If there are large movements in the commodities market, we could be required to post significant levels of margin, which would impact our liquidity. There is no assurance that the efforts we have taken to mitigate the impact of the volatility of the prices of commodities upon which we rely will be successful and any sudden change in the price of these commodities could have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Natural Gas - We rely on third parties for our supply of natural gas, which is consumed in the drying of wet grain, manufacturing of certain turf products, pelleted lime and gypsum, and manufacturing of ethanol within the LLCs. The prices for and availability of natural gas are subject to market conditions. These market conditions often are affected by factors beyond our control such as higher prices resulting from colder than average weather conditions and overall economic conditions. Significant disruptions in the supply of natural gas could impair the operations of the ethanol facilities. Furthermore, increases in natural gas prices or changes in our natural gas costs relative to natural gas costs paid by competitors may adversely affect future results of operations and financial position.

Gasoline and oil - In addition, we market ethanol as a fuel additive to reduce vehicle emissions from gasoline, as an octane enhancer to improve the octane rating of gasoline with which it is blended and as a substitute for petroleum based gasoline. As a result, ethanol prices will be influenced by the supply and demand for gasoline and oil and our future results of operations and financial position may be adversely affected if gasoline and oil demand or price changes.

Potash, phosphate and nitrogen - Raw materials used by the Plant Nutrient business include potash, phosphate and nitrogen, for which prices can be volatile driven by global and local supply and demand factors. Significant increases in the price of these commodities may result in lower customer demand and higher than optimal inventory levels. In contrast, reductions in the price of these commodities may create lower-of-cost-or-market inventory adjustments to inventories.

***Some of our business segments operate in highly regulated industries. Changes in government regulations or trade association policies could adversely affect our results of operations.***

Many of our business segments are subject to government regulation and regulation by certain private sector associations, compliance with which can impose significant costs on our business. Failure to comply with such regulations can result in additional costs, fines or criminal action.

A significant part of our operations is regulated by environmental laws and regulations, including those governing the labeling, use, storage, discharge and disposal of hazardous materials. Because we use and handle hazardous substances in our businesses, changes in environmental requirements or an unanticipated significant adverse environmental event could have an adverse effect on our business. We cannot assure that we have been, or will at all times be, in compliance with all environmental requirements, or that we will not incur costs or liabilities in connection with these requirements. Private parties, including current and former employees, could bring personal injury or other claims against us due to the presence of, or exposure to, hazardous substances used, stored or disposed of by us, or contained in our products. We are also exposed to residual risk because some of the facilities and land which we have acquired may have environmental liabilities arising from their prior use. In addition, changes to environmental regulations may require us to modify our existing plant and processing facilities and could significantly increase the cost of those operations.

Grain and Ethanol businesses - In our Grain and Ethanol businesses, agricultural production and trade flows can be affected by government programs and legislation. Production levels, markets and prices of the grains we merchandise can be affected by U.S. government programs, which include acreage controls and price support programs administered by the USDA and required levels of ethanol in gasoline through the Renewable Fuel Standards as administered by the EPA. Other examples of government policies that can have an impact on our business include tariffs, duties, subsidies, import and export restrictions



and outright embargoes. Because a portion of our grain sales are to exporters, the imposition of export restrictions and other foreign countries' regulations could limit our sales opportunities.

The compliance burden and impact on our operations and profitability as a result of the enactment of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and related regulations have imposed additional regulatory tasks which took effect in 2014, although the full burden of the Act is not yet fully-known as regulatory rule making is not yet completed. These efforts to change the regulation of financial markets may subject users of derivatives to extensive oversight and regulation by the Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). Such initiatives could impose significant additional costs on us, including operating and compliance costs, and could materially affect the availability, as well as the cost and terms, of certain transactions. New federal regulations have come into effect, while other anticipated regulations, studies and reports, including the regulation of swaps and derivatives, are still in the process of being finalized and adopted and we will continue to monitor these developments. Any of these matters could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations and prospects.

Rail - Our Rail business is subject to regulation by the American Association of Railroads and the Federal Railroad Administration. These agencies regulate rail operations with respect to health and safety matters. New regulatory rulings could negatively impact financial results through higher maintenance costs or reduced economic value of railcar assets.

The Rail business is also subject to risks associated with the demands and restrictions of the Class I railroads, a group of rail companies owning a high percentage of the existing rail lines. These companies exercise a high degree of control over whether private railcars can be allowed on their lines and may reject certain railcars or require maintenance or improvements to the railcars. This presents risk and uncertainty for our Rail business and it can increase maintenance costs. In addition, a shift in the railroads' strategy to investing in new rail cars and improvements to existing railcars, instead of investing in locomotives and infrastructure, could adversely impact our business by causing increased competition and creating an oversupply of railcars. Our rail fleet consists of a range of railcar types (boxcars, gondolas, covered and open top hoppers, tank cars and pressure differential cars) and locomotives. However, a large concentration of a particular type of railcar could expose us to risk if demand were to decrease for that railcar type. Failure on our part to identify and assess risks and uncertainties such as these could negatively impact our business.

Similarly, our marine assets and operations are subject to rules and regulations relating to safety, citizenship, emissions, ballast discharges, and other environmental and operational matters enforced by various federal and state agencies, including the Maritime Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"). If we fail to comply with these rules and regulations, we could be prohibited from operating or leasing marine assets in the U.S. market, and under certain circumstances, could incur severe fines and penalties, including potential limitations on operations or forfeitures of assets.

Plant Nutrient and Turf & Specialty - Our Plant Nutrient and Turf & Specialty businesses manufacture certain agricultural nutrients and use potentially hazardous materials. All products containing pesticides, fungicides and herbicides must be registered with the EPA and state regulatory bodies before they can be sold. The inability to obtain or the cancellation of such registrations could have an adverse impact on our business. In the past, regulations governing the use and registration of these materials have required us to adjust the raw material content of our products and make formulation changes. Future regulatory changes may have similar consequences. Regulatory agencies, such as the EPA, may at any time reassess the safety of our products based on new scientific knowledge or other factors. If it were determined that any of our products were no longer considered to be safe, it could result in the amendment or withdrawal of existing approvals, which, in turn, could result in a loss of revenue, cause our inventory to become obsolete or give rise to potential lawsuits against us. Consequently, changes in existing and future government or trade association policies may restrict our ability to do business and cause our financial results to suffer.

***We are required to carry significant amounts of inventory across all of our businesses. If a substantial portion of our inventory becomes damaged or obsolete, its value would decrease and our profit margins would suffer.***

We are exposed to the risk of a decrease in the value of our inventories due to a variety of circumstances in all of our businesses. For example, within our Grain and Ethanol businesses, there is the risk that the quality of our grain inventory could deteriorate due to damage, moisture, insects, disease or foreign material. If the quality of our grain were to deteriorate below an acceptable level, the value of our inventory could decrease significantly. In our Plant Nutrient business, planted acreage, and consequently the volume of fertilizer and crop protection products applied, is partially dependent upon government programs and the producer's perception of demand. Technological advances in agriculture, such as genetically engineered seeds that resist disease and insects, or that meet certain nutritional requirements, could also affect the demand for our crop nutrients and crop protection products. Either of these factors could render some of our inventory obsolete or reduce its value. Within our rail

repair business, major design improvements to loading, unloading and transporting of certain products can render existing (especially old) equipment obsolete. In addition, in our Turf & Specialty business, we build substantial amounts of inventory in advance of the season to prepare for customer demand. If we were to forecast our customer demand incorrectly, we could build up excess inventory which could cause the value of our inventory to decrease.

***Our substantial indebtedness could negatively affect our financial condition, decrease our liquidity and impair our ability to operate the business.***

If cash on hand is insufficient to pay our obligations or margin calls as they come due at a time when we are unable to draw on our credit facility, it could have an adverse effect on our ability to conduct our business. Our ability to make payments on and to refinance our indebtedness will depend on our ability to generate cash in the future. Our ability to generate cash is dependent on various factors. These factors include general economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other factors that are beyond our control. Certain of our long-term borrowings include provisions that require minimum levels of working capital and equity, and impose limitations on additional debt. Our ability to satisfy these provisions can be affected by events beyond our control, such as the demand for and the fluctuating price of grain. Although we are and have been in compliance with these provisions, noncompliance could result in default and acceleration of long-term debt payments.

***We face increasing competition and pricing pressure from other companies in our industries. If we are unable to compete effectively with these companies, our sales and profit margins would decrease, and our earnings and cash flows would be adversely affected.***

The markets for our products in each of our business segments are highly competitive. While we have substantial operations in our region, some of our competitors are significantly larger, compete in wider markets, have greater purchasing power, and have considerably larger financial resources. We also may enter into new markets where our brand is not recognized and in which we do not have an established customer base. Competitive pressures in all of our businesses could affect the price of, and customer demand for, our products, thereby negatively impacting our profit margins and resulting in a loss of market share.

***Our grain and ethanol businesses use derivative contracts to reduce volatility in the commodity markets. Non-performance by the counter-parties to those contracts could adversely affect our future results of operations and financial position.***

A significant amount of our grain and ethanol purchases and sales are done through forward contracting. In addition, the Company uses exchange traded and to a lesser degree over-the-counter contracts to reduce volatility in changing commodity prices. A significant adverse change in commodity prices could cause a counter-party to one or more of our derivative contracts to not perform on their obligation.

***We rely on a limited number of suppliers for certain of our raw materials and other products and the loss of one or several of these suppliers could increase our costs and have a material adverse effect on any one of our business segments.***

We rely on a limited number of suppliers for certain of our raw materials and other products. If we were unable to obtain these raw materials and products from our current vendors, or if there were significant increases in our supplier's prices, it could significantly increase our costs and reduce our profit margins.

***Our investments in limited liability companies and equity method investments are subject to risks beyond our control.***

We currently have investments in numerous limited liability companies. By operating a business through this arrangement, we do not have control over operating decisions as we would if we owned the business outright. Specifically, we cannot act on major business initiatives without the consent of the other investors, who may not always be in agreement with our ideas.

***The Company may not be able to effectively integrate future businesses it acquires.***

We continuously look for opportunities to enhance our existing businesses through strategic acquisitions. The process of integrating an acquired business into our existing business and operations may result in unforeseen operating difficulties and expenditures as well as require a significant amount of management resources. There is also the risk that our due diligence efforts may not uncover significant business flaws or hidden liabilities. In addition, we may not realize the anticipated benefits of an acquisition and they may not generate the anticipated financial results. Additional risks may include the inability to effectively integrate the operations, products, technologies and personnel of the acquired companies. The inability to maintain uniform standards, controls, procedures and policies would also negatively impact operations.

***Our business involves considerable safety risks. Significant unexpected costs and liabilities would have an adverse effect on our profitability and overall financial position.***

Due to the nature of some of the businesses in which we operate, we are exposed to significant operational hazards such as grain dust explosions, fires, malfunction of equipment, abnormal pressures, blowouts, pipeline and tank ruptures, chemical spills or run-off, transportation accidents and natural disasters. Some of these operational hazards may cause personal injury or loss of life, severe damage to or destruction of property and equipment or environmental damage, and may result in suspension of operations and the imposition of civil or criminal penalties. If grain dust were to explode at one of our elevators or if one of our pieces of equipment were to fail or malfunction due to an accident or improper maintenance, it could put our employees and others at serious risk.

***The Company's information technology systems may impose limitations or failures, or may face external threats, which may affect the Company's ability to conduct its business.***

The Company's information technology systems, some of which are dependent on services provided by third parties, provide critical data connectivity, information and services for internal and external users. These interactions include, but are not limited to, ordering and managing materials from suppliers, converting raw materials to finished products, inventory management, shipping products to customers, processing transactions, summarizing and reporting results of operations, complying with regulatory, legal or tax requirements, human resources and other processes necessary to manage the business. The Company has put in place business continuity plans for its critical systems. However, if the Company's information technology systems are damaged, or cease to function properly due to any number of causes, such as catastrophic events or power outages, and the Company's business continuity plans do not effectively recover on a timely basis, the Company may suffer interruptions in the ability to manage its operations, which may adversely impact the Company's revenues and operating results. Our security measures may also be breached due to employee error, malfeasance, or otherwise. In addition, although the systems has been refreshed periodically, portions of the infrastructure are outdated and may not be adequate to support new business processes, accounting for new transactions, or implementation of new accounting standards if requirements are complex or materially different than what is currently in place.

Additionally, outside parties may attempt to destroy critical information, or fraudulently induce employees, third-party service providers, or users to disclose sensitive information in order to gain access to our data or our users' data. As a response, the Company requires user names and passwords in order to access its information technology systems. The Company also uses encryption and authentication technologies designed to secure the transmission and storage of data and prevent access to Company data or accounts. On an annual basis, these technologies and processes that relate to credit card information are reviewed by a third-party Payment Card Industry qualified security assessor. As with all companies, these security measures are subject to third-party security breaches, employee error, malfeasance, faulty password management, or other irregularities. We cannot assure our ability to prevent, repel or mitigate the effects of such an attack by outside parties. The Company relies on third parties to maintain and process certain information which could be subject to breach or unauthorized access to Company or employee information. Any such breach or unauthorized access could result in an inability to perform critical functions, significant legal and financial exposure, damage to our reputation, and a loss of confidence in the security of our services that could potentially have an adverse effect on our business.

***Unauthorized disclosure of sensitive or confidential customer information could harm the Company's business and standing with our customers.***

The protection of our customer, employee and Company data is critical to us. The Company relies on commercially available systems, software, tools and monitoring to provide security for processing, transmission and storage of confidential customer information, such as payment card and personal information. Despite the security measures the Company has in place, its facilities and systems, and those of its third-party service providers, may be vulnerable to security breaches, acts of vandalism, computer viruses, misplaced or lost data, programming or human errors, or other similar events. Any security breach involving the misappropriation, loss or other unauthorized disclosure of confidential information, whether by the Company or its vendors, could damage our reputation, expose us to risk of litigation and liability, disrupt our operations and harm our business.

***The Company's design and implementation of a new Enterprise Resource Planning system could face significant difficulties.***

In early 2012, the Company began the design and implementation of a new Enterprise Resource Planning system, requiring significant capital and human resources to deploy. The system will be more expensive and take longer to fully implement than originally planned, including increased capital investment, higher fees and expenses of third parties, delayed deployment scheduling, and more on-going maintenance expense once implemented. The ultimate costs and schedules are not yet known. If for any reason this implementation is not successful, the Company could be required to expense rather than capitalize related

amounts. Beyond cost and scheduling, potential flaws in the implementation of an ERP system may pose risks to the Company's ability to operate successfully and efficiently. These risks include, without limitation, inefficient use of employees, distractions to the Company's core businesses, adverse customer reactions, loss of key information, delays in decision making, as well as unforeseen additional costs due to the inability to integrate vital information processes.

## **Item 2. Properties**

The Company's principal agriculture, rail, retail and other properties are described below.

### ***Agriculture Facilities***

| (in thousands)<br><b>Location</b> | <b>Grain Storage<br/>(bushels)</b> | <b>Agricultural Fertilizer</b> |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                   |                                    | <b>Dry Storage<br/>(tons)</b>  | <b>Liquid Storage<br/>(tons)</b> |
| Florida                           | —                                  | 3                              | 22                               |
| Illinois                          | 13,389                             | 58                             | 11                               |
| Indiana                           | 24,635                             | 148                            | 139                              |
| Iowa                              | 20,346                             | 10                             | 22                               |
| Michigan                          | 34,394                             | 70                             | 47                               |
| Minnesota                         | —                                  | —                              | 52                               |
| Nebraska                          | 13,107                             | —                              | —                                |
| Ohio                              | 41,623                             | 189                            | 64                               |
| Puerto Rico                       | —                                  | —                              | 10                               |
| Tennessee                         | 13,378                             | —                              | —                                |
| Texas                             | 1,547                              | —                              | —                                |
| Wisconsin                         | —                                  | 29                             | 77                               |
|                                   | <u>162,419</u>                     | <u>507</u>                     | <u>444</u>                       |

The grain facilities are mostly concrete and steel tanks, with some flat storage, which is primarily cover-on-first temporary storage. The Company also owns grain inspection buildings and dryers, maintenance buildings and truck scales and dumps. Approximately 89% of the total storage capacity is owned, while the remaining 11% of the total capacity is leased from third parties.

The Plant Nutrient Group's wholesale nutrient and farm center properties consist mainly of fertilizer warehouse and formulation and packaging facilities for dry and liquid fertilizers. The Company owns 98% of the dry and liquid storage facilities.

### ***Retail Store Properties***

| <b>Name</b>              | <b>Location</b> | <b>Square Feet</b> |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Maumee Store             | Maumee, OH      | 166,000            |
| Toledo Store             | Toledo, OH      | 162,000            |
| Sawmill Store            | Columbus, OH    | 169,000            |
| Brice Store              | Columbus, OH    | 159,000            |
| The Andersons Market (1) | Sylvania, OH    | 30,000             |
| Distribution Center (1)  | Maumee, OH      | 245,000            |

(1) Facility leased

The leases for the retail store and distribution center are operating leases with several renewal options and provide for minimum aggregate annual lease payments approximating \$1.3 million for 2015. In addition, the Company owns a service and sales facility for outdoor power equipment adjacent to its Maumee, Ohio retail store.

### ***Other Properties***

The Company owns an ethanol facility in Denison, Iowa with a nameplate capacity of 55 million gallons.. The Company owns lawn fertilizer production facilities in Maumee, Ohio, Bowling Green, Ohio, Montgomery, Alabama, and Mocksville, North

Carolina. It also owns a corn cob processing and storage facility in Delphi, Indiana and two cob facilities located in Central Illinois. The Company leases a lawn fertilizer warehouse facility in Toledo, Ohio. The Company operates 19 railcar repair facilities and one fabrication shop throughout the country, primarily in the Midwest, South, and West.

The Company also owns an auto service center that is leased to its former venture partner. The Company's administrative office building is leased under a net lease expiring in 2016. The Company currently has an option to purchase 55 acres of land to be used for a new administrative office building. The Company owns approximately 2,029 acres of land on which the above properties and facilities are located and approximately 411 acres of farmland and land held for sale or future use.

The Company believes that its properties are adequate for its business, well maintained and utilized, suitable for their intended uses and adequately insured.

### **Item 3. Legal Proceedings**

The Company has received, and is cooperating fully with, a request for information from the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("U.S. EPA") regarding the history of its grain and fertilizer facility along the Maumee River in Toledo, Ohio. The U.S. EPA is investigating the possible introduction into the Maumee River of hazardous materials potentially leaching from rouge piles deposited along the riverfront by glass manufacturing operations that existed in the area prior to the Company's initial acquisition of the land in 1960. The Company has on several prior occasions cooperated with local, state and federal regulators to install or improve drainage systems to contain storm water runoff and sewer discharges along its riverfront property to minimize the potential for such leaching. Other area land owners and the successor to the original glass making operations have also been contacted by the U.S. EPA for information. No claim or finding has been asserted thus far.

The Company is also currently subject to various claims and suits arising in the ordinary course of business, which include environmental issues, employment claims, contractual disputes, and defensive counter claims. The Company accrues liabilities where litigation losses are deemed probable and estimable. The Company believes it is unlikely that the results of its current legal proceedings, even if unfavorable, will be materially different from what it currently has accrued. There can be no assurance, however, that any claims or suits arising in the future, whether taken individually or in the aggregate, will not have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations.

### **Item 4. Mine Safety**

Not applicable.

## **Executive Officers of the Registrant**

The information is furnished pursuant to Instruction 3 to Item 401(b) of Regulation S-K. The executive officers of The Andersons, Inc., their positions and ages (as of March 2, 2015) are presented in the table below.

| <b>Name</b>         | <b>Position</b>  | <b>Age</b> | <b>Year Assumed</b>          |
|---------------------|--|------------|------------------------------|
| Dennis J. Addis     | President, Grain Group<br>President, Plant Nutrient Group  | 62         | 2012<br>2000                 |
| Daniel T. Anderson  | President, Retail Group<br>President, Retail Group and Vice President, Corporate Operations Services<br>President, Retail Group  | 59         | 2015<br>2009<br>1996         |
| Michael J. Anderson | Chairman and Chief Executive Officer   | 63         | 1999                         |
| Naran U. Burchinow  | Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary  | 61         | 2005                         |
| James C. Burmeister | Vice President, Finance and Treasurer<br>Vice President of Finance, Roofing and Asphalt Business (Owens-Corning)<br>Vice President, Internal Audit (Owens-Corning)<br>Vice President, Finance Operations (Owens-Corning) | 47         | 2015<br>2013<br>2011<br>2008 |
| Arthur D. DePompei  | Vice President, Human Resources  | 61         | 2008                         |
| John Granato        | Chief Financial Officer<br>Principal - Finance & Operations (Global Infrastructure Partners)   | 49         | 2012<br>2009                 |
| Neill McKinstry     | President, Ethanol Group<br>Vice President & General Manager, Ethanol Division   | 62         | 2012<br>2005                 |
| Harold M. Reed      | Chief Operating Officer<br>President, Grain & Ethanol Group  | 58         | 2012<br>2000                 |
| Anne G. Rex         | Vice President, Corporate Controller<br>Assistant Controller   | 50         | 2012<br>2002                 |
| Rasesh H. Shah      | President, Rail Group  | 60         | 1999                         |
| Tamara S. Sparks    | Vice President, Corporate Business /Financial Analysis<br>Internal Audit Manager   | 46         | 2007<br>1999                 |
| Thomas L. Waggoner  | Vice President, Marketing and Operations Services<br>President, Turf & Specialty Group   | 60         | 2015<br>2005                 |
| William J. Wolf     | President, Plant Nutrient Group<br>Vice President of Supply & Merchandising, Plant Nutrient Group  | 57         | 2012<br>2008                 |

## Part II.

### **Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Equity and Related Stockholder Matters**

The Common Shares of The Andersons, Inc. trade on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "ANDE." On February 18, 2014, the Company effected a three-for-two stock split to its outstanding shares as of January 21, 2014. All share, dividend and per share information set forth in this 10-K has been retroactively adjusted to reflect the stock split. On February 6, 2015, the closing price for the Company's Common Shares was \$47.25 per share.

#### ***Shareholders***

At February 17, 2015, there were approximately 28.8 million common shares outstanding, 1,357 shareholders of record and approximately 13,888 shareholders for whom security firms acted as nominees.

The following table sets forth the high and low bid prices for the Company's Common Shares, retroactively effected for the stock split, for the four fiscal quarters in each of 2014 and 2013.

| Quarter Ended | 2014    |         | 2013    |         |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|               | High    | Low     | High    | Low     |
| March 31      | \$59.26 | \$51.63 | \$35.68 | \$28.79 |
| June 30       | \$64.50 | \$45.18 | \$36.67 | \$33.55 |
| September 30  | \$69.38 | \$52.47 | \$47.11 | \$35.72 |
| December 31   | \$63.73 | \$50.15 | \$61.55 | \$45.72 |

The Company's transfer agent and registrar is Computershare Investor Services, LLC, 2 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60602. Telephone: 312-588-4991.

#### ***Dividends***

The Company has declared and paid consecutive quarterly dividends since the end of 1996, its first year of trading on the Nasdaq market. Dividends paid from January 2013 to January 2015, retroactively effected for the stock split, are as follows:

| Payment Date | Amount   |
|--------------|----------|
| 1/23/2013    | \$0.1067 |
| 4/22/2013    | \$0.1067 |
| 7/22/2013    | \$0.1067 |
| 10/22/2013   | \$0.1067 |
| 1/23/2014    | \$0.1100 |
| 4/22/2014    | \$0.1100 |
| 7/22/2014    | \$0.1100 |
| 10/22/2014   | \$0.1100 |
| 1/23/2015    | \$0.1400 |

While the Company's objective is to pay a quarterly cash dividend, dividends are subject to Board of Director approval.

## Equity Plans

The following table gives information as of December 31, 2014 about the Company's Common Shares that may be issued upon the exercise of options under all of its existing equity compensation plans.

| Plan category   | Equity Compensation Plan Information  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
|   | (a)<br>Number of securities to<br>be issued upon exercise<br>of outstanding options,<br>warrants and rights | Weighted-average<br>exercise price of<br>outstanding options,<br>warrants and rights | Number of securities<br>remaining available for<br>future issuance under equity<br>compensation plans<br>(excluding securities<br>reflected in column (a)) |
| Equity compensation plans approved by<br>security holders     | 556,505 <sup>(1)</sup>  | \$ 35.34   | 1,996,939 <sup>(2)</sup>   |
| Equity compensation plans not<br>approved by security holders | —   | —  | —  |

- (1) This number includes 51,579 Share Only Share Appreciation Rights ("SOSARs"), 329,391 performance share units and 175,535 restricted shares outstanding under The Andersons, Inc. 2005 Long-Term Performance Compensation Plan. This number does not include any shares related to the Employee Share Purchase Plan. The Employee Share Purchase Plan allows employees to purchase common shares at the lower of the market value on the beginning or end of the calendar year through payroll withholdings. These purchases are completed as of December 31.
- (2) This number includes 247,869 Common Shares available to be purchased under the Employee Share Purchase Plan. This number does not include 519,017 outstanding shares under The Andersons, Inc. 20015 Long-term Performance Compensation Plan that will not be issued

## Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers

In 1996, the Company's Board of Directors began approving the repurchase of shares of common stock for use in employee, officer and director stock purchase and stock compensation plans, which reached 4.2 million authorized shares in 2001. The Company purchased 3.1 million shares under this repurchase program. The original resolution was superseded by the Board in October 2007 with a resolution authorizing the repurchase of 1.5 million shares of common stock. The Company repurchased 0.3 million shares under this repurchase program. This resolution was superseded by the Board in October 2014, with a resolution authorizing the repurchase of shares at a value not to exceed \$50.0 million. In December 2014, the Company repurchased approximately 17 thousand shares.

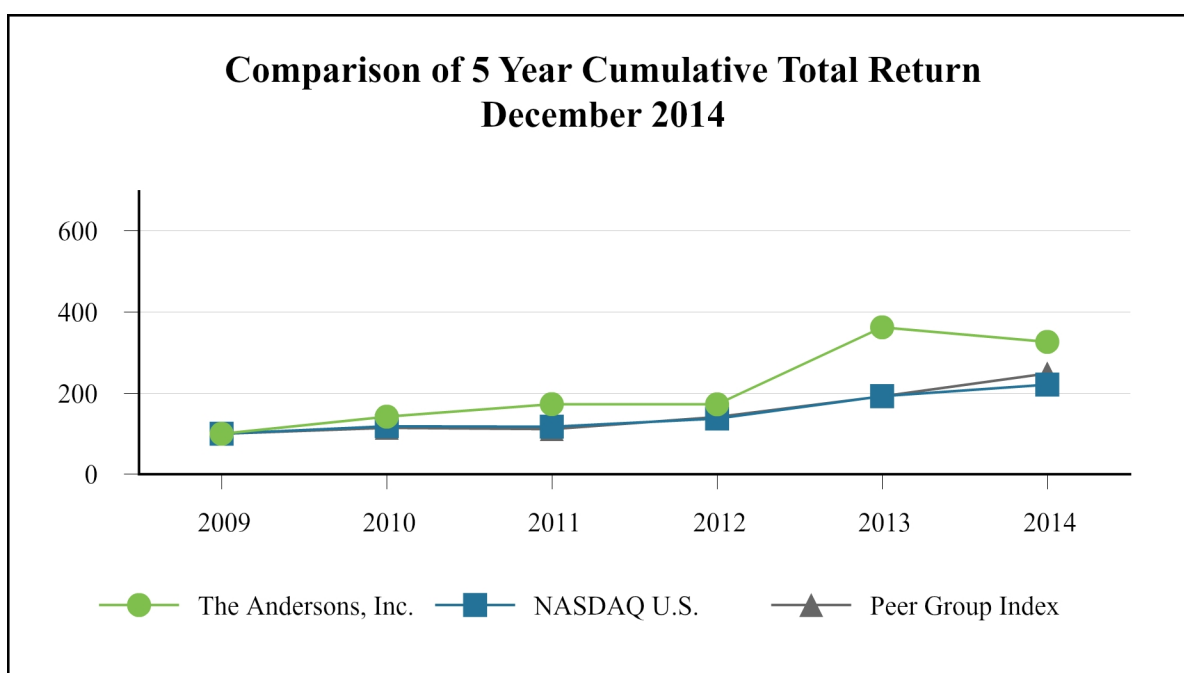


## Performance Graph

The graph below compares the total shareholder return on the Corporation's Common Shares to the cumulative total return for the Nasdaq U.S. Index and a Peer Group Index. The indices reflect the year-end market value of an investment in the stock of each company in the index, including additional shares assumed to have been acquired with cash dividends, if any. The Peer Group Index, weighted for market capitalization, includes the following companies:

|                            |                                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Agrium, Inc.               | Lowe's Companies, Inc.          |
| Archer-Daniels-Midland Co. | The Greenbrier Companies, Inc.  |
| GATX Corp.                 | The Scott's Miracle-Gro Company |
| Ingredion Incorporated     |                                 |

The graph assumes a \$100 investment in The Andersons, Inc. Common Shares on December 31, 2009 and also assumes investments of \$100 in each of the Nasdaq U.S. and Peer Group indices, respectively, on December 31 of the first year of the graph. The value of these investments as of the following calendar year-ends is shown in the table below the graph.



|                     | Base Period       |           | Cumulative Returns |           |           |           |  |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
|                     | December 31, 2009 | 2010      | 2011               | 2012      | 2013      | 2014      |  |
| The Andersons, Inc. | \$ 100.00         | \$ 142.29 | \$ 172.86          | \$ 172.32 | \$ 361.97 | \$ 326.27 |  |
| NASDAQ U.S.         | 100.00            | 118.02    | 117.04             | 137.47    | 192.62    | 221.02    |  |
| Peer Group Index    | 100.00            | 114.49    | 111.05             | 141.27    | 191.67    | 248.28    |  |

## Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The following table sets forth selected consolidated financial data of the Company. The data for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2014 are derived from the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company. The data presented below should be read in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," included in Item 7, and the Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto included in Item 8.

(in thousands, except for per share and ratios and other data)

|   | For the years ended December 31, |              |              |              |              |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | 2014                             | 2013         | 2012         | 2011         | 2010         |
| <b>Operating results</b>  |                                  |              |              |              |              |
| Sales and merchandising revenues (a)  | \$ 4,540,071                     | \$ 5,604,574 | \$ 5,272,010 | \$ 4,576,331 | \$ 3,393,791 |
| Gross profit  | 397,139                          | 365,225      | 358,005      | 352,852      | 281,679      |
| Equity in earnings of affiliates  | 96,523                           | 68,705       | 16,487       | 41,450       | 26,007       |
| Other income, net (b)   | 31,125                           | 14,876       | 14,725       | 7,922        | 11,652       |
| Net income  | 122,645                          | 95,702       | 75,565       | 96,825       | 64,881       |
| Net income attributable to The Andersons, Inc.  | 109,726                          | 89,939       | 79,480       | 95,106       | 64,662       |
| <b>Financial position</b>   |                                  |              |              |              |              |
| Total assets  | 2,364,692                        | 2,273,556    | 2,182,304    | 1,734,123    | 1,699,390    |
| Working capital   | 226,741                          | 229,451      | 304,346      | 312,971      | 301,815      |
| Long-term debt (c)  | 298,638                          | 371,150      | 407,176      | 238,088      | 263,675      |
| Long-term debt, non-recourse (c)  | —                                | 4,063        | 20,067       | 797          | 13,150       |
| Total equity  | 824,049                          | 724,421      | 611,445      | 538,842      | 464,559      |
| <b>Cash flows / liquidity</b>   |                                  |              |              |              |              |
| Cash flows from (used in) operations  | (10,071)                         | 337,188      | 328,482      | 290,265      | (239,285)    |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 62,005                           | 55,307       | 48,977       | 40,837       | 38,913       |
| Cash invested in acquisitions (d)   | (20,037)                         | (15,252)     | (220,257)    | (2,365)      | (39,293)     |
| Investment in affiliates (e)  | (238)                            | (49,251)     | —            | (121)        | (395)        |
| Investments in property, plant and equipment  | (59,675)                         | (46,786)     | (69,274)     | (44,162)     | (30,897)     |
| Net proceeds from (investment in) Rail Group assets (f)   | (57,968)                         | 4,648        | (20,397)     | (33,763)     | 1,748        |
| EBITDA (g)  | 254,992                          | 219,917      | 195,180      | 212,252      | 162,702      |
| <b>Per share data (h)</b>   |                                  |              |              |              |              |
| Net income - basic  | 3.85                             | 3.20         | 2.85         | 3.42         | 2.34         |
| Net income - diluted  | 3.84                             | 3.18         | 2.82         | 3.39         | 2.32         |
| Dividends paid  | 0.4700                           | 0.4300       | 0.4000       | 0.2933       | 0.2383       |
| Year-end market value   | 53.14                            | 59.45        | 28.60        | 29.11        | 24.23        |
| <b>Ratios and other data</b>  |                                  |              |              |              |              |
| Net income attributable to The Andersons, Inc. return on beginning equity attributable to The Andersons, Inc. | 15.6%                            | 15.1%        | 15.2%        | 21.1%        | 16.4%        |
| Funded long-term debt to equity ratio (i)   | 0.4-to-1                         | 0.5-to-1     | 0.7-to-1     | 0.4-to-1     | 0.6-to-1     |
| Weighted average shares outstanding (000's)   | 28,367                           | 27,986       | 27,784       | 27,686       | 27,534       |
| Effective tax rate  | 33.4%                            | 36.0%        | 37.1%        | 34.5%        | 37.7%        |

(a) Includes sales of \$1,064.4 million in 2014, \$1,333.2 million in 2013, \$1,359.4 million in 2012, \$1,385.4 million in 2011, \$982.2 million in 2010 pursuant to marketing and origination agreements between the Company and the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs.

(b) Includes \$17.1 million for the gain on partial share redemption of the LTG investment in 2014.

(c) Excludes current portion of long-term debt. The increase in non-recourse debt in 2012 is related to the debt held by TADE.

(d) During 2012, the Company acquired the assets of Green Plains Grain, TADE, Mt. Pulaski and 100% of the stock of New Eezy Gro.

(e) During 2013, the Company and LTG established 50/50 joint ventures to acquire 100% of the stock of Thompsons Limited and its related U.S. operating company.

(f) Represents the net of purchases of Rail Group assets offset by proceeds on sales of Rail Group assets.

(g) Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, or EBITDA, is a non-GAAP measure. It is one of the measures the Company uses to evaluate its liquidity. The Company believes that EBITDA provides additional information important to investors and others in determining its ability to meet debt service obligations. EBITDA does not represent and should not be considered as an alternative to net income or cash flow from operations as determined by generally accepted accounting principles. EBITDA does not necessarily indicate

whether cash flow will be sufficient to meet cash requirements for debt service obligations or otherwise. Because EBITDA, as determined by the Company, excludes some, but not all, items that affect net income, it may not be comparable to EBITDA or similarly titled measures used by other companies.

(h) Earnings per share are calculated based on Income attributable to The Andersons, Inc, retroactively adjusted to consider the three-for-two stock split.

(i) Calculated by dividing long-term debt by total year-end equity as stated under “Financial position.”

The following table sets forth (1) our calculation of EBITDA and (2) a reconciliation of EBITDA to our net cash flow provided by (used in) operations.

| (in thousands)   | For the years ended December 31, |            |            |            |              |
|--|----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
|  | 2014                             | 2013       | 2012       | 2011       | 2010         |
| Net income attributable to The Andersons, Inc.                                 | \$ 109,726                       | \$ 89,939  | \$ 79,480  | \$ 95,106  | \$ 64,662    |
| Add:   |                                  |            |            |            |              |
| Provision for income taxes   | 61,501                           | 53,811     | 44,568     | 51,053     | 39,262       |
| Interest expense   | 21,760                           | 20,860     | 22,155     | 25,256     | 19,865       |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 62,005                           | 55,307     | 48,977     | 40,837     | 38,913       |
| EBITDA   | 254,992                          | 219,917    | 195,180    | 212,252    | 162,702      |
| Add/(subtract):  |                                  |            |            |            |              |
| Provision for income taxes   | (61,501)                         | (53,811)   | (44,568)   | (51,053)   | (39,262)     |
| Interest expense   | (21,760)                         | (20,860)   | (22,155)   | (25,256)   | (19,865)     |
| Realized gains on Rail Group assets and related leases                         | (15,830)                         | (19,366)   | (23,665)   | (8,417)    | (7,771)      |
| Gain on sale of investments in affiliates                                      | (17,055)                         | —          | —          | —          | —            |
| Deferred income taxes  | 21,815                           | 40,374     | 16,503     | 5,473      | 12,205       |
| Excess tax benefit from share-based payment arrangement                        | (1,806)                          | (1,001)    | (162)      | (307)      | (876)        |
| Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates, net of distributions received | 28,749                           | (50,953)   | 8,134      | (23,591)   | (17,594)     |
| Noncontrolling interest in income (loss) of affiliates                         | 12,919                           | 5,763      | (3,915)    | 1,719      | 219          |
| Changes in working capital and other   | (210,594)                        | 217,125    | 203,130    | 179,445    | (329,043)    |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operations                                      | \$ (10,071)                      | \$ 337,188 | \$ 328,482 | \$ 290,265 | \$ (239,285) |

The Company has included its Computation of Earnings to Fixed Charges in Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules, and Reports on Form 8-K as Exhibit 12.

## **Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

### **Forward Looking Statements**

The following "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" contains forward-looking statements which relate to future events or future financial performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. You are urged to carefully consider these risks and factors, including those listed under Item 1A, "Risk Factors." In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as "may," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "predicts," or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. These statements are only predictions. Actual events or results may differ materially. These forward-looking statements relate only to events as of the date on which the statements are made and the Company undertakes no obligation, other than any imposed by law, to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements.

### **Executive Overview**

Our operations are organized, managed and classified into six reportable business segments: Grain, Ethanol, Plant Nutrient, Rail, Turf & Specialty and Retail. Each of these segments is based on the nature of products and services offered.

The agricultural commodity-based business is one in which changes in selling prices generally move in relationship to changes in purchase prices. Therefore, increases or decreases in prices of the agricultural commodities that the business deals in will have a relatively equal impact on sales and cost of sales and a much less significant impact on gross profit. As a result, changes in sales for the period may not necessarily be indicative of the overall performance of the business and more focus should be placed on changes to merchandising revenues and service income.

### ***Grain Group***

The Grain Group completed several acquisitions during the fourth quarter of 2014, the most significant was Auburn Bean and Grain, which included six grain and four agronomy assets. The six grain locations will provide additional storage capacity of approximately 18.1 million bushels, enhancing our presence in Michigan, which is one of our core states. The agronomy assets will provide additional storage capacity of 16.0 thousand tons of dry and 3.7 million gallons of liquid nutrient and will be part of our Plant Nutrient Group. We also acquired two San Antonio, Texas-based, food grade grain companies as we continue to expand our food grade corn business.

During the first quarter of 2014, we entered into an agreement with LTG for a partial share redemption of our investment in LTG. The transaction lowered our ownership stake in the company and resulted in a pre-tax gain of \$17.1 million, net of deal costs.

Total grain storage capacity is approximately 162 million bushels as of December 31, 2014 compared to 139 million bushels at December 31, 2013. Grain inventories on hand at December 31, 2014 were 109.5 million bushels, of which 3.1 million bushels were stored for others. This compares to 96.9 million bushels on hand at December 31, 2013, of which 13.3 million bushels were stored for others.

Excluding the LTG gain noted above, 2014 results were adversely impacted by a number of one-time items primarily related to asset write-downs and impairments. The harvest was protracted in a number of states in which the Company does business, primarily due to weather conditions. As such space income improved over the prior year, but it was offset by higher expenses, lower margin on grain sales and lower trading profits. Further, the Iowa market has proved to be extremely competitive, reducing our ability to earn space income and leading to lower volumes and lower margins on volumes we do receive. Nearly 467 million bushels were shipped by our grain facilities during the year, an increase of 1%. The slight increase in volume primarily relates to the addition of the acquired locations in the fourth quarter of 2014.

Corn acres to be planted in 2015 are estimated to be 88 to 89 million acres, which is down two to three percent from 2014. Soybean acres to be planted are estimated to be approximately 85 million acres, which is similar to or slightly higher than 2014. Assuming trend yields in the areas the Company does business, this should create a good base for the Company's Grain Group in 2015. In 2015, our Grain Group will also continue its focus on integrating recent acquisitions, continued implementation of the new ERP system and enhancing risk management and grain marketing services.

### ***Ethanol Group***

The Ethanol Group was able to perform at record levels in 2014 due to strong margins realized by the ethanol LLCs. While the average price of ethanol decreased over the prior year, a significant drop in corn prices allowed the spread between corn and

ethanol prices to remain in strong positive correlation as ethanol export demand remained high. Early 2015 ethanol margins are well below 2014 margins, and are expected to average lower for the full year. However, we believe margins will improve through 2015. Factors impacting current margins include lower crude price, greater ethanol production and marginally rising ethanol stocks. Higher gasoline demand, improved demand and prices for DDG in relation to corn price, an ample corn supply, and the potential for improved export demand as the year progresses could contribute to improved ethanol margins later in the year.

Volumes shipped for the year ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 were as follows:

| (in thousands)            | Twelve months ended December 31, |         |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
|                           | 2014                             | 2013    |
| Ethanol (gallons shipped) | <b>293,410</b>                   | 288,134 |
| E-85 (gallons shipped)    | <b>27,482</b>                    | 23,719  |
| Corn Oil (pounds shipped) | <b>85,480</b>                    | 85,100  |
| DDG (tons shipped)        | <b>166</b>                       | 174     |

The above table shows only shipped volumes that flow through the Company's sales revenues. Total ethanol and DDG production by the unconsolidated LLCs are higher, however, the portion of this volume that is sold directly to their customers is excluded here.

### ***Plant Nutrient Group***

While the Plant Nutrient Group experienced a slight increase in volumes for the year, the fourth quarter of 2014 saw a significantly lower volume compared to 2013 due to a late harvest, weather challenges, and logistical issues. If there is normal spring weather, we expect some of this volume to shift into the first half of 2015. Looking ahead, the anticipated acres to be planted creates a good environment for us to participate in as well.

As noted above, the Auburn Bean and Grain acquisition provided four additional agronomy locations, with increased dry and liquid nutrient capacity. Total storage capacity at our wholesale nutrient and farm center facilities was approximately 507 thousand tons for dry nutrients and approximately 444 thousand tons for liquid nutrients at December 31, 2014.

Fertilizer tons shipped (including sales and service tons) for the year ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 were as follows:

| (in thousands) | Twelve months ended December 31, |       |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-------|
|                | 2014                             | 2013  |
| Sales tons     | <b>1,717</b>                     | 1,690 |
| Service tons   | <b>251</b>                       | 248   |
| Total tons     | <b>1,968</b>                     | 1,938 |

As announced during the fourth quarter of 2014, the Plant Nutrient Group will merge with the Turf & Specialty Group in 2015. We believe this merger will allow the groups to operate under a common strategy to better service our customers, boost growth opportunities and improve profitability.

### ***Rail Group***

The Rail Group experienced improved results from its base leasing business in 2014. Rail Group assets under management (owned, leased or managed for financial institutions in non-recourse arrangements) at December 31, 2014 were 22,716 compared to 22,700 at December 31, 2013. The average utilization rate (Rail Group assets under management that are in lease service, exclusive of those managed for third-party investors) is 89.5% for the year ended December 31, 2014 which is nearly 3.4% higher than prior year.

For the year ended December 31, 2014, Rail had gains on sales of Rail Group assets and related leases in the amount of \$15.8 million compared to \$19.4 million of gains on sales of Rail Group assets and related leases for the year ended December 31, 2013.

A focus of the Group in 2015 will be to strategically grow the rail fleet and continue to look for opportunities to open new repair facilities and other adjacent businesses. We also anticipate future repair business related to potential mandated modifications in the tank car industry.

### ***Turf & Specialty Group***

The Turf & Specialty Group had disappointing results in 2014. The turf business was negatively impacted early in the year by poor weather conditions that led to both production down-time and product delivery issues. The Cob business had significantly higher expenses this year as it invested in both electrical and operational improvements at certain locations and saw declining sales in both the fracking and cat litter product lines. However, we finished 2014 stronger than 2013 with much of improvement coming from the addition of the Mocksville, North Carolina facility which was acquired at the end of 2013. The Group has strategically built its inventories and is well-positioned to meet the demand in Spring of 2015.

### ***Retail Group***

The retail industry is highly competitive. Our stores compete with a variety of retail merchandisers, including home centers, department and hardware stores, as well as local and national grocers. The Retail Group continues to work on new departments and products and reduce costs to maximize the profitability.

### ***Other***

Our “Other” represents corporate functions that provide support and services to the operating segments. The results contained within this group include expenses and benefits not allocated back to the operating segments, including our ERP project.

## **Operating Results**

The following discussion focuses on the operating results as shown in the Consolidated Statements of Income with a separate discussion by segment. Additional segment information is included in Note 7 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8.

| (in thousands)   | Year ended December 31, |              |              |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013         | 2012         |
| Sales and merchandising revenues                       | \$ 4,540,071            | \$ 5,604,574 | \$ 5,272,010 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues               | 4,142,932               | 5,239,349    | 4,914,005    |
| Gross profit   | 397,139                 | 365,225      | 358,005      |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses         | 318,881                 | 278,433      | 246,929      |
| Interest expense                                       | 21,760                  | 20,860       | 22,155       |
| Equity in earnings of affiliates                       | 96,523                  | 68,705       | 16,487       |
| Other income, net                                      | 31,125                  | 14,876       | 14,725       |
| Income before income taxes                             | 184,146                 | 149,513      | 120,133      |
| Income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests | 12,919                  | 5,763        | (3,915)      |
| Operating income                                       | \$ 171,227              | \$ 143,750   | \$ 124,048   |

## **Comparison of 2014 with 2013**

### ***Grain Group***

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |              |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013         |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ 2,682,038            | \$ 3,617,943 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | 2,550,909               | 3,499,426    |
| Gross profit                                   | 131,129                 | 118,517      |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 113,311                 | 97,398       |
| Interest expense                               | 8,785                   | 9,567        |
| Equity in earnings of affiliates               | 27,643                  | 33,122       |
| Other income, net                              | 21,450                  | 2,120        |
| Income before income taxes                     | 58,126                  | 46,794       |
| Loss attributable to noncontrolling interests  | (10)                    | (11)         |
| Operating income                               | \$ 58,136               | \$ 46,805    |

Operating results for the Grain Group increased \$11.3 million compared to full year 2013 results. Sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$936 million over 2013 and are almost entirely a result of a decrease in commodity prices. Total bushels shipped increased by one percent, but average commodity prices decreased almost 30 percent, including corn prices down 34 percent and soybean prices down 16 percent during the year. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$949 million following the decrease in average commodity prices. Gross profit increased \$12.6 million due to increased space income. Most of the increase relates to wheat, but corn and beans also contributed to the increase.

Operating expenses were \$15.9 million higher than 2013. Approximately half of the increase in operating expenses relates to labor and benefit costs, including growth and incentive compensation expense. A significant portion of the remaining increase relates to the three acquisitions completed in the fourth quarter and approximately \$6.6 million of one-time items, primarily asset write-downs and impairments. Equity in earnings of affiliates decreased \$5.5 million due to a decreased ownership percentage of the investment in LTG and lower 2014 operating results of LTG. This decrease was partially offset by an additional \$5.0 million in earnings from our Thompsons Limited investment. Other income increased \$19.3 million, of which is almost entirely due to the gain recognized from the partial share redemption in our investment of LTG.

### ***Ethanol Group***

| (in thousands)                                  | Year ended December 31, |            |
|---|-------------------------|------------|
|   | 2014                    | 2013       |
| Sales and merchandising revenues                | \$ 765,939              | \$ 831,965 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues        | 717,882                 | 799,453    |
| Gross profit                                    | 48,057                  | 32,512     |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses  | 11,719                  | 11,082     |
| Interest expense                                | 255                     | 1,038      |
| Equity in earnings of affiliates                | 68,880                  | 35,583     |
| Other income, net                               | 223                     | 399        |
| Income before income taxes                      | 105,186                 | 56,374     |
| Income attributable to noncontrolling interests | 12,929                  | 5,774      |
| Operating income                                | \$ 92,257               | \$ 50,600  |

Operating results for the Ethanol Group increased \$41.7 million compared to full year 2013 results. Sales and merchandising and service fee revenues decreased \$66 million, with 60 percent of the decrease related to ethanol sales. While ethanol gallons sold increased almost two percent, average ethanol prices decreased eight percent. DDG volumes remained flat but average price per ton decreased greater than 25 percent compared to the prior year. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$82 million following the decrease in average corn, ethanol, and DDG prices. Gross profit increased \$15.5 million and is attributed to the increase in ethanol demand and the prices of ethanol and DDG relative to corn prices which contributed to more favorable margins.

Equity in earnings of affiliates increased \$33.3 million from prior year and represents income from investments in three unconsolidated ethanol LLCs. Throughout the year, the ethanol facilities' performance improved due to higher ethanol margins resulting from the decreased corn costs and higher demand for ethanol. The increase in income attributable to noncontrolling interests increased due to stronger earnings at the ethanol facilities that have noncontrolling interest owners.

### ***Plant Nutrient Group***

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |            |
|--|-------------------------|------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013       |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ 668,124              | \$ 708,654 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | 580,505                 | 621,972    |
| Gross profit                                   | 87,619                  | 86,682     |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 63,300                  | 57,188     |
| Interest expense                               | 3,736                   | 3,312      |
| Other income, net                              | 3,262                   | 1,093      |
| Operating income                               | \$ 23,845               | \$ 27,275  |



Operating results for the Plant Nutrient Group decreased \$3.4 million compared to full year 2013 results. Sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$40.5 million due to a nine percent decrease in the average price per ton sold, which followed the price of nutrients in the market. Volumes were up less than two percent during the year, having little impact on the change in revenues. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$41.5 million, also primarily due to lower costs per ton sold, comparable with the selling price decrease and reflective of the market. This resulted in a marginal increase in gross profit for the year.

Operating expenses increased \$6.1 million from the prior year, due to increases in labor expense and additional depreciation from the current year acquisition and other recent capital projects. Other income increased \$2.2 million in 2014 and is due to the settlement of a legal claim during the third quarter of 2014.

### ***Rail Group***

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |            |
|--|-------------------------|------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013       |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ 148,954              | \$ 164,794 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | 89,192                  | 105,930    |
| Gross profit                                   | 59,762                  | 58,864     |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 24,164                  | 18,201     |
| Interest expense                               | 7,247                   | 5,544      |
| Other income, net                              | 3,094                   | 7,666      |
| Operating income                               | \$ 31,445               | \$ 42,785  |

Operating results for the Rail Group decreased \$11.3 million compared to the full year 2013 results. Sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$15.8 million. The decrease was driven by a decrease in car sales of \$23.0 million, offset by a repairs and fabrication sales increase of \$3.3 million and leasing revenues increase of \$3.5 million. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$16.7 million, primarily as a result of lower car sales. As a result, Rail gross profit increased only slightly over the prior year.

Operating expenses increased by \$6.0 million from prior year mainly due to higher labor and benefits costs, depreciation, and maintenance expense from recent expansion in the repair business. This increase includes \$3.2 million of additional freight and maintenance expense incurred to move idle railcars into service. Interest expense increased \$1.7 million due to the increase in financing costs for our increase in railcars owned. Other income decreased \$4.6 million due to income from the settlement of two nonperforming railcar leases in 2013.

### ***Turf & Specialty Group***

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |            |
|--|-------------------------|------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013       |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ 134,209              | \$ 140,512 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | 104,889                 | 111,223    |
| Gross profit                                   | 29,320                  | 29,289     |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 28,219                  | 23,998     |
| Interest expense                               | 1,542                   | 1,237      |
| Other income, net                              | 1,110                   | 690        |
| Operating income                               | \$ 669                  | \$ 4,744   |

Operating results for the Turf & Specialty Group decreased \$4.1 million compared to full year 2013 results. Sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$6.3 million due to a two percent decrease in volume and a four percent decrease in average price per ton in the lawn fertilizer business. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues also decreased \$6.3 million due to a six percent decrease in average cost per ton in the lawn fertilizer business. Despite the decreases in volume and price, gross profit remained flat due to favorable product mix.

Operating expenses increased \$4.2 million due to an increase in labor and benefit costs, and depreciation expense due to the impact of a full year of activity from the December 2013 acquisition.



## Retail Group

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |            |
|--|-------------------------|------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013       |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ 140,807              | \$ 140,706 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | 99,555                  | 101,345    |
| Gross profit                                   | 41,252                  | 39,361     |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 42,161                  | 46,707     |
| Interest expense                               | 666                     | 689        |
| Other income, net                              | 955                     | 501        |
| Operating loss                                 | \$ (620)                | \$ (7,534) |

The operating results for the Retail Group improved \$6.9 million compared to full year 2013 results. Sales and merchandising revenues remained flat, while cost of sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$1.8 million due to favorable product mix. Despite lower volumes, gross profit increased \$1.9 million primarily due to stronger margins realized in the workwear, deli, and seafood departments.

Operating expenses for the Group decreased \$4.5 million due to lower costs attributable to the closing of the Woodville store in 2013 and the asset impairment charges in the amount of \$3.9 million in the fourth quarter of 2013.

## Other

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |             |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013        |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ —                    | \$ —        |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | —                       | —           |
| Gross profit                                   | —                       | —           |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 36,007                  | 23,859      |
| Interest expense (income)                      | (471)                   | (527)       |
| Equity in earnings of affiliates               | —                       | —           |
| Other income, net                              | 1,031                   | 2,407       |
| Operating loss                                 | \$ (34,505)             | \$ (20,925) |

The net corporate operating loss (costs not allocated back to the business units) increased \$13.6 million to a loss of \$34.5 million for 2014. Within operating expenses, the most significant increase was spending on the implementation of an ERP system, as the first phase of implementation began in the second quarter of 2014. As such, much of the post-implementation spend in the current year is expense in nature, while the prior year spend was dedicated to software development and was capital in nature. Stock compensation expense was higher in 2014 due to the 2013 grants not being granted until the fourth quarter. Labor and benefit costs were also higher in 2014 due to increased headcount.

## Income Taxes

Income tax expense of \$61.5 million was provided at 33.4%. In 2013, income tax expense of \$53.8 million was provided at 36.0%. The decrease in the effective tax rate was due primarily to a \$1.9 million increase in 2014 tax benefits related to the Domestic Production Activities Deduction, a \$2.5 million increase in tax benefits related to income attributable to the noncontrolling interests that did not impact income tax expense, and the \$1.4 million tax charge recorded in the first quarter of 2013 with respect to the accounting for the other comprehensive income portion of the Company's retiree health care plan liability and the Medicare Part D subsidy.

## Comparison of 2013 with 2012

### Grain Group

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |                  |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|
|  | 2013                    | 2012             |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ 3,617,943            | \$ 3,293,632     |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | 3,499,426               | 3,176,452        |
| Gross profit                                   | 118,517                 | 117,180          |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 97,398                  | 73,037           |
| Interest expense                               | 9,567                   | 12,174           |
| Equity in earnings of affiliates               | 33,122                  | 29,080           |
| Other income, net                              | 2,120                   | 2,548            |
| Income before income taxes                     | 46,794                  | 63,597           |
| Loss attributable to noncontrolling interests  | (11)                    | —                |
| Operating income                               | <u>\$ 46,805</u>        | <u>\$ 63,597</u> |

Operating results for the Grain Group decreased \$16.8 million compared to full year 2012 results. Sales and merchandising revenues increased \$324.3 million over 2012 as a result of an increase in bushels shipped for all commodities (including newly acquired facilities) and was partially offset by a decrease in the average price per bushel sold for corn, wheat and soybeans. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues increased \$323 million due to the higher volume of sales and merchandising revenues. Gross profit increased \$1.3 million due to high volumes, partially offset by the reduced space income in 2013 as compared to the prior year.

Operating expenses were \$24.4 million higher than 2012. A large portion of the increase is higher labor and benefits related to organizational growth (including previously mentioned acquired facilities), depreciation expense due to increased capital investment, and utilities expense due to a wet harvest that required additional drying. Interest expense decreased \$2.6 million due to fewer ownership bushels and lower grain prices resulting in lower inventory values. Equity in earnings of affiliates increased \$4.0 million due to the continued strong performance of LTG and five months of income from the Thompsons Limited joint venture. Other income did not fluctuate significantly from prior year.

### Ethanol Group

| (in thousands)   | Year ended December 31, |                   |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|
|  | 2013                    | 2012              |
| Sales and merchandising revenues                       | \$ 831,965              | \$ 742,929        |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues               | 799,453                 | 728,256           |
| Gross profit   | 32,512                  | 14,673            |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses         | 11,082                  | 9,004             |
| Interest expense                                       | 1,038                   | 759               |
| Equity in earnings (loss) of affiliates                | 35,583                  | (12,598)          |
| Other income, net                                      | 399                     | 53                |
| Income (loss) before income taxes                      | 56,374                  | (7,635)           |
| Income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests | 5,774                   | (3,915)           |
| Operating income (loss)                                | <u>\$ 50,600</u>        | <u>\$ (3,720)</u> |

Operating results for the Ethanol Group improved \$54.3 million from the full year 2012 results to operating income of \$50.6 million. Sales and merchandising and service fee revenues increased \$89 million due to an increase in both volume of ethanol gallons shipped (including a full year of the Denison, Iowa plant acquired in May 2012) as well as the higher average price per gallon of ethanol sold. Ethanol co-product (corn oil and DDG) sales also contributed to the significant increase in revenues over the prior year. The increase in cost of sales primarily relates to the increase in volume as corn costs were down considerably during 2013. The increase in gross profit is mostly attributable to improvement in Denison's margins from declining corn costs and higher ethanol demand and price.

Operating expenses increased \$2.1 million primarily due to higher labor related expenses, including performance incentives and a full year of Denison plant expenses. Equity in earnings of affiliates increased \$48.2 million from prior year and represents income from investments in three unconsolidated ethanol LLCs. Throughout the year, the LLCs performance improved due to higher ethanol margins resulting from the decreased corn costs and higher demand for ethanol. Income attributable to noncontrolling interests was impacted in a similar manner. There were no significant changes in interest expense or other income.

### ***Plant Nutrient Group***

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |            |
|--|-------------------------|------------|
|  | 2013                    | 2012       |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ 708,654              | \$ 797,033 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | 621,972                 | 698,781    |
| Gross profit                                   | 86,682                  | 98,252     |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 57,188                  | 58,088     |
| Interest expense                               | 3,312                   | 2,832      |
| Equity in earnings of affiliates               | —                       | 5          |
| Other income, net                              | 1,093                   | 1,917      |
| Operating income                               | \$ 27,275               | \$ 39,254  |

Operating results for the Plant Nutrient Group were \$12.0 million lower than 2012 results. Sales were \$88.4 million lower due to a decrease in both the average price per ton sold and volume for the year in the wholesale nutrient business. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues decreased \$76.8 million due primarily to lower product cost. Gross profit decreased \$11.6 million as a result of lower margin per ton sold as well as the decline in volume year over year.

Operating expenses were slightly lower in 2013 primarily due to lower performance incentive expense. Other income was higher in 2012 due to gains recognized on assets that were involuntarily converted. There were no significant changes in equity in earnings of affiliates and interest expense.

### ***Rail Group***

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |            |
|--|-------------------------|------------|
|  | 2013                    | 2012       |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ 164,794              | \$ 156,426 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | 105,930                 | 99,697     |
| Gross profit                                   | 58,864                  | 56,729     |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 18,201                  | 16,217     |
| Interest expense                               | 5,544                   | 4,807      |
| Other income, net                              | 7,666                   | 7,136      |
| Operating income                               | \$ 42,785               | \$ 42,841  |

Operating results for the Rail Group were relatively consistent year over year. Revenues related to car sales increased \$1.0 million, repairs and fabrication increased \$3.9 million and leasing revenues increased \$3.5 million. The increase in leasing revenues is attributable to higher lease rates, as well as having more cars in service, while the remaining increases were driven by higher volume of activity. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues increased \$6.2 million as a result of higher volume of activity. Rail gross profit increased \$2.1 million compared to prior year primarily due to higher gross profit in the leasing business which is attributed to favorable lease rates.

Operating expenses increased by \$2.0 million from prior year mainly due to higher labor and benefits related to growth and higher performance incentives. Interest expense was higher due to a greater amount of car financings and debt related to the new blast and paint facility opened in 2013. Other income was slightly higher in 2013 due to income from the settlement of two nonperforming railcar leases.

### ***Turf & Specialty Group***

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |            |
|--|-------------------------|------------|
|  | 2013                    | 2012       |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ 140,512              | \$ 131,026 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | 111,223                 | 104,000    |
| Gross profit                                   | 29,289                  | 27,026     |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 23,998                  | 24,361     |
| Interest expense                               | 1,237                   | 1,233      |
| Other income, net                              | 690                     | 784        |
| Operating income                               | \$ 4,744                | \$ 2,216   |

Operating results for the Turf & Specialty Group increased \$2.5 million compared to its 2012 results. Sales increased \$9.5 million and is due to an increase in sales within the cob business year over year. This increase is primarily attributable to the acquisition of Mt. Pulaski in the fourth quarter of 2012 which more than doubled the Group's cob supply. For the total Group, volume increased over 15% and was partially offset by a decrease in the average price per ton sold. Cost of sales and merchandising revenues increased \$7.2 million due to volume as the average cost per ton was lower year over year. Gross profit increased \$2.3 million due to favorable product mix.

Operating expenses decreased as a result of continuous improvement efforts that led to greater process efficiencies. Interest expense and other income were fairly stable year over year.

### ***Retail Group***

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |            |
|--|-------------------------|------------|
|  | 2013                    | 2012       |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ 140,706              | \$ 150,964 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | 101,345                 | 106,819    |
| Gross profit                                   | 39,361                  | 44,145     |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 46,707                  | 47,874     |
| Interest expense                               | 689                     | 776        |
| Other income, net                              | 501                     | 554        |
| Operating loss                                 | \$ (7,534)              | \$ (3,951) |

The operating loss for the Retail Group was \$7.5 million compared to its 2012 loss of \$4.0 million. Sales decreased \$10.3 million from 2012 due to a decline in both the average sale per customer and customer count, as well as closure of the Woodville store in the first quarter of 2013. Cost of sales decreased \$5.5 million due to lower sales volume. As a result of the lower store traffic, gross profit decreased \$4.8 million.

Operating expenses for the Group decreased \$1.2 million and is primarily due to lower labor and benefits, partly attributable to the closing of the Woodville store. The Group also incurred asset impairment charges in the amount of \$3.9 million in the fourth quarter of 2013. There were no significant changes in interest expense or other income.

### ***Other***

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |             |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|
|  | 2013                    | 2012        |
| Sales and merchandising revenues               | \$ —                    | \$ —        |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues       | —                       | —           |
| Gross profit                                   | —                       | —           |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses | 23,859                  | 18,348      |
| Interest income                                | (527)                   | (426)       |
| Equity in earnings of affiliates               | —                       | —           |
| Other income, net                              | 2,407                   | 1,733       |
| Operating loss                                 | \$ (20,925)             | \$ (16,189) |

The net corporate operating loss (costs not allocated back to the business units) increased \$4.7 million to a loss of \$20.9 million for 2013. Operating expenses were higher due to an increase in labor and benefits related expenses (including incentive compensation), community giving, and ongoing expenses incurred related to the phased implementation of an enterprise resource planning system. Other income was higher in 2013 due to earnings on deferred compensation plan assets. Interest income did not change significantly year over year.

#### *Income Taxes*

Income tax expense of \$53.8 million was provided at 36.0%. In 2012, income tax expense of \$44.6 million was provided at 37.1%. The decrease in the effective tax rate was due primarily to a \$0.9 million decrease in state and local income taxes and a \$3.4 million tax decrease due to income attributable to the noncontrolling interests that did not impact income tax expense. These were partially offset by a \$1.4 million tax charge recorded in the first quarter with respect to the accounting for the other comprehensive income portion of the Company's retiree health care plan liability and the Medicare Part D subsidy.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

#### Working Capital

At December 31, 2014, the Company had working capital of \$226.7 million, a decrease of \$2.7 million from the prior year. This decrease was attributable to changes in the following components of current assets and current liabilities:

| (in thousands)                                 | December 31,<br>2014 | December 31,<br>2013 | Variance          |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Current Assets:</b>                         |                      |                      |                   |
| Cash and cash equivalents                      | \$ 114,704           | \$ 309,085           | \$ (194,381)      |
| Restricted cash                                | 429                  | 408                  | 21                |
| Accounts receivables, net                      | 183,059              | 173,930              | 9,129             |
| Inventories                                    | 795,655              | 614,923              | 180,732           |
| Commodity derivative assets – current          | 92,771               | 71,319               | 21,452            |
| Deferred income taxes                          | 7,337                | 4,931                | 2,406             |
| Other current assets                           | 60,492               | 47,188               | 13,304            |
| Total current assets                           | 1,254,447            | 1,221,784            | 32,663            |
| <b>Current Liabilities:</b>                    |                      |                      |                   |
| Short-term debt                                | 2,166                | —                    | 2,166             |
| Accounts payable for grain                     | 535,974              | 592,183              | (56,209)          |
| Other accounts payable                         | 170,849              | 154,599              | 16,250            |
| Customer prepayments and deferred revenue      | 99,617               | 59,304               | 40,313            |
| Commodity derivative liabilities – current     | 64,075               | 63,954               | 121               |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | 78,610               | 70,295               | 8,315             |
| Current maturities of long-term debt           | 76,415               | 51,998               | 24,417            |
| Total current liabilities                      | 1,027,706            | 992,333              | 35,373            |
| <b>Working capital</b>                         | <b>\$ 226,741</b>    | <b>\$ 229,451</b>    | <b>\$ (2,710)</b> |

In comparison to the prior year, current assets slightly increased primarily as a result of higher inventory levels, commodity derivative assets, and other assets, offset by a significant decrease in cash. Much of the decrease in cash relates to a high level of cash margin calls at the end of 2014, fourth quarter Rail Group asset purchases, and lower levels of hold pay (grain we have purchased but not yet paid for). See the discussion below on additional sources and uses of cash for an understanding of the change in cash from prior year. Despite lower commodity prices, inventory increased \$138 million in the Grain group due to the inventory added as part of the acquisitions, along with more bean and wheat bushels in inventory at the end of 2014. The Plant Nutrient group's inventory increased \$31 million due to higher average inventory costs and increased inventory on hand, along with the inventory added for the agronomy portion of the fourth quarter acquisition. Commodity derivative assets and liabilities have increased and reflect the customer net asset or liability based on the value of forward contracts as compared to market prices at the end of the period. Other current assets increased primarily due to higher advanced inventory purchases for our wholesale nutrient business.

Current liabilities increased primarily as a result of higher customer prepayments and deferred revenue, other accounts payable, and current maturities of debt, offset by lower accounts payable for grain. The increase in customer prepayments and deferred revenue relates primarily to Grain, including an increase of \$27 million for prepayment of inventory contracted for future delivery. Plant Nutrient had an increase of \$13 million in customer prepayments due to a late harvest shifting sales into early 2015. The increase in other accounts payable is due to higher non-grain inventory balances previously mentioned. Current maturities of long-term debt increased due to the scheduled timing of payments of certain notes that are due within the next year. Offsetting this increase is a decrease in grain payables and is attributed to lower commodity prices and the lower level of hold pay mentioned previously.

## Sources and Uses of Cash

### *Operating Activities and Liquidity*

Our operating activities used cash of \$10.1 million in 2014 compared to cash provided by operations of \$337.2 million in 2013. The significant change in operating cash flows in 2014 relates primarily to the changes in working capital, including inventory, commodity derivatives and accounts payable for grain, discussed above.

In 2014, the Company paid income taxes, net of refunds received, of \$36.8 million compared to \$5.3 million in 2013. The Company makes quarterly estimated tax payments based on year to date annualized taxable income. The increase in income taxes paid in 2014 from 2013 is primarily due to increased current income tax expense and reduced overpayments when compared to the prior year.

### *Investing Activities*

Investing activities used \$89.7 million in 2014 compared to \$106.3 million used in 2013. The decrease in cash used for investing activities is driven by a decrease in cash paid (net of cash acquired) for acquisitions and investments, as well as significant amounts of investing proceeds from return of capital transactions. A large portion of the 2014 spending relates to purchases of Rail Group assets in the amount of \$90.1 million. Purchases of Rail Group assets was only partially offset in the current year by proceeds from the sale of Rail Group assets in the amount of \$32.1 million. Capital spending for 2014 on property, plant and equipment includes: Grain - \$21.0 million; Ethanol - \$2.3 million; Plant Nutrient - \$18.4 million; Rail - \$2.3 million; Turf & Specialty - \$6.1 million; Retail - \$1.2 million and \$8.4 million in corporate / enterprise resource planning project spending.

We expect to spend approximately \$120 million in 2015 on conventional property, plant and equipment which includes estimated 2015 capital spending for the project to replace current technology with an enterprise resource planning system and beginning construction on a new corporate headquarters building. An additional \$132 million is estimated to be spent on the purchase and capitalized modifications of railcars and barges with related sales or financings of \$107 million.

### *Financing Arrangements*

Net cash used in financing activities was \$94.6 million in 2014, compared to \$60.1 million in 2013. The increase in cash used in 2014 was primarily driven by distributions made to noncontrolling interest owners and a decrease in proceeds from issuance of long-term debt.

We have significant amounts of committed short-term lines of credit available to finance working capital, primarily inventories, margin calls on commodity contracts and accounts receivable. We are party to a borrowing arrangement with a syndicate of banks that provides a total of \$878.1 million in borrowing capacity, including \$28.1 million in non-recourse debt of The Andersons Denison Ethanol LLC. Of that total, we had \$847.0 million remaining available for borrowing at December 31, 2014. Peak short-term borrowings to date were \$270.6 million on April 2, 2014. Typically, the Company's highest borrowing occurs in the spring due to seasonal inventory requirements in the fertilizer and retail businesses.

We paid \$12.5 million in dividends in 2014 compared to \$12.0 million in 2013. We paid \$0.1100 per common share for the dividends paid in January, April, July and October 2014, and \$0.1067 per common share for the dividends paid in January, April, July and October 2013. On December 17, 2014, we declared a cash dividend of \$0.1400 per common share, payable on January 23, 2015 to shareholders of record on January 2, 2015.

Proceeds from the sale of treasury shares to employees and directors were \$1.5 million and \$1.9 million for 2014 and 2013, respectively. During 2014, we issued approximately 156 thousand shares and share units to employees and directors under our equity-based compensation plans.

Certain of our long-term borrowings include covenants that, among other things, impose minimum levels of equity and limitations on additional debt. We are in compliance with all such covenants as of December 31, 2014. In addition, certain of our long-term borrowings are collateralized by first mortgages on various facilities or are collateralized by railcar assets. Our non-recourse long-term debt is collateralized ethanol plant assets.

Because we are a significant consumer of short-term debt in peak seasons and the majority of this is variable rate debt, increases in interest rates could have a significant impact on our profitability. In addition, periods of high grain prices and / or unfavorable market conditions could require us to make additional margin deposits on our exchange traded futures contracts. Conversely, in periods of declining prices, we receive a return of cash.

We believe our sources of liquidity will be adequate to fund our operations, capital expenditures and payments of dividends in the foreseen future.

#### Sources and Uses of Cash 2013 compared to 2012

##### *Operating Activities and Liquidity*

Our operating activities provided cash of \$337.2 million in 2013 compared to cash provided by operations of \$328.5 million in 2012. The significant amount of operating cash flows in 2013 relates primarily to the changes in working capital discussed above along with strong earnings.

In 2013, the Company paid income taxes, net of refunds received, of \$5.3 million compared to \$36.3 million in 2012. The Company makes quarterly estimated tax payments based on year to date annualized taxable income. The decrease in income taxes paid in 2013 from 2012 is primarily due to decreased current income tax expense and overpayments related to 2012 taxes that were applied to 2013 estimated tax payments or were refunded in 2013.

##### *Investing Activities*

Investing activities used \$106.3 million in 2013 compared to \$290.6 million used in 2012. There were significant additions to property, plant and equipment and business acquisitions in 2012 compared to 2013. In total, we spent approximately \$205 million less on business acquisitions (net of cash acquired) in 2013. A large portion of the 2013 spending relates to purchases of railcars in the amount of \$92.6 million. Purchases of railcars was more than offset by proceeds from the sale of railcars in the amount of \$97.2 million. Another large portion of the 2013 spend was for the investment of \$49.3 million, in the joint venture entities that purchased Thompsons Limited and its related U.S. operating company. Capital spending for 2013 on property, plant and equipment includes: Grain - \$8.5 million; Ethanol - \$4.1 million; Plant Nutrient - \$17.1 million; Rail - \$4.1 million; Turf & Specialty - \$6.6 million; Retail - \$2.9 million and \$3.5 million in corporate / enterprise resource planning project spending.

The change in restricted cash was minimal in 2013. In 2012, restricted cash decreased as a result of reimbursement of spending related to an industrial development revenue bond.

##### *Financing Arrangements*

Net cash used in financing activities was \$60.1 million in 2013, compared to \$79.9 million of cash provided by financing activities in 2012. The cash used in 2013 was primarily driven by payments of long-term debt during the year partially offset by proceeds from issuance of long-term debt. This is in contrast to the 2012 activity where there were significant proceeds from issuance of long-term debt, much of it relating to acquisitions during the year. There was also a significant change in short-term borrowings as there was no balance outstanding on our short-term line of credit at year end compared to \$24.2 million last year.

We have significant amounts of committed short-term lines of credit available to finance working capital, primarily inventories, margin calls on commodity contracts and accounts receivable. We are party to a borrowing arrangement with a syndicate of banks that provides a total of \$878.1 million in borrowing capacity, including \$28.1 million in non-recourse debt of The Andersons Denison Ethanol LLC. Of that total, we had \$847.7 million remaining available for borrowing at December 31, 2013. Peak short-term borrowings to date were \$315.0 million on January 22, 2013. Typically, the Company's highest borrowing occurs in the spring due to seasonal inventory requirements in the fertilizer and retail businesses.

We paid \$12.0 million in dividends in 2013 compared to \$11.2 million in 2012. We paid \$0.1000 per common share for the dividends paid in January, April, July and October 2012, and \$0.1067 per common share for the dividends paid in January, April, July and October 2013. The dividends paid in January 2014 were \$0.1100 per common share.

Proceeds from the sale of treasury shares to employees and directors were \$1.9 million and \$1.3 million for 2013 and 2012, respectively. During 2013, we issued approximately 111 thousand shares and share units to employees and directors under our equity-based compensation plans.

## Contractual Obligations

Future payments due under contractual obligations at December 31, 2014 are as follows:

| (in thousands)                     | Payments Due by Period |                   |                   |                   |                     |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
|                                    | Less than 1 year       | 1-3 years         | 3-5 years         | After 5 years     | Total               |
| Long-term debt                     | \$ 76,064              | \$ 75,042         | \$ 68,831         | \$ 153,310        | \$ 373,247          |
| Interest obligations (a)           | 14,875                 | 27,428            | 16,161            | 26,820            | 85,284              |
| Operating leases (b)               | 19,937                 | 30,059            | 14,378            | 10,100            | 74,474              |
| Purchase commitments (c)           | 1,297,992              | 103,817           | 39                | —                 | 1,401,848           |
| Other long-term liabilities (d)    | 1,274                  | 2,777             | 3,084             | 9,068             | 16,203              |
| Total contractual cash obligations | <u>\$ 1,410,142</u>    | <u>\$ 239,123</u> | <u>\$ 102,493</u> | <u>\$ 199,298</u> | <u>\$ 1,951,056</u> |

(a) Future interest obligations are calculated based on interest rates in effect as of December 31, 2014 for the Company's variable rate debt and do not include any assumptions on expected borrowings, if any, under the short-term line of credit.

(b) Approximately 83% of the operating lease commitments above relate to Rail Group assets that the Company leases from financial intermediaries. See "Off-Balance Sheet Transactions" below.

(c) Includes the amounts related to purchase obligations in the Company's operating units, including \$1,070 million for the purchase of grain from producers and \$204 million for the purchase of ethanol from the ethanol joint ventures. There are also forward grain and ethanol sales contracts to consumers and traders and the net of these forward contracts are offset by exchange-traded futures and options contracts or over-the-counter contracts. See the narrative description of businesses for the Grain and Ethanol Groups in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for further discussion.

(d) Other long-term liabilities include estimated obligations under our retiree healthcare programs. Obligations under the retiree healthcare programs are not fixed commitments and will vary depending on various factors, including the level of participant utilization and inflation. Our estimates of postretirement payments through 2019 have considered recent payment trends and actuarial assumptions. We have not included pension contributions but see Note 6 for discussion of pension termination.

At December 31, 2014, we had standby letters of credit outstanding of \$30.7 million, as well as \$0.4 million that was outstanding on a non-recourse basis.



## Off-Balance Sheet Transactions

Our Rail Group utilizes leasing arrangements that provide off-balance sheet financing for its activities. We lease assets from financial intermediaries through sale-leaseback transactions, the majority of which involve operating leasebacks. Rail Group assets we own or lease from a financial intermediary are generally leased to a customer under an operating lease. We also arrange non-recourse lease transactions under which we sell assets to a financial intermediary, and assign the related operating lease to the financial intermediary on a non-recourse basis. In such arrangements, we generally provide ongoing maintenance and management services for the financial intermediary, and receive a fee for such services. On most of the assets, we hold an option to purchase the assets at the end of the lease.

The following table describes our Rail Group asset positions at December 31, 2014.

| Method of Control                                 | Financial Statement            | Units         |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Owned-railcars available for sale                 | On balance sheet – current     | 23            |
| Owned-railcar assets leased to others             | On balance sheet – non-current | 15,494        |
| Railcars leased from financial intermediaries     | Off balance sheet              | 3,754         |
| Railcars – non-recourse arrangements              | Off balance sheet              | 3,380         |
| <b>Total Railcars</b>                             |                                | <b>22,651</b> |
| Locomotive assets leased to others                | On balance sheet – non-current | 41            |
| Locomotives leased from financial intermediaries  | Off balance sheet              | 4             |
| <b>Total Locomotives</b>                          |                                | <b>45</b>     |
| Barge assets leased to others                     | On balance sheet – non-current | 5             |
| Barge assets leased from financial intermediaries | Off balance sheet              | 15            |
| <b>Total Barges</b>                               |                                | <b>20</b>     |

In addition, we manage approximately 376 railcars for third-party customers or owners for which we receive a fee.

We have future lease payment commitments aggregating \$62.0 million for the Rail Group assets we lease from financial intermediaries under various operating leases. Remaining lease terms vary with none exceeding fifteen years. We utilize non-recourse arrangements where possible in order to minimize credit risk. Refer to Note 11 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 for more information on our leasing activities.

## Critical Accounting Estimates

The process of preparing financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Management evaluates these estimates and assumptions on an ongoing basis. Estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and management's knowledge and understanding of current facts and circumstances. Actual results, under conditions and circumstances different from those assumed, may change from estimates.

Certain of our accounting estimates are considered critical, as they are important to the depiction of the Company's financial statements and / or require significant or complex judgment by management. There are other items within our financial statements that require estimation, however, they are not deemed critical as defined above. Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 describes our significant accounting policies which should be read in conjunction with our critical accounting estimates.

Management believes that the accounting for grain inventories and commodity derivative contracts, including adjustments for counterparty risk, and impairment of long-lived assets and equity method investments involve significant estimates and assumptions in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

### *Grain Inventories and Commodity Derivative Contracts*

Grain inventories are stated at their net realizable value, which approximates fair value less disposal costs. The Company marks to market all forward purchase and sale contracts for grain and ethanol, over-the-counter grain and ethanol contracts, and exchange-traded futures and options contracts. The overall market for grain inventories is very liquid and active; market value is determined by reference to prices for identical commodities on the CME (adjusted primarily for transportation costs); and the

Company's grain inventories may be sold without significant additional processing. The Company uses forward purchase and sale contracts and both exchange traded and over-the-counter contracts (such as derivatives generally used by the International Swap Dealers Association). Management estimates fair value based on exchange-quoted prices, adjusted for differences in local markets, as well as counter-party non-performance risk in the case of forward and over-the-counter contracts. The amount of risk, and therefore the impact to the fair value of the contracts, varies by type of contract and type of counter-party. With the exception of specific customers thought to be at higher risk, the Company looks at the contracts in total, segregated by contract type, in its quarterly assessment of non-performance risk. For those customers that are thought to be at higher risk, the Company makes assumptions as to performance based on past history and facts about the current situation. Changes in fair value are recorded as a component of sales and merchandising revenues in the statement of income.

#### *Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and Equity Method Investments*

The Company's business segments are each highly capital intensive and require significant investment in facilities and / or Rail Group assets. Fixed assets are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the assets may not be recoverable. This is done by evaluating the recoverability based on undiscounted projected cash flows, excluding interest. If an asset group is considered impaired, the impairment loss to be recognized is measured as the amount by which the asset group's carrying amount exceeds its fair value.

We also annually review the balance of goodwill for impairment in the fourth quarter, using a combination of quantitative and qualitative analyses. Goodwill is tested for impairment at the reporting unit level, which is the operating segment or one level below the operating segment. The quantitative review for impairment take into account our estimates of future cash flows. Our estimates of future cash flows are based upon a number of assumptions including lease rates, lease terms, operating costs, life of the assets, potential disposition proceeds, budgets and long-range plans. Based on the strength of performance in certain groups with goodwill balances, a qualitative goodwill impairment assessment was performed for certain reporting units. Key factors considered in the qualitative assessment included, but were not limited to industry and market specific factors, the competitive environment, comparison of the prior-year actual results relative to budgeted performance, current financial performance, and managements forecast for future financial performance. These factors are discussed in more detail in Note 12, Goodwill and Intangible Assets.

In addition, the Company holds investments in limited liability companies that are accounted for using the equity method of accounting. The Company reviews its investments to determine whether there has been a decline in the estimated fair value of the investment that is below the Company's carrying value which is other than temporary. Other than consideration of past and current performance, these reviews take into account forecasted earnings which are based on management's estimates of future performance.

## **Item 7a. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk**

The market risk inherent in the Company's market risk-sensitive instruments and positions is the potential loss arising from adverse changes in commodity prices and interest rates as discussed below.

### *Commodity Prices*

The Company's daily net commodity position consists of inventories, related purchase and sale contracts and exchange-traded futures and over-the-counter contracts. The fair value of the position is a summation of the fair values calculated for each commodity by valuing each net position at quoted futures market prices. The Company has established controls to manage and limit risk exposure, which consists of daily review of position limits and effects of potential market prices moves on those positions.

A sensitivity analysis has been prepared to estimate the Company's exposure to market risk of its net commodity position. Market risk is estimated as the potential loss in fair value resulting from a hypothetical 10% adverse change in quoted market prices. The result of this analysis, which may differ from actual results, is as follows:

| (in thousands)         | December 31, |          |
|------------------------|--------------|----------|
|                        | 2014         | 2013     |
| Net commodity position | \$ (4,752)   | \$ (455) |
| Market risk            | (475)        | (46)     |

### *Interest Rates*

The fair value of the Company's long-term debt is estimated using quoted market prices or discounted future cash flows based on the Company's current incremental borrowing rates and credit ratings for similar types of borrowing arrangements. Market risk, which is estimated as the potential increase in fair value resulting from a hypothetical one-half percent decrease in interest rates, is summarized below:

| (in thousands)   | December 31, |            |
|--|--------------|------------|
|  | 2014         | 2013       |
| Fair value of long-term debt, including current maturities | \$ 382,139   | \$ 426,246 |
| Fair value in excess of carrying value                     | 7,086        | 2,494      |
| Market risk  | 5,809        | 6,298      |

Actual results may differ. The estimated fair value and market risk will vary from year to year depending on the total amount of long-term debt and the mix of variable and fixed rate debt.

**Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data**

**The Andersons, Inc.  
Index to Financial Statements**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm - PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP | <b>37</b>  |
| Consolidated Statements of Income  | <b>38</b>  |
| Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income                                      | <b>39</b>  |
| Consolidated Balance Sheets  | <b>40</b>  |
| Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows  | <b>42</b>  |
| Consolidated Statements of Equity  | <b>43</b>  |
| Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements   | <b>44</b>  |
| Consolidated Financial Statements of Lansing Trade Group, LLC and Subsidiaries       | <b>84</b>  |
| Schedule II - Consolidated Valuation and Qualifying Accounts                         | <b>117</b> |

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and Board of Directors  
of The Andersons, Inc.

In our opinion, based on our audits and the report of other auditors, the consolidated financial statements listed in the accompanying index present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Andersons, Inc. and its subsidiaries at December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statement schedule listed in the accompanying index presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein when read in conjunction with the related consolidated financial statements. Also in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's management is responsible for these financial statements and financial statement schedule, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting appearing under Item 9A. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements, on the financial statement schedule, and on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our integrated audits. We did not audit the financial statements of Lansing Trade Group, LLC, an entity in which The Andersons, Inc. accounts for under the equity method of accounting, for which The Andersons, Inc. financial statements reflects an investment of \$78.7 million and \$106 million as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, and equity in earnings of affiliates of \$23.3 million, \$31.2 million, and \$28.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively. The consolidated financial statements of Lansing Trade Group, LLC were audited by other auditors whose report thereon has been furnished to us, and our opinion on the consolidated financial statements expressed herein, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Lansing Trade Group, LLC, is based solely on the report of the other auditors. We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audits of the financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits and the report of other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

As described in Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, management has excluded six grain and four agronomy locations from its assessment of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 because these assets were acquired by the Company in a purchase business combination in the fourth quarter of 2014. We have also excluded the six grain and four agronomy locations from our audit of internal control over financial reporting. These six grain and four agronomy locations are wholly owned, and their total assets and total revenues represent 6.7% and 1.0%, respectively, of the related consolidated financial statement amounts as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Toledo, Ohio  
March 2, 2015

**The Andersons, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Income**  
(In thousands, except per share data)

|  | Year ended December 31, |              |              |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013         | 2012         |
| Sales and merchandising revenues   | \$ 4,540,071            | \$ 5,604,574 | \$ 5,272,010 |
| Cost of sales and merchandising revenues                                 | 4,142,932               | 5,239,349    | 4,914,005    |
| Gross profit   | 397,139                 | 365,225      | 358,005      |
| Operating, administrative and general expenses                           | 318,881                 | 278,433      | 246,929      |
| Interest expense   | 21,760                  | 20,860       | 22,155       |
| Other income:  |                         |              |              |
| Equity in earnings of affiliates, net                                    | 96,523                  | 68,705       | 16,487       |
| Other income, net  | 31,125                  | 14,876       | 14,725       |
| Income before income taxes   | 184,146                 | 149,513      | 120,133      |
| Income tax provision   | 61,501                  | 53,811       | 44,568       |
| Net income   | 122,645                 | 95,702       | 75,565       |
| Net income (loss) attributable to the noncontrolling interests           | 12,919                  | 5,763        | (3,915)      |
| Net income attributable to The Andersons, Inc.                           | \$ 109,726              | \$ 89,939    | \$ 79,480    |
| <b>Per common share:</b>   |                         |              |              |
| Basic earnings attributable to The Andersons, Inc. common shareholders   | \$ 3.85                 | \$ 3.20      | \$ 2.85      |
| Diluted earnings attributable to The Andersons, Inc. common shareholders | \$ 3.84                 | \$ 3.18      | \$ 2.82      |
| Dividends paid   | \$ 0.4700               | \$ 0.4300    | \$ 0.4000    |

The Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

**The Andersons, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income**  
(In thousands)

|   | Year ended December 31, |            |           |
|---|-------------------------|------------|-----------|
|   | 2014                    | 2013       | 2012      |
| Net income  | \$ 122,645              | \$ 95,702  | \$ 75,565 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:  |                         |            |           |
| Change in estimated fair value of investment in debt securities (net of income tax of \$4,685, \$(3,208) and \$1,162) | (7,735)                 | 5,292      | (1,978)   |
| Change in unrecognized actuarial loss and prior service cost (net of income tax of \$12,866, \$(10,439) and \$699)    | (21,243)                | 18,641     | (563)     |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments (net of income tax of \$947)   | (4,709)                 | —          | —         |
| Cash flow hedge activity (net of income tax of \$(166), \$(238) and \$(66))   | 273                     | 265        | 252       |
| Other comprehensive income (loss)   | (33,414)                | 24,198     | (2,289)   |
| Comprehensive income  | 89,231                  | 119,900    | 73,276    |
| Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to the noncontrolling interests  | 12,919                  | 5,763      | (3,915)   |
| Comprehensive income attributable to The Andersons, Inc.  | \$ 76,312               | \$ 114,137 | \$ 77,191 |

The Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

**The Andersons, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Balance Sheets**  
(In thousands)

|   | December 31,<br>2014 | December 31,<br>2013 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>   |                      |                      |
| Current assets:   |                      |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents   | \$ 114,704           | \$ 309,085           |
| Restricted cash   | 429                  | 408                  |
| Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$4,644 in 2014; \$4,992 in 2013 | 183,059              | 173,930              |
| Inventories (Note 2)  | 795,655              | 614,923              |
| Commodity derivative assets – current   | 92,771               | 71,319               |
| Deferred income taxes   | 7,337                | 4,931                |
| Other current assets  | 60,492               | 47,188               |
| Total current assets  | 1,254,447            | 1,221,784            |
| Other assets:   |                      |                      |
| Commodity derivative assets – noncurrent  | 507                  | 246                  |
| Goodwill  | 72,365               | 58,554               |
| Other assets, net   | 59,162               | 59,456               |
| Pension asset   | —                    | 14,328               |
| Equity method investments   | 226,857              | 291,109              |
|   | 358,891              | 423,693              |
| Rail Group assets leased to others, net (Note 3)  | 297,747              | 240,621              |
| Property, plant and equipment, net (Note 3)   | 453,607              | 387,458              |
| Total assets  | \$ 2,364,692         | \$ 2,273,556         |



**The Andersons, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Balance Sheets (continued)**  
(In thousands)

|   | December 31,<br>2014 | December 31,<br>2013 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Liabilities and equity</b>   |                      |                      |
| Current liabilities:  |                      |                      |
| Short-term debt   | \$ 2,166             | \$ —                 |
| Accounts payable for grain  | 535,974              | 592,183              |
| Other accounts payable  | 170,849              | 154,599              |
| Customer prepayments and deferred revenue   | 99,617               | 59,304               |
| Commodity derivative liabilities – current  | 64,075               | 63,954               |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities  | 78,610               | 70,295               |
| Current maturities of long-term debt (Note 10)  | 76,415               | 51,998               |
| Total current liabilities   | 1,027,706            | 992,333              |
| Other long-term liabilities   | 15,507               | 15,386               |
| Commodity derivative liabilities – noncurrent   | 3,318                | 6,644                |
| Employee benefit plan obligations   | 59,308               | 39,477               |
| Long-term debt, less current maturities (Note 10)   | 298,638              | 375,213              |
| Deferred income taxes   | 136,166              | 120,082              |
| Total liabilities   | 1,540,643            | 1,549,135            |
| Commitments and contingencies (Note 11)   |                      |                      |
| Shareholders' equity:   |                      |                      |
| Common shares, without par value (42,000 shares authorized; 29,353 shares issued in 2014; 28,797 shares issued in 2013) | 96                   | 96                   |
| Preferred shares, without par value (1,000 shares authorized; none issued)  | —                    | —                    |
| Additional paid-in-capital  | 222,789              | 184,380              |
| Treasury shares, at cost (390 in 2014; 607 in 2013)   | (9,743)              | (10,222)             |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss  | (54,595)             | (21,181)             |
| Retained earnings   | 644,556              | 548,401              |
| Total shareholders' equity of The Andersons, Inc.   | 803,103              | 701,474              |
| Noncontrolling interests  | 20,946               | 22,947               |
| Total equity  | 824,049              | 724,421              |
| Total liabilities and equity  | \$ 2,364,692         | \$ 2,273,556         |

The Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

**The Andersons, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**  
(In thousands)

|   | Year ended December 31, |            |            |
|---|-------------------------|------------|------------|
|   | 2014                    | 2013       | 2012       |
| <b>Operating Activities</b>   |                         |            |            |
| Net income  | \$ 122,645              | \$ 95,702  | 75,565     |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities:   |                         |            |            |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 62,005                  | 55,307     | 48,977     |
| Bad debt expense  | 1,183                   | 1,187      | 1,129      |
| Cash distributions in excess of (less than) income of unconsolidated affiliates | 28,749                  | (50,953)   | 8,134      |
| Gain on sale of investments in affiliates                                       | (17,055)                | —          | —          |
| Gains on sales of Rail Group assets and related leases                          | (15,830)                | (19,366)   | (23,665)   |
| Loss (gain) on sales of property, plant and equipment                           | 2,079                   | 633        | (234)      |
| Excess tax benefit from share-based payment arrangement                         | (1,806)                 | (1,001)    | (162)      |
| Deferred income taxes   | 21,815                  | 40,374     | 16,503     |
| Stock based compensation expense  | 8,581                   | 4,339      | 3,990      |
| Asset impairment charge   | 3,090                   | 4,439      | 531        |
| Other   | (296)                   | (135)      | (176)      |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities:                                    |                         |            |            |
| Accounts receivable   | (1,703)                 | 35,446     | (21,737)   |
| Inventories   | (172,040)               | 162,443    | 122,428    |
| Commodity derivatives   | (27,652)                | 69,633     | 2,947      |
| Other assets  | (11,407)                | (4,926)    | (12,927)   |
| Accounts payable for grain  | (56,208)                | 9,530      | 101,265    |
| Other accounts payable and accrued expenses                                     | 43,779                  | (65,464)   | 5,914      |
| Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities                             | (10,071)                | 337,188    | 328,482    |
| <b>Investing Activities</b>   |                         |            |            |
| Purchase of investments   | —                       | —          | (19,996)   |
| Proceeds from redemption of investment  | —                       | —          | 19,998     |
| Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired                                 | (20,037)                | (15,252)   | (220,257)  |
| Purchases of Rail Group assets  | (90,067)                | (92,584)   | (111,224)  |
| Proceeds from sale of Rail Group assets   | 32,099                  | 97,232     | 90,827     |
| Purchases of property, plant and equipment                                      | (59,675)                | (46,786)   | (69,274)   |
| Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment                             | 1,401                   | 390        | 1,116      |
| Proceeds from returns of investments in affiliates                              | 46,800                  | —          | —          |
| Investments in affiliates   | (238)                   | (49,251)   | —          |
| Change in restricted cash   | (21)                    | (10)       | 18,253     |
| Net cash used in investing activities   | (89,738)                | (106,261)  | (290,557)  |
| <b>Financing Activities</b>   |                         |            |            |
| Net change in short-term borrowings   | —                       | (24,219)   | (47,281)   |
| Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt  | 3,405                   | 68,003     | 275,346    |
| Payments of long-term debt  | (69,697)                | (94,752)   | (143,943)  |
| (Distributions to) proceeds from noncontrolling interest owner                  | (14,920)                | —          | 6,100      |
| Proceeds from sale of treasury shares to employees and directors                | 1,509                   | 1,939      | 1,322      |
| Payments of debt issuance costs   | (3,175)                 | (46)       | (637)      |
| Dividends paid  | (12,485)                | (11,986)   | (11,166)   |
| Excess tax benefit from share-based payment arrangement                         | 1,806                   | 1,001      | 162        |
| Other   | (1,015)                 | —          | —          |
| Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities                             | (94,572)                | (60,060)   | 79,903     |
| (Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents                                | (194,381)               | 170,867    | 117,828    |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year                                  | 309,085                 | 138,218    | 20,390     |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year  | \$ 114,704              | \$ 309,085 | \$ 138,218 |

The Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

**The Andersons, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Equity**  
(In thousands, except per share data)

|  | The Andersons, Inc. Shareholders' Equity |                                  |                    |   |                      |                             |            |
|--|--|----------------------------------|--------------------|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|  | Common<br>Shares                         | Additional<br>Paid-in<br>Capital | Treasury<br>Shares | Accumulated<br>Other<br>Comprehensive<br>Loss | Retained<br>Earnings | Noncontrolling<br>Interests | Total      |
| Balance at January 1, 2012   | \$ 96                                    | \$ 179,463                       | \$ (14,997)        | \$ (43,090)                                   | \$ 402,523           | \$ 14,847                   | \$ 538,842 |
| Net income (loss)  |  |                                  |                    |   | 79,480               | (3,915)                     | 75,565     |
| Other comprehensive loss   |  |                                  |                    | (2,289)                                       |                      |                             | (2,289)    |
| Proceeds received from minority investor   |  |                                  |                    |   |                      | 6,100                       | 6,100      |
| Stock awards, stock option exercises and other shares issued to employees and directors, net of income tax of \$710 (215 shares)   |  | 2,164                            | 2,438              |   |                      |                             | 4,602      |
| Dividends declared (\$0.40 per common share)   |  |                                  |                    |   | (11,375)             |                             | (11,375)   |
| Balance at December 31, 2012   | 96                                       | 181,627                          | (12,559)           | (45,379)                                      | 470,628              | 17,032                      | 611,445    |
| Net income   |  |                                  |                    |   | 89,939               | 5,763                       | 95,702     |
| Other comprehensive income   |  |                                  |                    | 24,198  |                      |                             | 24,198     |
| Proceeds received from noncontrolling interest owner   |  |                                  |                    |   |                      | 152                         | 152        |
| Stock awards, stock option exercises and other shares issued to employees and directors, net of income tax of \$1,243 (224 shares) |  | 2,698                            | 2,337              |   |                      |                             | 5,035      |
| Dividends declared (\$0.43 per common share)   |  |                                  |                    |   | (12,111)             |                             | (12,111)   |
| Performance share unit dividends equivalents   |  | 55                               |                    |   | (55)                 |                             | —          |
| Balance at December 31, 2013   | 96                                       | 184,380                          | (10,222)           | (21,181)                                      | 548,401              | 22,947                      | 724,421    |
| Net income   |  |                                  |                    |   | 109,726              | 12,919                      | 122,645    |
| Other comprehensive loss   |  |                                  |                    | (33,414)                                      |                      |                             | (33,414)   |
| Cash distributions to noncontrolling interest  |  |                                  |                    |   |                      | (14,920)                    | (14,920)   |
| Stock awards, stock option exercises and other shares issued to employees and directors, net of income tax of \$1,485 (219 shares) |  | 7,282                            | 1,380              |   |                      |                             | 8,662      |
| Purchase of treasury shares (17 shares)  |  |                                  | (901)              |   |                      |                             | (901)      |
| Payment of cash in lieu for stock split (187 shares)   |  | (58)                             |                    |   |                      |                             | (58)       |
| Dividends declared (\$0.47 per common share)   |  |                                  |                    |   | (13,436)             |                             | (13,436)   |
| Shares issued for acquisitions (556 shares)  |  | 31,050                           |                    |   |                      |                             | 31,050     |
| Performance share unit dividends equivalents   |  | 135                              |                    |   | (135)                |                             | —          |
| Balance at December 31, 2014   | \$ 96                                    | \$ 222,789                       | \$ (9,743)         | \$ (54,595)                                   | \$ 644,556           | \$ 20,946                   | \$ 824,049 |

The Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

**The Andersons, Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

## **1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

### **Basis of Consolidation**

These Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of The Andersons, Inc. and its wholly owned and controlled subsidiaries (the “Company”). All intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated in consolidation. Investments in unconsolidated entities in which the Company has significant influence, but not control, are accounted for using the equity method of accounting.

In the opinion of management, all adjustments consisting of normal recurring items, considered necessary for a fair presentation of the results of operations for the periods indicated, have been made.

The Company has reclassified certain prior-period amounts to conform with current-period presentation.

### **Use of Estimates and Assumptions**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America 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 date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and short-term investments with an initial maturity of three months or less. The carrying values of these assets approximate their fair values. The restricted cash balance includes cash to cover escrow amounts required by certain debt instruments.

### **Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts**

Trade accounts receivable are recorded at the invoiced amount and may bear interest if past due. The allowance for doubtful accounts is the best estimate of the amount of probable credit losses in existing accounts receivable. The allowance for doubtful accounts is reviewed quarterly. The allowance is based both on specific identification of potentially uncollectible accounts and the application of a consistent policy to estimate the allowance necessary for the remaining accounts receivable. For those customers that are thought to be at higher risk, the Company makes assumptions as to collectability based on past history and facts about the current situation. Account balances are charged off against the allowance when it becomes more certain that the receivable will not be recovered. The Company manages its exposure to counter-party credit risk through credit analysis and approvals, credit limits and monitoring procedures.

### **Commodity Derivatives and Inventories**

The Company's operating results can be affected by changes to commodity prices. The Grain and Ethanol businesses have established “unhedged” position limits (the amount of a commodity, either owned or contracted for, that does not have an offsetting derivative contract to mitigate the price risk associated with those contracts and inventory). To reduce the exposure to market price risk on commodities owned and forward grain and ethanol purchase and sale contracts, the Company enters into exchange traded commodity futures and options contracts and over-the-counter forward and option contracts with various counterparties. The exchange traded contracts are primarily via the CME. The forward purchase and sale contracts are for physical delivery of the commodity in a future period. Contracts to purchase commodities from producers generally relate to the current or future crop years for delivery periods quoted by regulated commodity exchanges. Contracts for the sale of commodities to processors or other commercial consumers generally do not extend beyond one year.

The Company accounts for its commodity derivatives at fair value. The estimated fair value of the commodity derivative contracts that require the receipt or posting of cash collateral is recorded on a net basis (offset against cash collateral posted or received, also known as margin deposits) within commodity derivative assets or liabilities. Management determines fair value based on exchange-quoted prices and in the case of its forward purchase and sale contracts, fair value is adjusted for differences in local markets and non-performance risk. While the Company considers its commodity contracts to be effective economic hedges, the Company does not designate or account for its commodity contracts as hedges. Realized and unrealized gains and

losses in the value of commodity contracts (whether due to changes in commodity prices, changes in performance or credit risk, or due to sale, maturity or extinguishment of the commodity contract) and grain inventories are included in sales and merchandising revenues in the Consolidated Statements of Income. Additional information about the fair value of the Company's commodity derivatives is presented in Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Grain inventories are stated at their net realizable value, which approximates fair value less disposal costs.

All other inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined by the average cost method. Additional information about inventories is presented in Note 2 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

### **Derivatives - Master Netting Arrangements**

Generally accepted accounting principles permit a party to a master netting arrangement to offset fair value amounts recognized for derivative instruments against the right to reclaim cash collateral or obligation to return cash collateral under the same master netting arrangement. The Company has master netting arrangements for its exchange traded futures and options contracts and certain over-the-counter contracts. When the Company enters into a futures, options or an over-the-counter contract, an initial margin deposit may be required by the counterparty. The amount of the margin deposit varies by commodity. If the market price of a future, option or an over-the-counter contract moves in a direction that is adverse to the Company's position, an additional margin deposit, called a maintenance margin, is required. The Company nets, by counterparty, its futures and over-the-counter positions against the cash collateral provided or received. The margin deposit assets and liabilities are included in short-term commodity derivative assets or liabilities, as appropriate, in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Additional information about the Company's master netting arrangements is presented in Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

### **Derivatives - Interest Rate and Foreign Currency Contracts**

The Company periodically enters into interest rate contracts to manage interest rate risk on borrowing or financing activities. The Company's long-term interest rate swaps are recorded in other long-term liabilities and have been designated as cash flow hedges; accordingly, changes in the fair value of these instruments are recognized in other comprehensive income. The Company has other interest rate contracts recorded in other assets that are not designated as hedges. While the Company considers all of its derivative positions to be effective economic hedges of specified risks, these interest rate contracts for which hedge accounting is not applied are recorded on the Consolidated Balance Sheets in either other current assets or liabilities (if short-term in nature) or in other assets or other long-term liabilities (if non-current in nature), and changes in fair value are recognized in income as interest expense. Upon termination of a derivative instrument or a change in the hedged item, any remaining fair value recorded on the balance sheet is recorded as interest expense consistent with the cash flows associated with the underlying hedged item. Information regarding the nature and terms of the Company's interest rate derivatives is presented in Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

### **Marketing Agreement**

The Company has a marketing agreement that covers certain of its grain facilities, some of which are leased from Cargill, Incorporated ("Cargill"). Under the five-year amended and restated agreement (renewed in December 2013), the Company sells grain from these facilities to Cargill at market prices. Income earned from operating the facilities (including buying, storing and selling grain and providing grain marketing services to its producer customers) over a specified threshold is shared equally with Cargill. Measurement of this threshold is made on a cumulative basis and cash is paid to Cargill on an annual basis. The Company recognizes its pro rata share of income every month and accrues for any payment owed to Cargill. The payable balance was \$8.5 million and \$2.2 million included in customer prepayments and deferred revenue as of December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively.

### **Rail Group Assets Leased to Others**

The Company's Rail Group purchases, leases, markets and manages railcars and barges for third parties and for internal use. Rail Group assets to which the Company holds title are shown on the balance sheet in one of two categories - other current assets (for those that are available for sale) or Rail Group assets leased to others. Rail Group assets leased to others, both on short and long-term leases, are classified as long-term assets and are depreciated over their estimated useful lives.

Railcars have statutory lives of either 40 or 50 years, measured from the date built. Barges have estimated lives of 30 to 40 years, measured from the date built. At the time of purchase, the remaining life is used in determining useful lives which are depreciated on a straight-line basis. Repairs and maintenance costs are charged to expense as incurred. Additional information regarding Rail Group assets leased to others is presented in Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

## **Property, Plant and Equipment**

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at cost. Repairs and maintenance costs are charged to expense as incurred, while betterments that extend useful lives are capitalized. Depreciation is provided over the estimated useful lives of the individual assets, by the straight-line method. Estimated useful lives are generally as follows: land improvements - 16 years; leasehold improvements - the shorter of the lease term or the estimated useful life of the improvement, ranging from 3 to 20 years; buildings and storage facilities - 20 to 40 years; machinery and equipment - 3 to 20 years; and software - 3 to 10 years. The cost of assets retired or otherwise disposed of and the accumulated depreciation thereon are removed from the accounts, with any gain or loss realized upon sale or disposal credited or charged to operations.

In addition, we capitalize the salaries and payroll-related costs of employees and consultants who devote time to the development of internal-use software projects. If a project constitutes an enhancement to previously-developed software, we assess whether the enhancement is significant and creates additional functionality to the software, thus qualifying the work incurred for capitalization. The amounts charged to expense for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 for amortization of capitalized computer software costs were approximately \$3.8 million, \$1.1 million, and \$1.0 million, respectively. Unamortized computer software costs in the Consolidated Balance Sheets were \$54.6 million and \$42.8 million as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Once a project is complete, we estimate the useful life of the internal-use software, and we periodically assess whether the software is impaired. Changes in our estimates related to internal-use software would increase or decrease operating expenses or amortization recorded during the period.

Additional information regarding the Company's property, plant and equipment is presented in Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

## **Deferred Debt Issue Costs**

Costs associated with the issuance of debt are capitalized. These costs are amortized over the earlier of the stated term of the debt or the period from the issue date through the first early payoff date without penalty, or the expected payoff date if the loan does not contain a prepayment penalty. Capitalized costs associated with the borrowing arrangement with a syndication of banks are amortized over the term of the agreement.

## **Goodwill and Intangible Assets**

Intangible assets are recorded at cost, less accumulated amortization. Amortization of intangible assets is provided over their estimated useful lives (generally 5 to 10 years) on the straight-line method. Goodwill is not amortized but is subject to annual impairment tests or more often when events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of goodwill may be impaired. A goodwill impairment loss is recognized to the extent the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds the implied fair value of goodwill. Additional information about the Company's goodwill and intangible assets is presented in Note 13 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

## **Impairment of Long-lived Assets**

Long-lived assets, including intangible assets, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by comparing the carrying amount of the assets to the undiscounted future net cash flows the Company expects to generate with the assets. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the Company recognizes impairment expense for the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets.

## **Accounts Payable for Grain**

Accounts payable for grain includes certain amounts related to grain purchases for which, even though the Company has taken ownership and possession of the grain, the final purchase price has not been established (delayed price contracts). Amounts recorded for such delayed price contracts are determined on the basis of grain market prices at the balance sheet date in a similar manner for which grain inventory is valued and amounted to \$92.2 million and \$83.2 million as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

## **Stock-Based Compensation**

Stock-based compensation expense for all stock-based compensation awards is based on the estimated grant-date fair value. The Company recognizes these compensation costs on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the award,

adjusted for revisions to performance expectations. Additional information about the Company's stock compensation plans is presented in Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

### **Deferred Compensation Liability**

Included in accrued expenses are \$10.9 million and \$10.1 million at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, of deferred compensation for certain employees who, due to Internal Revenue Service guidelines, may not take full advantage of the Company's qualified defined contribution plan. Assets funding this plan are recorded at fair value in other current assets and are equal to the value of this liability. This plan has no impact on results of operations as the changes in the fair value of the assets are offset on a one-for-one basis, by the change in the recorded amount of the deferred compensation liability.

### **Revenue Recognition**

The Company follows a policy of recognizing sales revenue at the time of delivery of the product and when all of the following have occurred: a sales agreement is in place, pricing is fixed or determinable, and collection is reasonably assured.

Sales of grain and ethanol are primarily recognized at the time of shipment, which is when title and risk of loss transfers to the customer. There are certain transactions that allow for pricing to occur after title of the goods has passed to the customer. In these cases, the Company continues to report the goods in inventory until it recognizes the sales revenue once the price has been determined. Direct ship grain sales (where the Company never takes physical possession of the grain) are recognized when the grain arrives at the customer's facility. Revenues from other grain and ethanol merchandising activities are recognized as services are provided; gains and losses on the market value of grain inventory as well as commodity derivatives are recognized in revenue on a daily basis when these positions are marked-to-market. Sales of other products are recognized at the time title and risk of loss transfers to the customer, which is generally at the time of shipment or, in the case of the retail store sales, when the customer takes possession of the goods. Revenues for all other services are recognized as the service is provided.

Certain of the Company's operations provide for customer billings, deposits or prepayments for product that is stored at the Company's facilities. The sales and gross profit related to these transactions are not recognized until the product is shipped in accordance with the previously stated revenue recognition policy and these amounts are classified as a current liability titled "Customer prepayments and deferred revenue."

Rental revenues on operating leases are recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Sales to financial intermediaries of owned railcars or other assets which are subject to an operating lease (with the Company being the lessor in such operating leases prior to the sale, referred to as a "non-recourse transaction") are recognized as revenue on the date of sale if the Company does not maintain substantial risk of ownership in the sold assets. Revenue related to railcar or other asset servicing and maintenance contracts is recognized over the term of the lease or service contract.

Sales returns and allowances are provided for at the time sales are recorded. Shipping and handling charges are included in cost of sales. Sales taxes and motor fuel taxes on ethanol sales are presented on a net basis and are excluded from revenues.

### **Rail Lease Accounting**

In addition to the sale of Rail Group assets that the Company makes to financial intermediaries on a non-recourse basis and records as revenue as discussed above, the Company also acts as the lessor and / or the lessee in various leasing arrangements as described below.

The Company's Rail Group leases assets to customers, manages assets for third parties and leases assets for internal use. The Company acts as the lessor in various operating leases of assets that are owned by the Company, or leased by the Company from financial intermediaries and, in turn, leased by the Company to end-users of the assets. The leases from financial intermediaries are generally structured as sale-leaseback transactions, with the leaseback by the Company being treated as an operating lease.

Certain of the Company's leases include monthly lease fees that are contingent upon some measure of usage ("per diem" leases). This monthly usage is tracked, billed and collected by third-party service providers and funds are generally remitted to the Company along with usage data three months after they are earned. The Company records lease revenue for these per diem arrangements based on recent historical usage patterns and records a true-up adjustment when the actual data is received. Such true-up adjustments were not significant for any period presented.

The Company expenses operating lease payments on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Additional information about leasing activities is presented in Note 11 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

## **Income Taxes**

Income tax expense for each period includes current tax expense plus deferred expense, which is related to the change in deferred income tax assets and liabilities. Deferred income taxes are provided for temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and the tax basis of assets and liabilities and are measured using enacted tax rates and laws governing periods in which the differences are expected to reverse. The Company evaluates the realizability of deferred tax assets and provides a valuation allowance for amounts that management does not believe are more likely than not to be recoverable, as applicable.

The annual effective tax rate is determined by income tax expense from continuing operations, described above, as a percentage of pretax book income. Differences in the effective tax rate and the statutory tax rate may be due to permanent items, tax credits, foreign tax rates and state tax rates in jurisdictions in which the Company operates, or changes in valuation allowances.

The Company records reserves for uncertain tax positions when, despite the belief that tax return positions are fully supportable, it is anticipated that certain tax return positions are likely to be challenged and that the Company may not prevail. These reserves are adjusted in light of changing facts and circumstances, such as the progress of a tax audit or the lapse of statutes of limitations.

Additional information about the Company's income taxes is presented in Note 14 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

## **Employee Benefit Plans**

The Company provides all full-time, non-retail employees hired before July 1, 2010 with pension benefits and full-time employees hired before January 1, 2003 with postretirement health care benefits. In order to measure the expense and funded status of these employee benefit plans, management makes several estimates and assumptions, including rates of return on assets set aside to fund these plans, rates of compensation increases, employee turnover rates, anticipated mortality rates and anticipated future healthcare cost trends. These estimates and assumptions are based on the Company's historical experience combined with management's knowledge and understanding of current facts and circumstances. The selection of the discount rate is based on an index given projected plan payouts. Additional information about the Company's employee benefit plans is presented in Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

## **Advertising**

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred. Advertising expense of \$4.5 million, \$3.9 million and \$4.4 million in 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively, is included in operating, administrative and general expenses.

## **Equity**

On February 18, 2014, the Company effected a three-for-two stock split in the form of a stock dividend to shareholders of record as of January 21, 2014. All share, dividend and per share information set forth in this 10-K has been retroactively adjusted to reflect the stock split.

## **New Accounting Standards**

In February 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2015-02, *Consolidation (Topic 810) - Amendments to the Consolidation Analysis*. This standard provides amendments to the manner in which companies assess the characteristics of variable interest entities. The standard is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015. The Company is currently assessing the impact this standard will have on its Consolidated Financial Statements and disclosures.

In November 2014, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-17, *Pushdown Accounting*. This standard provides guidance on whether and at what threshold an acquired business or not-for-profit organization can apply pushdown accounting. This guidance provides an option to apply pushdown accounting in the separate financial statements of an acquired entity upon the occurrence of an event in which an acquirer obtains control of the acquired entity. The guidance is effective on November 18, 2014. After the effective date, an acquired entity can make an election to apply the guidance to future change-in-control events or to its most recent change-in-control event. However, if the financial statements for the period in which the most recent change-in-control event occurred already have been issued or made available to be issued, the application of this



guidance would be a change in accounting principle. The adoption of this guidance is not expected to have any significant impact on the Consolidated Financial Statements.

In May 2014, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-09, *Revenue From Contracts With Customers*. The core principle of the new revenue model is that an entity recognizes revenue from the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The standard is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2016. The Company is currently assessing the method of adoption and the impact this standard will have on its Consolidated Financial Statements and disclosures.

## 2. Inventories

Major classes of inventories are as follows:

| (in thousands)                       | December 31,      |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                      | 2014              | 2013              |
| Grain                                | \$ 570,916        | \$ 432,893        |
| Ethanol and by-products              | 13,154            | 14,453            |
| Agricultural fertilizer and supplies | 131,613           | 100,593           |
| Lawn fertilizer and corncob products | 49,523            | 39,960            |
| Retail merchandise                   | 23,810            | 22,505            |
| Railcar repair parts                 | 6,431             | 4,312             |
| Other                                | 208               | 207               |
|                                      | <u>\$ 795,655</u> | <u>\$ 614,923</u> |

Inventories on the Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 do not include 3.1 million and 13.3 million bushels of grain, respectively, held in storage for others. The Company does not have title to the grain and is only liable for any deficiencies in grade or shortage of quantity that may arise during the storage period. Management does not anticipate material losses on any deficiencies.

## 3. Property, Plant and Equipment

The components of property, plant and equipment are as follows:

| (in thousands)                                  | December 31,      |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | 2014              | 2013              |
| Land  | \$ 23,380         | \$ 21,801         |
| Land improvements and leasehold improvements    | 71,817            | 67,153            |
| Buildings and storage facilities                | 275,059           | 231,976           |
| Machinery and equipment                         | 333,559           | 308,215           |
| Software  | 55,436            | 13,351            |
| Construction in progress                        | 29,620            | 48,135            |
|   | <u>788,871</u>    | <u>690,631</u>    |
| Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization | <u>335,264</u>    | <u>303,173</u>    |
|   | <u>\$ 453,607</u> | <u>\$ 387,458</u> |

Depreciation expense on property, plant and equipment amounted to \$44.3 million, \$37.5 million and \$27.4 million for the years ended 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

In December 2013, the Company recorded charges totaling \$4.4 million for asset impairment, primarily due to the write down of asset values in Retail. The Company wrote down the value of these assets to the extent their carrying amounts exceeded fair value. The Company classified the significant assumptions used to determine the fair value of the impaired assets, which was not material, as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy.

### Rail Group Assets

The components of the Rail Group assets leased to others are as follows:

| (in thousands)                     | December 31,      |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                    | 2014              | 2013              |
| Rail Group assets leased to others | \$ 384,958        | \$ 317,750        |
| Less: accumulated depreciation     | 87,211            | 77,129            |
|                                    | <u>\$ 297,747</u> | <u>\$ 240,621</u> |

Depreciation expense on Rail Group assets leased to others amounted to \$14.2 million, \$14.7 million and \$15.9 million for the years ended 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

## **4. Derivatives**

### Commodity Contracts

The Company's operating results are affected by changes to commodity prices. The Grain and Ethanol businesses have established "unhedged" position limits (the amount of a commodity, either owned or contracted for, that does not have an offsetting derivative contract to lock in the price). To reduce the exposure to market price risk on commodities owned and forward grain and ethanol purchase and sale contracts, the Company enters into exchange traded commodity futures and options contracts and over the counter forward and option contracts with various counterparties. The exchange traded contracts are primarily via the regulated CME. The Company's forward purchase and sales contracts are for physical delivery of the commodity in a future period. Contracts to purchase commodities from producers generally relate to the current or future crop years for delivery periods quoted by regulated commodity exchanges. Contracts for the sale of commodities to processors or other commercial consumers generally do not extend beyond one year.

All of these contracts meet the definition of derivatives. While the Company considers its commodity contracts to be effective economic hedges, the Company does not designate or account for its commodity contracts as hedges as defined under current accounting standards. The Company accounts for its commodity derivatives at estimated fair value, the same method it uses to value its grain inventory. The estimated fair value of the commodity derivative contracts that require the receipt or posting of cash collateral is recorded on a net basis (offset against cash collateral posted or received, also known as margin deposits) within commodity derivative assets or liabilities. Management determines fair value based on exchange-quoted prices and in the case of its forward purchase and sale contracts, estimated fair value is adjusted for differences in local markets and non-performance risk. For contracts for which physical delivery occurs, balance sheet classification is based on estimated delivery date. For futures, options and over-the-counter contracts in which physical delivery is not expected to occur but, rather, the contract is expected to be net settled, the Company classifies these contracts as current or noncurrent assets or liabilities, as appropriate, based on the Company's expectations as to when such contracts will be settled.

Realized and unrealized gains and losses in the value of commodity contracts (whether due to changes in commodity prices, changes in performance or credit risk, or due to sale, maturity or extinguishment of the commodity contract) and grain inventories are included in sales and merchandising revenues.

Generally accepted accounting principles permit a party to a master netting arrangement to offset fair value amounts recognized for derivative instruments against the right to reclaim cash collateral or obligation to return cash collateral under the same master netting arrangement. The Company has master netting arrangements for its exchange traded futures and options contracts and certain over-the-counter contracts. When the Company enters into a future, option or an over-the-counter contract, an initial margin deposit may be required by the counterparty. The amount of the margin deposit varies by commodity. If the market price of a future, option or an over-the-counter contract moves in a direction that is adverse to the Company's position, an additional margin deposit, called a maintenance margin, is required. The Company nets, by counterparty, its futures and over-the-counter positions against the cash collateral provided or received. The margin deposit assets and liabilities are included in short-term commodity derivative assets or liabilities, as appropriate, in the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

The following table presents at December 31, 2014 and 2013, a summary of the estimated fair value of the Company's commodity derivative instruments that require cash collateral and the associated cash posted/received as collateral. The net asset or liability positions of these derivatives (net of their cash collateral) are determined on a counterparty-by-counterparty basis and are included within short-term commodity derivative assets (or liabilities) on the Consolidated Balance Sheets:

| (in thousands)            | December 31, 2014             |                                   | December 31, 2013             |                                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                           | Net derivative asset position | Net derivative liability position | Net derivative asset position | Net derivative liability position |
| Collateral paid           | \$ 79,646                     | \$ —                              | \$ 15,480                     | \$ —                              |
| Fair value of derivatives | (10,981)                      | —                                 | 31,055                        | —                                 |
| Balance at end of period  | <u>\$ 68,665</u>              | <u>\$ —</u>                       | <u>\$ 46,535</u>              | <u>\$ —</u>                       |

Certain of our contracts allow the Company to post items other than cash as collateral. Grain inventory posted as collateral on our derivative contracts are recorded in Inventories on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. There was no grain inventory posted as collateral as of December 31, 2014 and \$0.3 million as of December 31, 2013.

The following table presents, on a gross basis, current and noncurrent commodity derivative assets and liabilities:

| (in thousands)                   | December 31, 2014                     |  |  |   |                  |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|------------------|
|                                  | Commodity derivative assets - current | Commodity derivative assets - noncurrent | Commodity derivative liabilities - current | Commodity derivative liabilities - noncurrent | Total            |
| Commodity derivative assets      | \$ 49,847                             | \$ 545                                   | \$ 6,123                                   | \$ 118  | \$ 56,633        |
| Commodity derivative liabilities | (36,722)                              | (38)                                     | (70,198)                                   | (3,436)                                       | (110,394)        |
| Cash collateral                  | 79,646                                | —  | —  | —   | 79,646           |
| Balance sheet line item totals   | <u>\$ 92,771</u>                      | <u>\$ 507</u>                            | <u>\$ (64,075)</u>                         | <u>\$ (3,318)</u>                             | <u>\$ 25,885</u> |

| (in thousands)                   | December 31, 2013                     |  |  |   |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|---------------|
|                                  | Commodity derivative assets - current | Commodity derivative assets - noncurrent | Commodity derivative liabilities - current | Commodity derivative liabilities - noncurrent | Total         |
| Commodity derivative assets      | \$ 69,289                             | \$ 246                                   | \$ 1,286                                   | \$ 49   | \$ 70,870     |
| Commodity derivative liabilities | (13,450)                              | —  | (65,240)                                   | (6,693)                                       | (85,383)      |
| Cash collateral                  | 15,480                                | —  | —  | —   | 15,480        |
| Balance sheet line item totals   | <u>\$ 71,319</u>                      | <u>\$ 246</u>                            | <u>\$ (63,954)</u>                         | <u>\$ (6,644)</u>                             | <u>\$ 967</u> |

The gains included in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Income and the line items in which they are located for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 are as follows:

| (in thousands)  | December 31, |            |
|---|--------------|------------|
|   | 2014         | 2013       |
| Gains on commodity derivatives included in sales and merchandising revenues | \$ 67,579    | \$ 138,787 |

The Company had the following volume of commodity derivative contracts outstanding (on a gross basis) for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013:

| Commodity            | December 31, 2014                   |                                     |                                    |                                  |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                      | Number of bushels<br>(in thousands) | Number of gallons<br>(in thousands) | Number of pounds<br>(in thousands) | Number of tons<br>(in thousands) |
| Non-exchange traded: |                                     |                                     |                                    |                                  |
| Corn                 | 265,574                             | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Soybeans             | 23,820                              | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Wheat                | 14,967                              | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Oats                 | 23,440                              | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Ethanol              | —                                   | 233,637                             | —                                  | —                                |
| Corn oil             | —                                   | —                                   | 18,076                             | —                                |
| Other                | 28                                  | —                                   | —                                  | 139                              |
| Subtotal             | 327,829                             | 233,637                             | 18,076                             | 139                              |
| Exchange traded:     |                                     |                                     |                                    |                                  |
| Corn                 | 159,575                             | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Soybeans             | 31,265                              | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Wheat                | 30,360                              | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Oats                 | 7,545                               | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Ethanol              | —                                   | 41,832                              | —                                  | —                                |
| Other                | —                                   | —                                   | 2,700                              | 5                                |
| Subtotal             | 228,745                             | 41,832                              | 2,700                              | 5                                |
| Total                | 556,574                             | 275,469                             | 20,776                             | 144                              |

| Commodity            | December 31, 2013                   |                                     |                                    |                                  |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                      | Number of bushels<br>(in thousands) | Number of gallons<br>(in thousands) | Number of pounds<br>(in thousands) | Number of tons<br>(in thousands) |
| Non-exchange traded: |                                     |                                     |                                    |                                  |
| Corn                 | 185,978                             | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Soybeans             | 18,047                              | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Wheat                | 11,485                              | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Oats                 | 27,939                              | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Ethanol              | —                                   | 179,212                             | —                                  | —                                |
| Corn oil             | —                                   | —                                   | 25,911                             | —                                |
| Other                | 81                                  | —                                   | —                                  | 89                               |
| Subtotal             | 243,530                             | 179,212                             | 25,911                             | 89                               |
| Exchange traded:     |                                     |                                     |                                    |                                  |
| Corn                 | 124,420                             | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Soybeans             | 11,030                              | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Wheat                | 23,980                              | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Oats                 | 6,820                               | —                                   | —                                  | —                                |
| Ethanol              | —                                   | 21,630                              | —                                  | —                                |
| Subtotal             | 166,250                             | 21,630                              | —                                  | —                                |
| Total                | 409,780                             | 200,842                             | 25,911                             | 89                               |

## Interest Rate Derivatives

The Company periodically enters into interest rate contracts to manage interest rate risk on borrowing or financing activities. One of the Company's long-term interest rate swaps is recorded in other long-term liabilities and is designated as a cash flow hedge; accordingly, changes in the fair value of this instrument are recognized in other comprehensive income. The terms of the swap match the terms of the underlying debt instrument. The deferred derivative gains and losses on the interest rate swap are reclassified into income over the term of the underlying hedged items. For the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 the Company reclassified \$0.4 million, \$0.5 million, and \$0.3 million of gross accumulated other comprehensive income into earnings. The Company expects to reclassify less than \$0.5 million of accumulated other comprehensive loss into earnings in the next twelve months.

The Company has other interest rate contracts that are not designated as hedges. While the Company considers all of its interest rate derivative positions to be effective economic hedges of specified risks, these interest rate contracts are recorded on the balance sheet in other current assets or liabilities (if short-term in nature) or in other assets or other long-term liabilities (if non-current in nature) and changes in fair value are recognized currently in income as interest expense. At December 31, 2014, the Company had several various types of interest rate hedging instruments that are not accounted for as hedges, with notional amounts totaling \$121.0 million, of which \$30.0 million is short-term.

The following table presents the open interest rate contracts at December 31, 2014:

| Interest Rate Hedging Instrument | Year Entered | Year of Maturity | Initial Notional Amount (in millions) | Hedged Item  | Interest Rate |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---------------|
| <b>Short-term</b>                |              |                  |                                       |  |               |
| Caps                             | 2012         | 2015             | \$ 10.0                               | Interest rate component of debt - not accounted for as a hedge               | 0.9%          |
| Caps                             | 2013         | 2015             | \$ 20.0                               | Interest rate component of debt - not accounted for as a hedge               | 0.8%          |
| <b>Long-term</b>                 |              |                  |                                       |  |               |
| Swap                             | 2005         | 2016             | \$ 4.0                                | Interest rate component of an operating lease - not accounted for as a hedge | 5.2%          |
| Swap                             | 2006         | 2016             | \$ 14.0                               | Interest rate component of debt - accounted for as cash flow hedge           | 5.7%          |
| Swap                             | 2012         | 2023             | \$ 23.0                               | Interest rate component of debt - not accounted for as a hedge               | 1.9%          |
| Cap                              | 2012         | 2016             | \$ 10.0                               | Interest rate component of debt - not accounted for as a hedge               | 1.5%          |
| Collar                           | 2013         | 2021             | \$ 40.0                               | Interest rate component of debt - not accounted for as a hedge               | 2.9% to 4.8%  |

At December 31, 2014 and 2013, the Company had recorded the following amounts for the fair value of the Company's interest rate derivatives:

| (in thousands)  | December 31,      |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | 2014              | 2013              |
| <b>Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments</b>                            |                   |                   |
| Interest rate contracts included in other assets                                    | \$ 3              | \$ 1,179          |
| Interest rate contracts included in other long term liabilities                     | (2,071)           | (302)             |
| Total fair value of interest rate derivatives not designated as hedging instruments | <u>\$ (2,068)</u> | <u>\$ 877</u>     |
| <b>Derivatives designated as hedging instruments</b>                                |                   |                   |
| Interest rate contract included in other long term liabilities                      | (597)             | (1,036)           |
| Total fair value of interest rate derivatives designated as hedging instruments     | <u>\$ (597)</u>   | <u>\$ (1,036)</u> |

The gains (losses) included in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Income and the line item in which they are located for interest rate derivatives not designated as hedging instruments are as follows:

| (in thousands)            | Year ended December 31, |          |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
|                           | 2014                    | 2013     |
| Interest income (expense) | \$ (2,945)              | \$ 1,409 |

## 5. Earnings Per Share

Unvested share-based payment awards that contain non-forfeitable rights to dividends are participating securities and are included in the computation of earnings per share pursuant to the two-class method. The two-class method of computing earnings per share is an earnings allocation formula that determines earnings per share for common stock and any participating securities according to dividends declared (whether paid or unpaid) and participation rights in undistributed earnings. The Company's nonvested restricted stock is considered a participating security since the share-based awards contain a non-forfeitable right to dividends irrespective of whether the awards ultimately vest.

The computation of basic and diluted earnings per share is as follows:

| (in thousands except per common share data)  | Year ended December 31, |           |           |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013      | 2012      |
| Net income attributable to The Andersons, Inc.                                       | \$ 109,726              | \$ 89,939 | \$ 79,480 |
| Less: Distributed and undistributed earnings allocated to nonvested restricted stock | 569                     | 357       | 389       |
| Earnings available to common shareholders  | \$ 109,157              | \$ 89,582 | \$ 79,091 |
| <b>Earnings per share – basic:</b>   |                         |           |           |
| Weighted average shares outstanding – basic  | 28,367                  | 27,986    | 27,784    |
| Earnings per common share – basic  | \$ 3.85                 | \$ 3.20   | \$ 2.85   |
| <b>Earnings per share – diluted:</b>   |                         |           |           |
| Weighted average shares outstanding – basic  | 28,367                  | 27,986    | 27,784    |
| Effect of dilutive awards  | 85                      | 200       | 255       |
| Weighted average shares outstanding – diluted  | 28,452                  | 28,186    | 28,039    |
| Earnings per common share – diluted  | \$ 3.84                 | \$ 3.18   | \$ 2.82   |

There were no antidilutive stock-based awards outstanding at December 31, 2014, 2013 or 2012.

## 6. Employee Benefit Plans

The Company provides full-time employees with pension benefits under defined benefit and defined contribution plans. The measurement date for all plans is December 31. The Company's expense for its defined contribution plans amounted to \$11.2 million in 2014, \$10.3 million in 2013 and \$8.8 million in 2012. The Company also provides certain health insurance benefits to employees as well as retirees.

The Company has both funded and unfunded noncontributory defined benefit pension plans. The plans provide defined benefits based on years of service and average monthly compensation using a career average formula. Pension benefits for the retail line of business employees were frozen at December 31, 2006. Pension benefits for the non-retail line of business employees were frozen at July 1, 2010.

In the fourth quarter of 2014, we began the process of terminating the funded defined benefit plan (the "Plan"), which will include settling the Plan liabilities by offering lump sum distributions to plan participants or purchasing annuity contracts for those who do not elect lump sums. While we expect to complete the termination in the near future, the timing is subject to regulatory approvals and other market factors. As part of the planned termination, in 2014 we adjusted our asset portfolio to a target asset allocation of 100% fixed income investments (up from 49%), which will provide a better matching of Plan assets to the characteristics of the liabilities. In the fourth quarter of 2014, we provided notice to plan participants of our intent to terminate the Plan and we applied for a determination with the Internal Revenue Service with regards to the termination. We will take further actions to minimize the volatility of the value of our pension assets relative to pension liabilities and to settle remaining Plan liabilities, including making such contributions to the Plan as may be necessary to make the Plan sufficient to settle all Plan liabilities.

As of December 31, 2014, we have valued the projected benefit obligations of the Plan based on the present value of estimated costs to settle the liabilities through a combination of lump sum payments to participants and purchasing annuities from an insurance company. This reflects an estimate of how many participants we expect will accept a lump sum offering, and an estimate of lump sum payouts for those participants based on the current lump sum rates approved by the IRS. Liabilities expected to be settled through annuity contracts have been estimated based on future benefit payments, discounted based on current interest rates that correspond to the liability payouts, adjusted to reflect a premium that would be assessed by the insurer. As the liabilities are settled, unamortized losses in accumulated other comprehensive income will be recognized based

on the projected benefit obligations and assets measured as of the dates the settlements occur. Based on current rates, the amount of unamortized losses in other comprehensive income that would result in a one-time noncash charge is estimated at \$64.6 million at December 31, 2014. Prior to settling the liabilities, we will contribute such additional amounts (currently estimated to be approximately \$10.3 million) as may be necessary to fully fund the Plan. Such contributions are expected to be made concurrent with settling the liabilities but may be made earlier at our discretion. The impact of termination is subject to rate changes at the time of settlement. This termination does not yet constitute a settlement of liability under applicable accounting guidance for pension plans. The Company anticipates the conversion to individual annuity policies along with the liability discharge to occur in the near future. The defined benefit plan is included in the accompanying table for all years presented.

The Company also has postretirement health care benefit plans covering substantially all of its full time employees hired prior to January 1, 2003. These plans are generally contributory and include a cap on the Company's share of the related costs.

### ***Obligation and Funded Status***

Following are the details of the obligation and funded status of the pension and postretirement benefit plans:

| (in thousands)                                     | Pension Benefits |            | Postretirement Benefits |             |
|--|------------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------|
|  | 2014             | 2013       | 2014                    | 2013        |
| <b>Change in benefit obligation</b>                |                  |            |                         |             |
| Benefit obligation at beginning of year            | \$ 103,612       | \$ 117,890 | \$ 33,383               | \$ 36,054   |
| Service cost                                       | 180              | —          | 687                     | 841         |
| Interest cost                                      | 4,774            | 4,227      | 1,511                   | 1,366       |
| Actuarial (gains) losses                           | 29,059           | (15,393)   | 7,341                   | (4,359)     |
| Participant contributions                          | —                | —          | 532                     | 514         |
| Retiree drug subsidy received                      | —                | —          | 107                     | 61          |
| Benefits paid                                      | (3,641)          | (3,112)    | (1,261)                 | (1,094)     |
| Benefit obligation at end of year                  | \$ 133,984       | \$ 103,612 | \$ 42,300               | \$ 33,383   |
|  |                  |            |                         |             |
| (in thousands)                                     | Pension Benefits |            | Postretirement Benefits |             |
|  | 2014             | 2013       | 2014                    | 2013        |
| <b>Change in plan assets</b>                       |                  |            |                         |             |
| Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year     | \$ 110,862       | \$ 99,857  | \$ —                    | \$ —        |
| Actual gains on plan assets                        | 8,689            | 12,487     | —                       | —           |
| Company contributions                              | 131              | 1,630      | 729                     | 580         |
| Participant contributions                          | —                | —          | 532                     | 514         |
| Benefits paid                                      | (3,641)          | (3,112)    | (1,261)                 | (1,094)     |
| Fair value of plan assets at end of year           | \$ 116,041       | \$ 110,862 | \$ —                    | \$ —        |
| Over (under) funded status of plans at end of year | \$ (17,943)      | \$ 7,250   | \$ (42,300)             | \$ (33,383) |

Amounts recognized in the Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014 and 2013 consist of:

| (in thousands)                    | Pension Benefits |          | Postretirement Benefits |             |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------|
|                                   | 2014             | 2013     | 2014                    | 2013        |
| Accrued expenses                  | \$ (165)         | \$ (254) | \$ (1,274)              | \$ (1,244)  |
| Employee benefit plan assets      | —                | 14,328   | —                       | —           |
| Employee benefit plan obligations | (17,778)         | (6,824)  | (41,012)                | (32,139)    |
| Net amount recognized             | \$ (17,943)      | \$ 7,250 | \$ (42,286)             | \$ (33,383) |

Following are the details of the pre-tax amounts recognized in accumulated other comprehensive loss at December 31, 2014:

| (in thousands)   | Pension Benefits                 |                                 | Postretirement Benefits          |                                 |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|  | Unamortized Actuarial Net Losses | Unamortized Prior Service Costs | Unamortized Actuarial Net Losses | Unamortized Prior Service Costs |
| Balance at beginning of year                                   | \$ 37,536                        | \$ —                            | \$ 11,738                        | \$ (1,441)                      |
| Amounts arising during the period                              | 27,986                           | —                               | 7,341                            | —                               |
| Amounts recognized as a component of net periodic benefit cost | (934)                            | —                               | (812)                            | 543                             |
| Balance at end of year   | <u>\$ 64,588</u>                 | <u>\$ —</u>                     | <u>\$ 18,267</u>                 | <u>\$ (898)</u>                 |

The amounts in accumulated other comprehensive loss that are expected to be recognized as components of net periodic benefit cost during the next fiscal year, excluding the impact of the pension termination, are as follows:

| (in thousands)     | Pension | Postretirement | Total    |
|--------------------|---------|----------------|----------|
| Prior service cost | \$ —    | \$ (543)       | \$ (543) |
| Net actuarial loss | 934     | 812            | 1,746    |

Amounts applicable to the Company's defined benefit plans with accumulated benefit obligations in excess of plan assets are as follows:

| (in thousands)                 | December 31, |          |
|--------------------------------|--------------|----------|
|                                | 2014         | 2013     |
| Projected benefit obligation   | \$ 17,943    | \$ 7,078 |
| Accumulated benefit obligation | \$ 17,943    | \$ 7,078 |

The combined benefits expected to be paid for all Company defined benefit plans over the next ten years (in thousands) are as follows:

| Year      | Expected Pension Benefit Payout | Expected Postretirement Benefit Payout | Medicare Part D Subsidy |
|-----------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 2015      | \$ 126,481                      | \$ 1,431                               | \$ (157)                |
| 2016      | 371                             | 1,532                                  | (180)                   |
| 2017      | 1,002                           | 1,628                                  | (203)                   |
| 2018      | 1,241                           | 1,734                                  | (233)                   |
| 2019      | 1,319                           | 1,846                                  | (263)                   |
| 2020-2024 | 3,686                           | 10,918                                 | (1,850)                 |

Following are components of the net periodic benefit cost for each year:

| (in thousands)                 | Pension Benefits  |                   |                 | Postretirement Benefits |                 |                 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                | December 31,      |                   |                 | December 31,            |                 |                 |
|                                | 2014              | 2013              | 2012            | 2014                    | 2013            | 2012            |
| Service cost                   | \$ 180            | \$ —              | \$ —            | \$ 687                  | \$ 841          | \$ 752          |
| Interest cost                  | 4,774             | 4,227             | 4,496           | 1,511                   | 1,366           | 1,319           |
| Expected return on plan assets | (7,615)           | (7,005)           | (6,145)         | (543)                   | (543)           | (543)           |
| Recognized net actuarial loss  | 934               | 1,530             | 1,497           | 812                     | 1,473           | 1,280           |
| Benefit cost (income)          | <u>\$ (1,727)</u> | <u>\$ (1,248)</u> | <u>\$ (152)</u> | <u>\$ 2,467</u>         | <u>\$ 3,137</u> | <u>\$ 2,808</u> |



Following are weighted average assumptions of pension and postretirement benefits for each year:

|  | Pension Benefits |       |       | Postretirement Benefits |      |      |
|--|------------------|-------|-------|-------------------------|------|------|
|  | 2014             | 2013  | 2012  | 2014                    | 2013 | 2012 |
| <b>Used to Determine Benefit Obligations at Measurement Date</b>               |                  |       |       |                         |      |      |
| Discount rate (a)  | 0.65%            | 4.7%  | 3.8%  | 3.9%                    | 4.8% | 3.9% |
| <b>Used to Determine Net Periodic Benefit Cost for Years ended December 31</b> |                  |       |       |                         |      |      |
| Discount rate (b)  | 4.7%             | 3.8%  | 4.3%  | 4.8%                    | 3.9% | 4.3% |
| Expected long-term return on plan assets                                       | 7%               | 7.25% | 7.25% | —                       | —    | —    |
| Rate of compensation increases   | N/A              | N/A   | N/A   | —                       | —    | —    |

(a) In 2014, 2013 and 2012, the calculated discount rate for the unfunded pension plan was different than the defined benefit pension plan. The calculated rate for the supplemental employee retirement plan was 2.40%, 2.90% and 2.10% in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

(b) In 2014, 2013 and 2012, the calculated discount rate for the unfunded pension plan was different than the defined benefit pension plan. The calculated rate for the supplemental employee retirement plan was 2.90%, 2.10% and 3.20% in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

The discount rate for the funded pension plan is reflected based on the Company's intent to terminate the Plan in the near future. The discount rate is calculated based on projecting future cash flows and aligning each year's cash flows to the Citigroup Pension Discount Curve and then calculating a weighted average discount rate for the unfunded plan. The Company has elected to use the nearest tenth of a percent from this calculated rate.

The expected long-term return on plan assets was determined based on the current asset allocation and historical results from plan inception. The expected long-term rate of return is based on plan assets earning the best rate of return while maintaining risk at acceptable levels. The rate is disclosed in the Plan Assets section of this Note. The plan strives to have assets sufficiently diversified so that adverse or unexpected results from one security class will not have an unduly detrimental impact on the entire portfolio.

#### Assumed Health Care Cost Trend Rates at Beginning of Year

|   | 2014 | 2013 |
|---|------|------|
| Health care cost trend rate assumed for next year                                 | 6.0% | 6.5% |
| Rate to which the cost trend rate is assumed to decline (the ultimate trend rate) | 5.0% | 5.0% |
| Year that the rate reaches the ultimate trend rate                                | 2017 | 2017 |

The assumed health care cost trend rate has an effect on the amounts reported for postretirement benefits. A one-percentage-point change in the assumed health care cost trend rate would have the following effects:

| (in thousands)  | One-Percentage-Point |          |
|---|----------------------|----------|
|   | Increase             | Decrease |
| Effect on total service and interest cost components in 2014        | \$ (3)               | \$ 2     |
| Effect on postretirement benefit obligation as of December 31, 2014 | (173)                | 149      |

#### Plan Assets

The Company's pension plan weighted average asset allocations at December 31 by asset category, are as follows:

| Asset Category          | 2014 | 2013 |
|-------------------------|------|------|
| Equity securities       | —%   | 51%  |
| Fixed income securities | 98%  | 48%  |
| Cash and equivalents    | 2%   | 1%   |
|                         | 100% | 100% |

The plan assets are allocated within the broader asset categories in investments that focus on more specific sectors. Within equity securities, subcategories include large cap growth, large cap value, small cap growth, small cap value, and internationally focused investment funds. These funds are judged in comparison to benchmark indexes that best match their

specific category. Within fixed income securities, the funds are invested in a broad cross section of securities to ensure diversification. These include treasury, government agency, corporate, securitization, high yield, global, emerging market and other debt securities. We have shifted to a more conservative asset allocation in 2014 in anticipation of the termination of the Plan.

The investment policy and strategy for the assets of the Company's funded defined benefit plan includes the following objectives:

- ensure superior long-term capital growth and capital preservation;
- reduce the level of the unfunded accrued liability in the plan; and
- offset the impact of inflation.

Risks of investing are managed through asset allocation and diversification. Investments are given extensive due diligence by an impartial third-party investment firm. All investments are monitored and re-assessed by the Company's Retirement Benefit Committee on a semi-annual basis. Available investment options include U.S. Government and agency bonds and instruments, equity and debt securities of public corporations listed on U.S. stock exchanges, exchange listed U.S. mutual funds and institutional portfolios investing in equity and debt securities of publicly traded domestic or international companies and cash or money market securities. In order to reduce risk and volatility, the Company has placed the following portfolio market value limits on its investments, to which the investments must be rebalanced after each quarterly cash contribution. Note that the single security restriction does not apply to mutual funds or institutional investment portfolios. No securities are purchased on margin, nor are any derivatives used to create leverage. The overall expected long-term rate of return is determined by using long-term historical returns for equity and fixed income securities in proportion to their weight in the investment portfolio.

|                         | Percentage of Total Portfolio Market Value |         |                 |
|-------------------------|--|---------|-----------------|
|                         | Minimum                                    | Maximum | Single Security |
| Equity based            | —%   | 70%     | <5%             |
| Fixed income based      | 20%  | 100%    | <5%             |
| Cash and equivalents    | 1%   | 100%    | <5%             |
| Alternative investments | —%   | 20%     | <5%             |

The following tables present the fair value of the assets (by asset category) in the Company's defined benefit pension plan at December 31, 2014 and 2013:

(in thousands)

| Assets             | December 31, 2014 |            |         |            |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------|---------|------------|
|                    | Level 1           | Level 2    | Level 3 | Total      |
| Money market fund  | —                 | 2,478      | —       | 2,478      |
| Fixed income funds | —                 | 113,544    | —       | 113,544    |
| Total              | \$ —              | \$ 116,022 | \$ —    | \$ 116,022 |

(in thousands)

| Assets             | December 31, 2013 |           |         |            |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------|------------|
|                    | Level 1           | Level 2   | Level 3 | Total      |
| Mutual funds       | \$ 15,898         | \$ —      | \$ —    | \$ 15,898  |
| Money market fund  | —                 | 987       | —       | 987        |
| Equity funds       | —                 | 40,702    | —       | 40,702     |
| Fixed income funds | —                 | 53,275    | —       | 53,275     |
| Total              | \$ 15,898         | \$ 94,964 | \$ —    | \$ 110,862 |

There is no equity or debt of the Company included in the assets of the defined benefit plan.

### Cash Flows

The Company expects to make contributions necessary to fully fund the plan prior to termination. The shortfall is currently estimated at \$10.3 million. In the event the plan is not terminated, the Company reserves the right to make contributions in an amount of its choosing. For the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company did not make contributions to the defined benefit plan.

## 7. Segment Information

The Company's operations include six reportable business segments that are distinguished primarily on the basis of products and services offered. The Grain business includes grain merchandising, the operation of terminal grain elevator facilities and the investments in Lansing Trade Group, LLC ("LTG") and the Thompsons Limited joint ventures. The Ethanol business purchases and sells ethanol and also manages the ethanol production facilities organized as limited liability companies, one of which is consolidated and three of which are investments accounted for under the equity method. There are various service contracts for these investments. Rail operations include the leasing, marketing and fleet management of railcar and other assets, railcar repair and metal fabrication. The Plant Nutrient business manufactures and distributes agricultural inputs, primarily fertilizer, to dealers and farmers. Turf & Specialty operations include the production and distribution of turf care and corncob-based products. The Retail business operates large retail stores, a specialty food market, a distribution center and a lawn and garden equipment sales and service facility. Included in "Other" are the corporate level amounts not attributable to an operating segment.

The segment information below includes the allocation of expenses shared by one or more operating segments. Although management believes such allocations are reasonable, the operating information does not necessarily reflect how such data might appear if the segments were operated as separate businesses. Inter-segment sales are made at prices comparable to normal, unaffiliated customer sales. Capital expenditures include additions to property, plant and equipment, software and intangible assets.

| (in thousands)                          | Year ended December 31, |                     |                     |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|   | 2014                    | 2013                | 2012                |
| <b>Revenues from external customers</b> |                         |                     |                     |
| Grain                                   | \$ 2,682,038            | \$ 3,617,943        | \$ 3,293,632        |
| Ethanol                                 | 765,939                 | 831,965             | 742,929             |
| Plant Nutrient                          | 668,124                 | 708,654             | 797,033             |
| Rail                                    | 148,954                 | 164,794             | 156,426             |
| Turf & Specialty                        | 134,209                 | 140,512             | 131,026             |
| Retail                                  | 140,807                 | 140,706             | 150,964             |
| Total                                   | <u>\$ 4,540,071</u>     | <u>\$ 5,604,574</u> | <u>\$ 5,272,010</u> |
| <b>Inter-segment sales</b>              |                         |                     |                     |
| (in thousands)                          |                         |                     |                     |
| (in thousands)                          | Year ended December 31, |                     |                     |
|   | 2014                    | 2013                | 2012                |
| Grain                                   | \$ 5,066                | \$ 1                | \$ 409              |
| Plant Nutrient                          | 16,829                  | 17,537              | 16,135              |
| Rail                                    | 466                     | 427                 | 622                 |
| Turf & Specialty                        | 2,511                   | 2,255               | 2,350               |
| Total                                   | <u>\$ 24,872</u>        | <u>\$ 20,220</u>    | <u>\$ 19,516</u>    |
| <b>Interest expense (income)</b>        |                         |                     |                     |
| (in thousands)                          |                         |                     |                     |
| (in thousands)                          | Year ended December 31, |                     |                     |
|   | 2014                    | 2013                | 2012                |
| Grain                                   | \$ 8,785                | \$ 9,567            | \$ 12,174           |
| Ethanol                                 | 255                     | 1,038               | 759                 |
| Plant Nutrient                          | 3,736                   | 3,312               | 2,832               |
| Rail                                    | 7,247                   | 5,544               | 4,807               |
| Turf & Specialty                        | 1,542                   | 1,237               | 1,233               |
| Retail                                  | 666                     | 689                 | 776                 |
| Other                                   | (471)                   | (527)               | (426)               |
| Total                                   | <u>\$ 21,760</u>        | <u>\$ 20,860</u>    | <u>\$ 22,155</u>    |

| (in thousands)                          | Year ended December 31, |                  |                  |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | 2014                    | 2013             | 2012             |
| Equity in earnings (loss) of affiliates |                         |                  |                  |
| Grain                                   | \$ 27,643               | \$ 33,122        | \$ 29,080        |
| Ethanol                                 | 68,880                  | 35,583           | (12,598)         |
| Plant Nutrient                          | —                       | —                | 5                |
| Total                                   | <u>\$ 96,523</u>        | <u>\$ 68,705</u> | <u>\$ 16,487</u> |

| (in thousands)    | Year ended December 31, |                  |                  |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                   | 2014                    | 2013             | 2012             |
| Other income, net |                         |                  |                  |
| Grain             | \$ 21,450               | \$ 2,120         | \$ 2,548         |
| Ethanol           | 223                     | 399              | 53               |
| Plant Nutrient    | 3,262                   | 1,093            | 1,917            |
| Rail              | 3,094                   | 7,666            | 7,136            |
| Turf & Specialty  | 1,110                   | 690              | 784              |
| Retail            | 955                     | 501              | 554              |
| Other             | 1,031                   | 2,407            | 1,733            |
| Total             | <u>\$ 31,125</u>        | <u>\$ 14,876</u> | <u>\$ 14,725</u> |

| (in thousands)                    | Year ended December 31, |                   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                   | 2014                    | 2013              | 2012              |
| Income (loss) before income taxes |                         |                   |                   |
| Grain                             | \$ 58,136               | \$ 46,805         | \$ 63,597         |
| Ethanol                           | 92,257                  | 50,600            | (3,720)           |
| Plant Nutrient                    | 23,845                  | 27,275            | 39,254            |
| Rail                              | 31,445                  | 42,785            | 42,841            |
| Turf & Specialty                  | 669                     | 4,744             | 2,216             |
| Retail                            | (620)                   | (7,534)           | (3,951)           |
| Other                             | (34,505)                | (20,925)          | (16,189)          |
| Noncontrolling interests          | 12,919                  | 5,763             | (3,915)           |
| Total                             | <u>\$ 184,146</u>       | <u>\$ 149,513</u> | <u>\$ 120,133</u> |

| (in thousands)      | Year ended December 31, |                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
|                     | 2014                    | 2013                |
| Identifiable assets |                         |                     |
| Grain               | \$ 1,137,437            | \$ 921,914          |
| Ethanol             | 197,888                 | 229,797             |
| Plant Nutrient      | 330,731                 | 268,238             |
| Rail                | 365,531                 | 312,654             |
| Turf & Specialty    | 102,282                 | 89,939              |
| Retail              | 44,536                  | 44,910              |
| Other               | 186,287                 | 406,104             |
| Total               | <u>\$ 2,364,692</u>     | <u>\$ 2,273,556</u> |

| (in thousands)              | Year ended December 31, |                  |                  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                             | 2014                    | 2013             | 2012             |
| <b>Capital expenditures</b> |                         |                  |                  |
| Grain                       | \$ 20,958               | \$ 8,535         | \$ 30,178        |
| Ethanol                     | 2,256                   | 4,052            | 1,966            |
| Plant Nutrient              | 18,372                  | 17,094           | 18,038           |
| Rail                        | 2,332                   | 4,135            | 3,896            |
| Turf & Specialty            | 6,119                   | 6,563            | 5,043            |
| Retail                      | 1,190                   | 2,944            | 2,794            |
| Other                       | 8,448                   | 3,463            | 7,102            |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>\$ 59,675</b>        | <b>\$ 46,786</b> | <b>\$ 69,017</b> |

| (in thousands)   | Year ended December 31, |                  |                   |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013             | 2012              |
| <b>Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired and investments in affiliates</b> |                         |                  |                   |
| Grain  | \$ 40,206               | \$ 51,544        | \$ 116,888        |
| Ethanol  | —                       | —                | 77,400            |
| Plant Nutrient   | 15,489                  | —                | 15,286            |
| Rail   | —                       | 7,804            | —                 |
| Turf & Specialty   | —                       | 4,103            | 10,683            |
| Other  | 100                     | 1,050            | —                 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$ 55,795</b>        | <b>\$ 64,501</b> | <b>\$ 220,257</b> |

| (in thousands)                       | Year ended December 31, |                  |                  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                      | 2014                    | 2013             | 2012             |
| <b>Depreciation and amortization</b> |                         |                  |                  |
| Grain                                | \$ 16,547               | \$ 15,620        | \$ 9,554         |
| Ethanol                              | 5,700                   | 5,909            | 5,003            |
| Plant Nutrient                       | 15,294                  | 14,143           | 12,014           |
| Rail                                 | 13,262                  | 12,031           | 15,929           |
| Turf & Specialty                     | 4,330                   | 3,070            | 2,117            |
| Retail                               | 2,668                   | 3,119            | 3,002            |
| Other                                | 4,204                   | 1,415            | 1,358            |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>\$ 62,005</b>        | <b>\$ 55,307</b> | <b>\$ 48,977</b> |

Grain sales for export to foreign markets amounted to \$251.4 million, \$220.0 million and \$261.8 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively - the majority of which were sales to Canadian customers. Revenues from leased railcars in Canada totaled \$9.1 million, \$8.7 million and \$10.6 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The net book value of the leased railcars in Canada for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 was \$38.5 million and \$18.3 million, respectively. Lease revenue on railcars in Mexico totaled \$0.4 million in each of 2014, 2013, and 2012.

## 8. Related Party Transactions

### Equity Method Investments

The Company, directly or indirectly, holds investments in companies that are accounted for under the equity method. The Company's equity in these entities is presented at cost plus its accumulated proportional share of income or loss, less any distributions it has received.

In January 2003, the Company became a minority investor in LTG, which focuses on grain merchandising as well as trading related to the energy and biofuels industry. The Company does not hold a majority of the outstanding shares. In addition, all major operating decisions of LTG are made by LTG's Board of Directors and the Company does not have a majority of the board seats. Due to these factors, the Company does not have control over LTG and therefore accounts for this investment under the equity method. The Company sells and purchases both grain and ethanol with LTG in the ordinary course of business on terms similar to sales and purchases with unrelated customers.

On January 22, 2014, the Company entered into an agreement with LTG for a partial redemption of the Company's investment in LTG for \$60 million. At the time of redemption, the Company's interest in LTG reduced from approximately 47.5 percent to approximately 39.2 percent on a fully diluted basis. A portion of the proceeds (\$28.5 million) was considered a distribution of earnings and reduced the Company's cost basis in LTG. The difference between the remaining proceeds of \$31.5 million and the new cost basis of the shares sold, net of deal costs, resulted in a book gain of \$17.1 million (\$10.7 million after tax) and was recorded in Other Income.

In 2005, the Company became an investor in The Andersons Albion Ethanol LLC ("TAAE"). TAAE is a producer of ethanol and its co-products DDG and corn oil at its 55 million gallon-per-year ethanol production facility in Albion, Michigan. The Company operates the facility under a management contract and provides corn origination, ethanol, corn oil and DDG marketing and risk management services. The Company is separately compensated for all such services except corn oil marketing. The Company also leases its Albion, Michigan grain facility to TAAE. While the Company now holds 53% of the outstanding units of TAAE, a super-majority vote is required for all major operating decisions of TAAE based on the terms of the Operating Agreement. The Company has concluded that the super-majority vote requirement gives the minority shareholders substantive participating rights and therefore consolidation for book purposes is not appropriate. The Company accounts for its investment in TAAE under the equity method of accounting.

In 2006, the Company became a minority investor in The Andersons Clymers Ethanol LLC ("TACE"). TACE is also a producer of ethanol and its co-products DDG and corn oil at a 110 million gallon-per-year ethanol production facility in Clymers, Indiana. The Company operates the facility under a management contract and provides corn origination, ethanol, corn oil and DDG marketing and risk management services for which it is separately compensated. The Company also leases its Clymers, Indiana grain facility to TACE.

In 2006, the Company became a minority investor in The Andersons Marathon Ethanol LLC ("TAME"). TAME is also a producer of ethanol and its co-products DDG and corn oil at a 110 million gallon-per-year ethanol production facility in Greenville, Ohio. In January 2007, the Company transferred its 50% share in TAME to The Andersons Ethanol Investment LLC ("TAEI"), a consolidated subsidiary of the Company, of which a third party owns 34% of the shares. The Company operates the facility under a management contract and provides corn origination, ethanol, corn oil and DDG marketing and risk management services for which it is separately compensated. In 2009, TAEI invested an additional \$1.1 million in TAME, retaining a 50% ownership interest.

The Company has marketing agreements with TAAE, TACE, and TAME ("the three unconsolidated ethanol LLCs") under which the Company purchases and markets the ethanol produced to external customers. As compensation for these marketing services, the Company earns a fee on each gallon of ethanol sold. For two of the LLCs, the Company purchases all of the ethanol produced and then sells it to external parties. For the third LLC, the Company buys only a portion of the ethanol produced. The Company acts as the principal in these ethanol sales transactions to external parties as the Company has ultimate responsibility of performance to the external parties. Substantially all of these purchases and subsequent sales are executed through forward contracts on matching terms and, outside of the fee the Company earns for each gallon sold, the Company does not recognize any gross profit on the sales transactions. For the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, revenues recognized for the sale of ethanol purchased from related parties were \$584.2 million, \$613.7 million and \$683.1 million, respectively. In addition to the ethanol marketing agreements, the Company holds corn origination agreements, under which the Company originates all of the corn used in production for each unconsolidated ethanol LLC. For this service, the Company receives a unit based fee. Similar to the ethanol sales described above, the Company acts as a principal in these transactions, and accordingly, records revenues on a gross basis. For the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, revenues recognized for the sale of corn under these agreements were \$480.2 million, \$719.5 million and \$676.3 million, respectively. As part of the corn origination agreements, the Company also markets the DDG produced by the entities. For this service the Company receives a unit based fee. The Company does not purchase any of the DDG from the ethanol entities; however, as part of the agreement, the Company guarantees payment by the buyer for DDG sales. At December 31, 2014 and 2013, the three unconsolidated ethanol entities had a combined receivable balance for DDG of \$7.7 million and \$9.2 million, respectively, of which \$84.7 thousand and \$3.1 thousand, respectively, was more than thirty days past due. In the fourth quarter of 2014, the three unconsolidated ethanol LLCs reached agreement with its owners and were able to write-off the customer's contracts that were in default due to DDG import issues in China. As such the Company was able to reverse its guarantee liability recorded in the third quarter for these contracts. As the Company has not experienced historical losses and the DDG receivable balances greater than thirty days past due is immaterial, the Company has concluded that the fair value of this guarantee is inconsequential.

On July 31, 2013, the Company, along with Lansing Trade Group, LLC established joint ventures that acquired 100% of the stock of Thompsons Limited, including its investment in the related U.S. operating company, for a purchase price of \$152

million, which included an adjustment for excess working capital. The purchase price included \$48 million cash paid by the Company, \$40 million cash paid by LTG, and \$64 million of external debt at Thompsons Limited. As part of the purchase LTG also contributed a Canadian branch of its business to Thompsons Limited. Each Company owns 50% of the investment. Thompsons Limited is a grain and food-grade bean handler and agronomy input provider, headquartered in Blenheim, Ontario, and operates 12 locations across Ontario and Minnesota. The Company does not hold a majority of the outstanding shares of Thompsons Limited joint ventures. All major operating decisions of these joint ventures are made by their Board of Directors and the Company does not have a majority of the board seats. Due to these factors, the Company does not have control over these joint ventures and therefore accounts for these investments under the equity method of accounting.

The following table presents aggregate summarized financial information of LTG, TAAE, TACE, TAME, Thompsons Limited, and other various investments as they qualified as significant equity method investees in the aggregate. No equity investments qualified as significant for the year ended December 31, 2014. LTG qualified as a significant equity method investee individually for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012.

| (in thousands)                    | December 31, |               |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
|                                   | 2014         | 2013          | 2012         |
| Sales                             | \$ 8,152,313 | \$ 10,232,395 | \$ 8,080,741 |
| Gross profit                      | 396,774      | 305,016       | 130,241      |
| Income from continuing operations | 233,831      | 148,583       | 34,161       |
| Net income                        | 219,431      | 144,699       | 32,451       |
| Current assets                    | 1,482,110    | 1,406,200     |              |
| Non-current assets                | 558,138      | 508,319       |              |
| Current liabilities               | 1,153,101    | 1,040,762     |              |
| Non-current liabilities           | 381,646      | 244,910       |              |
| Noncontrolling interests          | 13,953       | 20,118        |              |

The following table presents the Company's investment balance in each of its equity method investees by entity:

| (in thousands)                     | December 31, |            |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
|                                    | 2014         | 2013       |
| The Andersons Albion Ethanol LLC   | \$ 27,824    | \$ 40,194  |
| The Andersons Clymers Ethanol LLC  | 37,624       | 44,418     |
| The Andersons Marathon Ethanol LLC | 31,537       | 46,811     |
| Lansing Trade Group, LLC           | 78,696       | 106,028    |
| Thompsons Limited (a)              | 48,455       | 49,833     |
| Other                              | 2,721        | 3,825      |
| Total                              | \$ 226,857   | \$ 291,109 |

(a) Thompsons Limited and related U.S. operating company held by joint ventures

The Company identified and corrected an error in the valuation of the cumulative translation adjustment for the investment in Thompsons Limited. The impact of this error on annual and interim periods previously reported was determined to be immaterial to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The adjustment decreases other comprehensive income, equity method investments, and deferred income tax liability by \$3.2 million, \$3.6 million, and \$0.4 million respectively. The correction related to the years 2013 and 2014 and was recorded during the fourth quarter of 2014.

The following table summarizes income (losses) earned from the Company's equity method investments by entity:

| (in thousands)                     | % ownership at<br>December 31, 2014<br>(direct and indirect) | December 31,     |                  |                  |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                    |  | 2014             | 2013             | 2012             |
| The Andersons Albion Ethanol LLC   | 53%  | \$ 19,814        | \$ 10,469        | \$ (497)         |
| The Andersons Clymers Ethanol LLC  | 38%  | 21,840           | 11,299           | (3,828)          |
| The Andersons Marathon Ethanol LLC | 50%  | 27,226           | 13,815           | (8,273)          |
| Lansing Trade Group, LLC           | 40% (a)  | 23,266           | 31,212           | 28,559           |
| Thompsons Limited (b)              | 50%  | 4,140            | 1,634            | —                |
| Other                              | 5%-34%   | 237              | 276              | 526              |
| <b>Total</b>                       |  | <b>\$ 96,523</b> | <b>\$ 68,705</b> | <b>\$ 16,487</b> |

(a) This does not consider the restricted management units which once vested will reduce the ownership percentage by approximately 1.5%.

(b) Thompsons Limited and related U.S. operating company held by joint ventures

Total distributions received from unconsolidated affiliates were \$140.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2014. The balance at December 31, 2014 that represents the undistributed earnings of the Company's equity method investments is \$83.4 million.

#### Investment in Debt Securities

The Company owns 100% of the cumulative convertible preferred shares of Iowa Northern Railway Corporation ("IANR"), which operates a short-line railroad in Iowa. As a result of this investment, the Company has a 49.9% voting interest in IANR, with the remaining 50.1% voting interest held by the common shareholders. The preferred shares have certain rights associated with them, including voting, dividends, liquidation, redemption and conversion. Dividends accrue to the Company at a rate of 14% annually whether or not declared by IANR and are cumulative in nature. The Company can convert its preferred shares into common shares of IANR at any time, but the shares cannot be redeemed until May 2015. This investment is accounted for as "available-for-sale" debt securities in accordance with ASC 320 and is carried at estimated fair value in "Other noncurrent assets" on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet. The estimated fair value of the Company's investment in IANR as of December 31, 2014 was \$13.3 million.

Based on the Company's assessment, IANR is considered a variable interest entity ("VIE"). Since the Company does not possess the power to direct the activities of the VIE that most significantly impact the entity's economic performance, it is not considered to be the primary beneficiary of IANR and therefore does not consolidate IANR. The decisions that most significantly impact the economic performance of IANR are made by IANR's Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has five directors; two directors from the Company, two directors from the common shareholders and one independent director who is elected by unanimous decision of the other four directors. The vote of four of the five directors is required for all key decisions.

The Company's current maximum exposure to loss related to IANR is \$20.9 million, which represents the Company's investment at fair value plus unpaid accrued dividends to date of \$7.6 million. The Company does not have any obligation or commitments to provide additional financial support to IANR.



### Related Party Transactions

In the ordinary course of business, the Company will enter into related party transactions with each of the investments described above, along with other related parties. The following table sets forth the related party transactions entered into for the time periods presented:

| (in thousands)                         | December 31, |              |              |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | 2014         | 2013         | 2012         |
| Sales revenues                         | \$ 1,062,377 | \$ 1,315,234 | \$ 1,031,458 |
| Service fee revenues (a)               | 23,093       | 23,536       | 22,165       |
| Purchases of product                   | 604,067      | 704,948      | 655,686      |
| Lease income (b)                       | 6,381        | 6,223        | 6,995        |
| Labor and benefits reimbursement (c)   | 11,707       | 10,613       | 12,140       |
| Other expenses (d)                     | 1,224        | 2,349        | 1,093        |
| Accounts receivable at December 31 (e) | 25,049       | 21,979       | 28,610       |
| Accounts payable at December 31 (f)    | 17,687       | 19,887       | 17,804       |

- (a) Service fee revenues include management fee, corn origination fee, ethanol and DDG marketing fees, and other commissions.
- (b) Lease income includes the lease of the Company's Albion, Michigan and Clymers, Indiana grain facilities as well as certain railcars to the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs and IANR.
- (c) The Company provides all operational labor to the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs and charges them an amount equal to the Company's costs of the related services.
- (d) Other expenses include payments to IANR for repair facility rent and use of their railroad reporting mark, payment to LTG for the lease of railcars and other various expenses.
- (e) Accounts receivable represents amounts due from related parties for sales of corn, leasing revenue and service fees.
- (f) Accounts payable represents amounts due to related parties for purchases of ethanol and other various items.

From time to time, the Company enters into derivative contracts with certain of its related parties, including the unconsolidated ethanol LLCs, LTG, and the Thompsons Limited joint ventures, for the purchase and sale of grain and ethanol, for similar price risk mitigation purposes and on similar terms as the purchase and sale derivative contracts it enters into with unrelated parties. The fair value of derivative contracts with related parties was a gross asset for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 of \$1.4 million and \$8.9 million, respectively. The fair value of derivative contracts with related parties was a gross liability for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 of \$3.8 million and \$1.2 million, respectively.

### **9. Fair Value Measurements**

Generally accepted accounting principles define fair value as an exit price and also establish a framework for measuring fair value. An exit price represents the amount that would be received upon the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. Fair value should be determined based on the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. As a basis for considering such assumptions, a three-tier fair value hierarchy is used, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value as follows:

- Level 1 inputs: Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Level 2 inputs: Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly; and
- Level 3 inputs: Unobservable inputs (e.g., a reporting entity's own data).

In many cases, a valuation technique used to measure fair value includes inputs from multiple levels of the fair value hierarchy. The lowest level of significant input determines the placement of the entire fair value measurement in the hierarchy.

The following table presents the Company's assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2014 and 2013:

| (in thousands)                       |                   |                    |                  |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| December 31, 2014                    |                   |                    |                  |                   |
| Assets (liabilities)                 | Level 1           | Level 2            | Level 3          | Total             |
| Cash equivalents                     | \$ 269            | \$ —               | \$ —             | \$ 269            |
| Restricted cash                      | 429               | —                  | —                | 429               |
| Commodity derivatives, net (a)       | 72,868            | (46,983)           | —                | 25,885            |
| Convertible preferred securities (b) | —                 | —                  | 13,300           | 13,300            |
| Other assets and liabilities (c)     | 10,869            | (2,666)            | —                | 8,203             |
| Total                                | <u>\$ 84,435</u>  | <u>\$ (49,649)</u> | <u>\$ 13,300</u> | <u>\$ 48,086</u>  |
| (in thousands)                       |                   |                    |                  |                   |
| December 31, 2013                    |                   |                    |                  |                   |
| Assets (liabilities)                 | Level 1           | Level 2            | Level 3          | Total             |
| Cash equivalents                     | \$ 97,751         | \$ —               | \$ —             | \$ 97,751         |
| Restricted cash                      | 408               | —                  | —                | 408               |
| Commodity derivatives, net (a)       | 50,777            | (49,810)           | —                | 967               |
| Convertible preferred securities (b) | —                 | —                  | 25,720           | 25,720            |
| Other assets and liabilities (c)     | 10,143            | (159)              | —                | 9,984             |
| Total                                | <u>\$ 159,079</u> | <u>\$ (49,969)</u> | <u>\$ 25,720</u> | <u>\$ 134,830</u> |

(a) Includes associated cash posted/received as collateral

(b) Recorded in "Other noncurrent assets" on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets

(c) Included in other assets and liabilities are deferred compensation assets (Level 1) and interest rate derivatives (Level 2)

Level 1 commodity derivatives reflect the fair value of the exchanged-traded futures and options contracts that the Company holds, net of the cash collateral that the Company has in its margin account.

The majority of the Company's assets and liabilities measured at fair value are based on the market approach valuation technique. With the market approach, fair value is derived using prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities.

The Company's net commodity derivatives primarily consist of futures or options contracts via regulated exchanges and contracts with producers or customers under which the future settlement date and bushels (or gallons in the case of ethanol contracts) of commodities to be delivered (primarily wheat, corn, soybeans and ethanol) are fixed and under which the price may or may not be fixed. Depending on the specifics of the individual contracts, the fair value is derived from the futures or options prices on the CME or the New York Mercantile Exchange for similar commodities and delivery dates as well as observable quotes for local basis adjustments (the difference, which is attributable to local market conditions, between the quoted futures price and the local cash price). Because "basis" for a particular commodity and location typically has multiple quoted prices from other agribusinesses in the same geographical vicinity and is used as a common pricing mechanism in the Agribusiness industry, we have concluded that "basis" is a Level 2 fair value input for purposes of the fair value disclosure requirements related to our commodity derivatives. Although nonperformance risk, both of the Company and the counterparty, is present in each of these commodity contracts and is a component of the estimated fair values, based on the Company's historical experience with its producers and customers and the Company's knowledge of their businesses, the Company does not view nonperformance risk to be a material input to fair value for these commodity contracts.

The Company's convertible preferred securities are measured at fair value using a combination of the income approach on a quarterly basis and the market approach on an annual basis. Specifically, the income approach incorporates the use of the Discounted Cash Flow method, whereas the Market Approach incorporates the use of the Guideline Public Company method. Application of the Discounted Cash Flow method requires estimating the annual cash flows that the business enterprise is expected to generate in the future. The assumptions input into this method are estimated annual cash flows for a specified estimation period, the discount rate, and the terminal value at the end of the estimation period. In the Guideline Public Company method, valuation multiples, including total invested capital, are calculated based on financial statements and stock price data from selected guideline publicly traded companies. On an annual basis, a comparative analysis is then performed for factors including, but not limited to size, profitability and growth to determine fair value.

A reconciliation of beginning and ending balances for the Company's fair value measurements using Level 3 inputs is as follows:

| (in thousands)   | Convertible Preferred Securities |                  |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------|
|  | 2014                             | 2013             |
| Asset at January 1,  | \$ 25,720                        | \$ 17,220        |
| (Losses) gains included in earnings:                             |                                  |                  |
| Unrealized (losses) gains included in other comprehensive income | (12,420)                         | 8,500            |
| Asset at December 31,  | <u>\$ 13,300</u>                 | <u>\$ 25,720</u> |

The Company's 2014 other comprehensive income includes \$4.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2014 related to an error in the valuation of the investment in Iowa Northern Railroad. The correction related to the years 2010 through 2014 and was recorded in the fourth quarter of 2014. The impact of this error on amounts previously reported was determined to be immaterial to the Consolidated Financial Statements. As a result of the correction of the error, other comprehensive income, total noncurrent assets, and deferred income tax liability decreased by \$4.4 million, \$7.0 million, and \$2.6 million, respectively.

The following tables summarize information about the Company's Level 3 fair value measurements as of December 31, 2014 and 2013:

**Quantitative Information about Level 3 Fair Value Measurements**

| (in thousands)                   | Fair Value as of 12/31/14 | Valuation Method | Unobservable Input | Weighted Average |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Convertible Preferred Securities | \$ 13,300                 | Market Approach  | EBITDA Multiples   | 7.00             |
|                                  |                           | Income Approach  | Discount Rate      | 14.5%            |

| (in thousands)                   | Fair Value as of 12/31/13 | Valuation Method | Unobservable Input | Weighted Average |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Convertible Preferred Securities | \$ 25,720                 | Market Approach  | EBITDA Multiples   | 7.75             |
|                                  |                           | Income Approach  | Discount Rate      | 14.5%            |

In isolation, a significant increase (decrease) in the EBITDA multiple used as a Level 3 input for the Convertible Preferred Securities would result in a corresponding increase (decrease) of the fair value. Conversely, a significant increase (decrease) in the discount rate used would result in a decrease (increase) of the fair value. There are no predictable relationships between the significant unobservable inputs.

**Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

Certain long-term notes payable and the Company's debenture bonds bear fixed rates of interest and terms of up to 15 years. Based upon the Company's credit standing and current interest rates offered by the Company on similar bonds and rates currently available to the Company for long-term borrowings with similar terms and remaining maturities, the Company estimates the fair values of its fixed rate long-term debt instruments outstanding at December 31, 2014 and 2013, as follows:

| (in thousands)                     | Carrying Amount   | Fair Value        | Fair Value Hierarchy Level |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 2014:                              |                   |                   |                            |
| Fixed rate long-term notes payable | \$ 250,970        | \$ 256,756        | Level 2                    |
| Debenture bonds                    | 42,098            | 43,095            | Level 2                    |
|                                    | <u>\$ 293,068</u> | <u>\$ 299,851</u> |                            |
| 2013:                              |                   |                   |                            |
| Fixed rate long-term notes payable | \$ 270,112        | \$ 271,716        | Level 2                    |
| Debenture bonds                    | 41,131            | 42,475            | Level 2                    |
|                                    | <u>\$ 311,243</u> | <u>\$ 314,191</u> |                            |

The fair value of the Company's cash equivalents, accounts receivable and accounts payable approximate their carrying value as they are close to maturity.

## 10. Debt

### Borrowing Arrangements

The Company maintains a borrowing arrangement with a syndicate of banks, which was amended on March 4, 2014, and provides the Company with \$850 million in lines of credit. The Company can designate up to \$400 million of borrowings as long-term when the debt is used for long-term purposes, such as replacing long-term debt that is maturing, funding the purchase of long-term assets, or increasing permanent working capital when needed. It also provides the Company with \$90 million in letters of credit. Any amounts outstanding on letters of credit will reduce the amount available on the line of credit. The Company had standby letters of credit outstanding of \$30.7 million at December 31, 2014. As of December 31, 2014, the Company had no outstanding borrowings on the line of credit. Borrowings under the line of credit bear interest at variable interest rates, which are based off LIBOR plus an applicable spread. The maturity date for the line of credit is March 2019. Draw downs and repayments that are less than 90 days are recorded on a net basis in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

The Company also has \$28.1 million of lines of credit related to The Andersons Denison Ethanol LLC ("TADE"), a consolidated subsidiary. TADE entered into borrowing arrangements with a syndicate of financial institutions upon acquisition of the entity in the second quarter of 2012 which provided a \$13.0 million short-term line of credit and a \$15.1 million long-term line of credit. TADE had standby letters of credit outstanding of \$0.4 million at December 31, 2014, which reduces the amount available on the lines of credit. As of December 31, 2014, the Company had no outstanding borrowings on the lines of credit. Borrowings under the lines of credit and the term loan bear interest at variable interest rates, which are based off LIBOR plus an applicable spread. The maturity date is July 1, 2015 for the short-term line of credit and April 20, 2021 for the long-term line of credit. TADE was in compliance with all financial and non-financial covenants as of December 31, 2014, including but not limited to minimum working capital and net worth. TADE debt is collateralized by the mortgage on the ethanol facility and related equipment or other assets and is not guaranteed by the Company, therefore it is considered non-recourse debt.

The Company's short-term and long-term debt at December 31, 2014 and 2013 consisted of the following:

| (in thousands)   | December 31, |            |
|--|--------------|------------|
|  | 2014         | 2013       |
| Short-term debt - non-recourse                         | \$ —         | \$ —       |
| Short-term debt - recourse                             | 2,166        | —          |
| Total short-term debt                                  | \$ 2,166     | \$ —       |
| Current maturities of long-term debt – non-recourse    | \$ —         | \$ 6,012   |
| Current maturities of long-term debt – recourse        | 76,415       | 45,986     |
| Total current maturities of long-term debt             | \$ 76,415    | \$ 51,998  |
| Long-term debt, less current maturities – non-recourse | \$ —         | \$ 4,063   |
| Long-term debt, less current maturities – recourse     | 298,638      | 371,150    |
| Total long-term debt, less current maturities          | \$ 298,638   | \$ 375,213 |

The following information relates to short-term borrowings:

| (in thousands, except percentages) | December 31, |            |            |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|
|                                    | 2014         | 2013       | 2012       |
| Maximum amount borrowed            | \$ 270,600   | \$ 315,000 | \$ 553,400 |
| Weighted average interest rate     | 1.69%        | 1.92%      | 1.96%      |

## Long-Term Debt

### **Recourse Debt**

Long-term debt consists of the following:

| (in thousands, except percentages)   | December 31,      |                   |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | 2014              | 2013              |
| Senior note payable, 6.10%, payable at maturity, due 2014  | \$ —              | \$ 25,000         |
| Senior note payable, 6.12%, payable at maturity, due 2015  | 61,500            | 61,500            |
| Senior note payable, 3.72%, payable at maturity, due 2017  | 25,000            | 25,000            |
| Senior note payable, 6.78%, payable at maturity, due 2018  | 41,500            | 41,500            |
| Note payable, 4.92%, \$2 million annually (\$2.3 million for 2014), plus interest, due 2021 (a)  | 24,911            | 27,178            |
| Note payable, 4.76%, payable in increasing amounts (\$1.8 million for 2014) plus interest, due 2028 (a)                                      | 51,818            | 53,600            |
| Note payable, variable rate (2.66% at December 31, 2014), payable in increasing amounts (\$1.2 million for 2014) plus interest, due 2023 (a) | 21,791            | 23,015            |
| Note payable, 3.29%, payable in increasing amounts (\$1.2 million for 2014) plus interest, due 2022 (a)                                      | 24,159            | 25,366            |
| Note payable, 4.23%, payable quarterly in varying amounts (\$0.1 million for 2014) plus interest, due 2021 (a)                               | 12,382            | —                 |
| Notes payable, variable rate (1.40% at December 31, 2014), payable in varying amounts, (\$22.4 million for 2014) plus interest, due 2016     | 5,043             | 22,120            |
| Note payable, variable rate (1.57% at December 31, 2014), payable in increasing amounts (\$1.0 million for 2014) plus interest, due 2023 (a) | 10,890            | 11,865            |
| Note payable, variable rate (0.97% at December 31, 2014), \$0.7 million annually, plus interest, due 2016 (a)                                | 8,050             | 8,750             |
| Note payable, 8.5%, payable monthly in varying amounts (\$1.0 million for 2014) plus interest, due 2016 (a)                                  | —                 | 988               |
| Note payable, 4.76%, payable quarterly in varying amounts (\$0.3 million for 2014) plus interest, due 2028 (a)                               | 9,654             | 9,980             |
| Note payable, 3.56%, payable monthly in varying amounts plus interest, due 2021 (a)  | —                 | 3,459             |
| Industrial development revenue bonds:  |                   |                   |
| Variable rate (2.54% at December 31, 2014), payable at maturity, due 2017 (a)  | 7,461             | 7,934             |
| Variable rate (1.51% at December 31, 2014), payable at maturity, due 2019 (a)  | 4,650             | 4,650             |
| Variable rate (1.49% at December 31, 2014), payable at maturity, due 2025 (a)  | 3,100             | 3,100             |
| Variable rate (1.43% at December 31, 2014), payable at maturity, due 2036 (a)  | 21,000            | 21,000            |
| Debenture bonds, 2.65% to 5.00%, due 2015 through 2029   | 42,098            | 41,131            |
| Other notes payable and bonds  | 46                | —                 |
|  | <b>375,053</b>    | <b>417,136</b>    |
| Less: current maturities   | <b>76,415</b>     | <b>45,986</b>     |
|  | <b>\$ 298,638</b> | <b>\$ 371,150</b> |

(a) Debt is collateralized by first mortgages on certain facilities and related equipment or other assets with a book value of \$123.1 million

The Company assumed a \$12.5 million note payable as part of the Auburn Bean and Grain acquisition (discussed in Note 12).

At December 31, 2014, the Company had \$3.3 million of five-year term debenture bonds bearing interest at 2.65%, \$3.5 million of ten-year term debenture bonds bearing interest at 3.50% and \$1.7 million of fifteen-year term debenture bonds bearing interest at 4.50% available for sale under an existing registration statement.

The Company's short-term and long-term borrowing agreements include both financial and non-financial covenants that, among other things, require the Company at a minimum to maintain:

- tangible net worth of not less than \$300 million;
- current ratio net of hedged inventory of not less than 1.25 to 1.00;
- debt to capitalization ratio of not more than 70%;
- asset coverage ratio of not more than 75%; and
- interest coverage ratio of not less than 2.75 to 1.00.

The Company was in compliance with all covenants at and during the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

The aggregate annual maturities of long-term debt are as follows: 2015 -- \$76.1 million; 2016 -- \$27.5 million; 2017 -- \$47.5 million; 2018 -- \$53.6 million; 2019 -- \$15.2 million; and \$153.3 million thereafter.

### ***Non-Recourse Debt***

The Company's non-recourse debt, including the lines of credit, held by TADE includes separate financial covenants relating solely to the collateralized TADE assets. The covenants require the following:

- tangible net worth of not less than \$33 million (increasing to \$36 million effective December 31, 2015 and \$40 million effective December 31, 2016);
- working capital not less than \$8 million; and
- debt service coverage ratio of not less than 1.25 to 1.00.

## **11. Commitments and Contingencies**

### ***Litigation activities***

The Company is party to litigation, or threats thereof, both as defendant and plaintiff with some regularity, although individual cases that are material in size occur infrequently. As a defendant, the Company establishes reserves for claimed amounts that are considered probable, and capable of estimation. If those cases are resolved for lesser amounts, the excess reserves are taken into income and, conversely, if those cases are resolved for larger than the amount the Company has accrued, the Company records a charge to income. The Company believes it is unlikely that the results of its current legal proceedings for which it is the defendant, even if unfavorable, will be material. As a plaintiff, amounts that are collected can also result in sudden, non-recurring income. Litigation results depend upon a variety of factors, including the availability of evidence, the credibility of witnesses, the performance of counsel, the state of the law, and the impressions of judges and jurors, any of which can be critical in importance, yet difficult, if not impossible, to predict. Consequently, cases currently pending, or future matters, may result in unexpected, and non-recurring losses, or income, from time to time. Finally, litigation results are often subject to judicial reconsideration, appeal and further negotiation by the parties, and as a result, the final impact of a particular judicial decision may be unknown for some time, or may result in continued reserves to account for the potential of such post-verdict actions. In the third quarter of 2014, the Company recorded a \$2.3 million gain in other income related to the settlement of a legal claim. In the third quarter of 2013, the Company recorded a \$3.5 million gain in other income related to the settlement of an early rail lease termination.

The estimated range of loss for all outstanding claims that are considered reasonably possible of occurring is not material. We have received, and are cooperating fully with, a request for information from the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("U.S. EPA") regarding the history of our grain and fertilizer facility along the Maumee River in Toledo, Ohio. The U.S. EPA is investigating the possible introduction into the Maumee River of hazardous materials potentially leaching from rouge piles deposited along the riverfront by glass manufacturing operations that existed in the area prior to our initial acquisition of the land in 1960. We have on several prior occasions cooperated with local, state and federal regulators to install or improve drainage systems to contain storm water runoff and sewer discharges along our riverfront property to minimize the potential for such leaching. Other area land owners and the successor to the original glass making operations have also been contacted by the U.S. EPA for information. No claim or finding has been asserted thus far.

### ***Rail Group leasing activities***

The Company's Rail Group is a lessor of assets. The majority are leased to customers under operating leases that may be either net leases (in which the customer pays for all maintenance) or full service leases (where the Company provides maintenance and fleet management services). The Company also provides such services to financial intermediaries to whom it has sold

assets in non-recourse lease transactions. Fleet management services generally include maintenance, escrow, tax filings and car tracking services.

Many of the Company's leases provide for renewals. The Company also generally holds purchase options for assets it has sold and leased-back from a financial intermediary, and assets sold in non-recourse lease transactions. These purchase options are for stated amounts which are determined at the inception of the lease and are intended to approximate the estimated fair value of the applicable assets at the date for which such purchase options can be exercised.

Lease income from operating leases (with the Company as lessor) to customers (including month-to-month and per diem leases) and rental expense for the Rail Group operating leases (with the Company as lessee) were as follows:

| (in thousands)                               | Year ended December 31, |           |           |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013      | 2012      |
| Rental and service income - operating leases | \$ 80,715               | \$ 78,979 | \$ 77,916 |
| Rental expense                               | \$ 13,206               | \$ 13,751 | \$ 11,987 |

Lease income recognized under per diem arrangements (described in Note 1) totaled \$3.4 million, \$2.0 million, and \$2.1 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively, and is included in the amounts above.

Future minimum rentals and service income for all noncancelable Rail Group operating leases are as follows:

| (in thousands)          | Future Rental and Service<br>Income - Operating Leases | Future Minimum<br>Rental Payments |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Year ended December 31, |  |                                   |
| 2015                    | \$ 77,025  | \$ 15,358                         |
| 2016                    | 64,229   | 13,395                            |
| 2017                    | 46,473   | 11,185                            |
| 2018                    | 31,314   | 7,631                             |
| 2019                    | 17,487   | 4,817                             |
| Future years            | 21,412   | 9,566                             |
|                         | <u>\$ 257,940</u>                                      | <u>\$ 61,952</u>                  |

The Company also arranges non-recourse lease transactions under which it sells assets to financial intermediaries and assigns the related operating lease on a non-recourse basis. The Company generally provides ongoing maintenance and management services for the financial intermediaries, and receives a fee for such services when earned. Management and service fees earned in 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$8.4 million, \$7.9 million and \$3.8 million, respectively.

#### Other leasing activities

The Company, as a lessee, leases real property, vehicles and other equipment under operating leases. Certain of these agreements contain lease renewal and purchase options. The Company also leases excess property to third parties. Net rental expense under these agreements was \$8.9 million, \$8.4 million and \$7.3 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Future minimum lease payments (net of sublease income commitments) under agreements in effect at December 31, 2014 are as follows: 2015 -- \$4.2 million; 2016 -- \$3.2 million; 2017 -- \$1.7 million; 2018 -- \$1.1 million; 2019 -- \$0.6 million; and \$0.4 million thereafter.

In addition to the above, the Company leases its Albion, Michigan and Clymers, Indiana grain elevators under operating leases to two of its ethanol investees. The Albion, Michigan grain elevator lease expires in 2056. The initial term of the Clymers, Indiana grain elevator lease ended in 2014 and was renewed through 2022. The agreement provides for several renewals of 7.5 years each. Lease income for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 was \$2.0 million, \$1.9 million and \$1.9 million, respectively.



## 12. Business Acquisitions

The Company's acquisitions are accounted for as purchases in accordance with ASC Topic 805, *Business Combinations*. Tangible assets and liabilities and identifiable intangible assets were adjusted to fair values at the acquisition date with the remainder of the purchase price, if any, recorded as goodwill. Operating results of these acquisitions are included in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements from the date of acquisition and are not significant to the Company's consolidated operating results.

### 2014 Business Acquisitions

The cash spending in 2014 on the acquisitions of businesses, net of cash acquired was \$20.0 million.

On October 7, 2014, the Company purchased Auburn Bean and Grain, which included six grain and four agronomy assets. The Company acquired 100% of the outstanding shares of Auburn Bean and Grain, in related transactions valued at an aggregate purchase price of \$60.9 million. The purchase occurred in two transactions. For the shares of Auburn Bean and Grain, the Company paid \$5.0 million in cash and approximately 637 thousand unregistered shares of the Company's common stock, valued at \$35.5 million. Included in these amounts are approximately 80 thousand shares, valued at \$4.5 million for an adjustment to working capital to be paid in 2015. The Company also paid \$20.4 million in cash for certain facilities previously leased by Auburn Bean and Grain. The purchase provides combined grain storage capacity of approximately: 18.1 million bushels, 16.0 thousand tons of dry and 3.7 million gallons of liquid nutrient capacity.

The purchase price allocation is preliminary, pending completion of the full valuation report; however significant changes are not anticipated. The summarized preliminary purchase price allocation is as follows:

(in thousands)

|                                  |    |               |
|----------------------------------|----|---------------|
| Cash                             | \$ | 12,491        |
| Accounts receivable              |    | 9,012         |
| Inventory                        |    | 5,798         |
| Other assets                     |    | 2,665         |
| Intangibles                      |    | 9,250         |
| Goodwill                         |    | 11,236        |
| Property, plant, and equipment   |    | 41,692        |
| Accounts payable                 |    | (3,419)       |
| Commodity derivative liabilities |    | (2,733)       |
| Other current liabilities        |    | (1,281)       |
| Long-term debt                   |    | (12,577)      |
| Other non-current liabilities    |    | (11,239)      |
| Total purchase price             | \$ | <u>60,895</u> |

The goodwill recognized as a result of the Auburn Bean and Grain acquisition is \$11.2 million, with \$5.7 million included in the Grain reportable segment and \$5.5 million included in the Plant Nutrient reportable segment. Approximately \$3.9 million of goodwill is deductible for tax purposes. In addition to the increased capacity noted above, the acquisition enhances the Company's presence in Michigan, which is a core geographic state, and includes rail interchange agreements already in place with all of the eastern U.S. Class I railroads.

Details of the intangible assets acquired are as follows:

(in thousands)

|                                      | Fair Value      | Useful Life  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Supplier relationships               | \$ 4,620        | 10 years     |
| Customer relationships               | \$ 3,450        | 10 years     |
| Trade name                           | \$ 860          | 10 years     |
| Noncompete agreement                 | \$ 320          | 1 to 5 years |
| Total identifiable intangible assets | <u>\$ 9,250</u> | 10 years *   |

\*weighted average number of years



The Company also completed various individually insignificant acquisitions in 2014 for a combined purchase price of \$7.2 million, resulting in \$2.6 million of goodwill, \$1.1 million of intangibles, and \$3.8 million of property, plant and equipment, all of it related to the Grain reportable segment.

#### Prior Years Business Acquisitions

On December 3, 2012, the Company completed the purchase of a majority of the grain and agronomy assets of Green Plains Grain Company ("GPG"), a subsidiary of Green Plains Renewable Energy, Inc. for a purchase price of \$120.2 million, which includes a \$3.3 million payable to the acquiree that was paid in January 2013. The various facilities located in Iowa and Tennessee have a combined grain storage capacity of more than 32 million bushels and 12,000 tons of nutrient storage.

During the first quarter of 2013, the purchase price allocation for Green Plains Grain Company, which was acquired in the fourth quarter of 2012 was finalized. The measurement period adjustments to the purchase price allocation are the result of additional information obtained since the filing of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012. December 31, 2012 balances have been revised to include the effect of the adjustment as if the additional information had been available on the acquisition date. Due to these revision of estimates, goodwill increased \$3 million, with the majority of the offset to intangible assets.

The summarized final purchase price allocation is as follows:

(in thousands)

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Accounts receivable           | \$ 19,174         |
| Inventory                     | 121,983           |
| Property, plant and equipment | 57,828            |
| Intangible assets             | 4,600             |
| Goodwill                      | 33,175            |
| Commodity derivatives         | 4,701             |
| Other assets                  | 1,775             |
| Accounts payable              | (91,001)          |
| Debt assumed                  | (29,632)          |
| Other liabilities             | (2,371)           |
| Total purchase price          | <u>\$ 120,232</u> |

The goodwill recognized as a result of the GPG acquisition is \$33.2 million, for which the full amount is deductible for tax purposes, and is included in the Grain reportable segment. The goodwill relates to the value of a fully functional business consisting of a successful management team and an experienced and talented work force.

Details of the intangible assets acquired are as follows:

(in thousands)

|                                      | Fair Value      | Useful Life  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Supplier relationships               | \$ 4,600        | 3 to 5 years |
| Total identifiable intangible assets | <u>\$ 4,600</u> | 4 years *    |

\*weighted average number of years

The amounts of the GPG revenue and earnings included in the Consolidated Statements of Income for the year ended December 31, 2012, and the revenue and earnings of GPG had the acquisition date been January 1, 2011 are as follows:

(unaudited, in thousands)

|  | Revenue   | Operating Income (Loss) |
|--|-----------|-------------------------|
| Actual from 12/3/2012 to 12/31/2012                  | \$ 40,477 | \$ (785)                |
| Supplemental pro forma from 1/1/2012 - 12/31/2012    | 566,821   | 1,632                   |
| Combined entity pro forma from 1/1/2012 - 12/31/2012 | 5,798,354 | 122,550                 |

On May 1, 2012, the Company and its subsidiary, The Andersons Denison Ethanol LLC ("TADE") completed the purchase of certain assets of an ethanol production facility in Denison, Iowa for a purchase price of \$77.4 million. Previously owned by Amaizing Energy Denison LLC and Amaizing Energy Holding Company, LLC, the operations consist of a 55 million gallon

capacity ethanol facility with an adjacent 2.7 million bushel grain terminal, with direct access to two Class 1 railroads in Iowa. TADE has been organized to provide investment opportunity for the Company and potential outside investors. The Company owns the grain terminal, manages TADE, and provides grain origination, risk management, and DDG and ethanol marketing services. The Company currently owns a controlling interest of 85% of TADE, and therefore includes TADE's results of operations in its consolidated financial statements. The fair value of the noncontrolling interest in TADE purchased by the minority investor at the acquisition date was \$6.1 million.

The summarized final purchase price allocation is as follows:

(in thousands)

|                               |    |               |
|-------------------------------|----|---------------|
| Grain elevator                | \$ | 14,285        |
| Inventory                     |    | 10,087        |
| Intangible assets             |    | 2,373         |
| Other current assets          |    | 962           |
| Property, plant and equipment |    | 49,693        |
| Total purchase price          | \$ | <u>77,400</u> |

Details of the intangible assets acquired are as follows:

(in thousands)

|                                      | Fair Value      | Useful Life          |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Lease intangibles                    | \$ 2,123        | 10 months to 5 years |
| Noncompete agreement                 | 250             | 2 years              |
| Total identifiable intangible assets | <u>\$ 2,373</u> | 3 years *            |

\*weighted average number of years

On January 31, 2012, the Company purchased 100% of the stock of New Eezy Gro, Inc. ("NEG") for a purchase price of \$16.8 million. New Eezy Gro is a manufacturer and wholesale marketer of specialty agricultural nutrients and industrial products.

The summarized purchase price allocation is as follows:

(in thousands)

|                               |    |               |
|-------------------------------|----|---------------|
| Current assets                | \$ | 5,106         |
| Intangible assets             |    | 9,600         |
| Goodwill                      |    | 6,681         |
| Property, plant and equipment |    | 3,586         |
| Current liabilities           |    | (3,784)       |
| Deferred tax liability, net   |    | (4,412)       |
| Total purchase price          | \$ | <u>16,777</u> |

The goodwill recognized as a result of the NEG acquisition is \$6.7 million and is included in the Plant Nutrient reportable segment. The goodwill relates to the value of proprietary products and processes as well as an assembled workforce.

Details of the intangible assets acquired are as follows:

(in thousands)

|                                      | Fair Value      | Useful Life |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Trademarks                           | \$ 1,200        | 10 years    |
| Customer list                        | 5,500           | 10 years    |
| Technology                           | 2,100           | 5 years     |
| Noncompete agreement                 | 800             | 7 years     |
| Total identifiable intangible assets | <u>\$ 9,600</u> | 9 years *   |

\*weighted average number of years

The Company completed several other individually insignificant acquisitions during 2013 and 2012, for combined purchase prices of \$12.0 million and \$10.7 million, respectively. In 2013, the Company recognized goodwill of \$4.2 million, intangible

assets of \$1.0 million, and property, plant and equipment of \$6.4 million. In 2012, the Company recognized goodwill of \$2.0 million, intangible assets of \$1.0 million, property, plant and equipment of \$3.9 million, and inventory of \$3.8 million.

### 13. Goodwill and Intangible Assets

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 are as follows:

| (in thousands)                  | Grain     | Plant<br>Nutrient | Rail     | Turf &<br>Specialty | Total     |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|----------|---------------------|-----------|
| Balance as of January 1, 2012   | \$ 4,990  | \$ 6,869          | \$ —     | \$ 686              | \$ 12,545 |
| Acquisitions (a)                | 33,175    | 6,681             | —        | 1,986               | 41,842    |
| Balance as of December 31, 2012 | 38,165    | 13,550            | —        | 2,672               | 54,387    |
| Acquisitions                    | —         | —                 | 4,167    | —                   | 4,167     |
| Balance as of December 31, 2013 | 38,165    | 13,550            | 4,167    | 2,672               | 58,554    |
| Acquisitions                    | 8,257     | 5,554             | —        | —                   | 13,811    |
| Balances of December 31, 2014   | \$ 46,422 | \$ 19,104         | \$ 4,167 | \$ 2,672            | \$ 72,365 |

(a) The Grain acquisition balance has been revised to include the effect of the adjustments to the purchase price allocation in 2013. Discussed in Note 12. Business Acquisitions

Goodwill is tested annually for impairment as of December 31 or whenever events or circumstances change that would indicate that an impairment of goodwill may be present. There have been no goodwill impairment charges historically. In 2014, the Company performed a combination of quantitative and qualitative assessments of goodwill. In 2013 and 2012 the Company performed mainly qualitative goodwill impairment analyses.

The quantitative approach uses a two-step process. Step 1 compares the business enterprise value ("BEV") of each reporting unit with its carrying value. The BEV is computed based on estimated future cash flows, discounted at the weighted average cost of capital of a hypothetical third-party buyer. If the BEV is less than the carrying value for any reporting unit, then Step 2 must be performed. Step 2 compares the implied fair value of goodwill with the carrying amount of goodwill. Any excess of the carrying value of the goodwill over the implied fair value will be recorded as an impairment loss. The calculations of the BEV in Step 1 and the implied fair value of goodwill in Step 2 are based on significant unobservable inputs, such as price trends, customer demand, material costs, discount rates and asset replacement costs, and are classified as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy. For those reporting units for which the Company performed the quantitative assessment, no impairment existed.

In performing the qualitative assessment of goodwill, management considered the following relevant events and circumstances to determine if any reporting units were deemed to be at risk:

- Macroeconomic conditions including, but not limited to deterioration in general economic conditions, limitation on accessing capital, or other developments in equity and credit markets;
- Industry and market considerations such as a deterioration in the environment in which an entity operates, an increased competitive environment, a change in the market for an entity's products or services, or a regulatory or political development;
- Cost factors such as increases in commodity prices, raw materials, labor, or other costs that have a negative effect on earnings and cash flows;
- Overall financial performance such as negative or declining cash flows or a decline in actual or planned revenue or earnings compared with actual and projected results of relevant prior periods;
- Other relevant entity-specific events such as changes in management, key personnel, strategy, or customers and;
- Events affecting a reporting unit such as a change in the composition or carrying amount of its net assets, a more-likely-than-not expectation of selling or disposing all, or a portion, of a reporting unit, the testing for recoverability of a significant asset group within a reporting unit, or recognition of a goodwill impairment loss in the financial statements of a subsidiary that is a component of a reporting unit.

There is a certain degree of uncertainty associated with the key assumptions used. Potential events or changes in circumstances that could reasonably be expected to negatively affect the key assumptions include significant volatility in commodity prices or raw material prices and unanticipated changes in the economy or industries within which the businesses operate. When considering all factors in totality, management believes it is more likely than not that the fair value of goodwill exceeds its carrying amount, and as such, no further analysis was required for purposes of testing goodwill for impairment.

The Company's intangible assets are recorded in other assets on the Consolidated Balance Sheets and are as follows:

| (in thousands)           | Original Cost    | Accumulated Amortization | Net Book Value   |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| <b>December 31, 2014</b> |                  |                          |                  |
| Intangible asset class   |                  |                          |                  |
| Customer list            | \$ 21,757        | \$ 10,374                | \$ 11,383        |
| Non-compete agreement    | 3,502            | 2,187                    | 1,315            |
| Supply agreement         | 9,806            | 3,082                    | 6,724            |
| Technology               | 2,100            | 1,225                    | 875              |
| Trademarks and patents   | 3,218            | 876                      | 2,342            |
| Lease intangible         | 5,985            | 4,422                    | 1,563            |
| Other                    | 1,904            | 1,695                    | 209              |
|                          | <u>\$ 48,272</u> | <u>\$ 23,861</u>         | <u>\$ 24,411</u> |
| <b>December 31, 2013</b> |                  |                          |                  |
| Intangible asset class   |                  |                          |                  |
| Customer list            | \$ 20,058        | \$ 8,833                 | \$ 11,225        |
| Non-compete agreement    | 2,949            | 1,860                    | 1,089            |
| Supply agreement         | 5,186            | 2,477                    | 2,709            |
| Technology               | 2,100            | 805                      | 1,295            |
| Trademarks and patents   | 2,357            | 641                      | 1,716            |
| Lease intangible         | 4,939            | 3,866                    | 1,073            |
| Other                    | 1,904            | 1,528                    | 376              |
|                          | <u>\$ 39,493</u> | <u>\$ 20,010</u>         | <u>\$ 19,483</u> |

Amortization expense for intangible assets was \$5.0 million, \$5.3 million and \$4.8 million for 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Expected future annual amortization expense is as follows: 2015 -- \$4.8 million; 2016 -- \$3.9 million; 2017 -- \$3.3 million; 2018 -- \$3.2 million; and 2019 -- \$2.6 million. In December 2014, the Company recorded an impairment of \$1.5 million related to a customer list in the Grain Group.

#### 14. Income Taxes

Income tax provision applicable to continuing operations consists of the following:

| (in thousands)   | Year ended December 31, |                  |                  |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                  | 2014                    | 2013             | 2012             |
| <b>Current:</b>  |                         |                  |                  |
| Federal          | \$ 32,600               | \$ 11,812        | \$ 23,816        |
| State and local  | 5,677                   | 225              | 3,492            |
| Foreign          | 1,409                   | 1,400            | 757              |
|                  | <u>\$ 39,686</u>        | <u>\$ 13,437</u> | <u>\$ 28,065</u> |
| <b>Deferred:</b> |                         |                  |                  |
| Federal          | \$ 19,741               | \$ 35,147        | \$ 14,808        |
| State and local  | 1,830                   | 4,321            | 1,982            |
| Foreign          | 244                     | 906              | (287)            |
|                  | <u>\$ 21,815</u>        | <u>\$ 40,374</u> | <u>\$ 16,503</u> |
| <b>Total:</b>    |                         |                  |                  |
| Federal          | \$ 52,341               | \$ 46,959        | \$ 38,624        |
| State and local  | 7,507                   | 4,546            | 5,474            |
| Foreign          | 1,653                   | 2,306            | 470              |
|                  | <u>\$ 61,501</u>        | <u>\$ 53,811</u> | <u>\$ 44,568</u> |

Income before income taxes from continuing operations consists of the following:

| (in thousands) | Year ended December 31, |                   |                   |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                | 2014                    | 2013              | 2012              |
| U.S. income    | \$ 174,262              | \$ 141,673        | \$ 119,325        |
| Foreign        | 9,884                   | 7,840             | 808               |
|                | <u>\$ 184,146</u>       | <u>\$ 149,513</u> | <u>\$ 120,133</u> |

A reconciliation from the statutory U.S. federal tax rate to the effective tax rate follows:

|  | Year ended December 31, |              |              |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013         | 2012         |
| Statutory U.S. federal tax rate                            | 35.0%                   | 35.0%        | 35.0%        |
| Increase (decrease) in rate resulting from:                |                         |              |              |
| Effect of qualified domestic production deduction          | (1.4)                   | (0.4)        | (0.8)        |
| Effect of Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act       | —                       | 0.9          | (0.6)        |
| Effect of noncontrolling interest                          | (2.5)                   | (1.3)        | 1.1          |
| State and local income taxes, net of related federal taxes | 2.7                     | 2.0          | 3.0          |
| Other, net   | (0.4)                   | (0.2)        | (0.6)        |
| Effective tax rate   | <u>33.4%</u>            | <u>36.0%</u> | <u>37.1%</u> |

Income taxes paid, net of refunds received, in 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$36.8 million, \$5.3 million and \$36.3 million, respectively.

Significant components of the Company's deferred tax liabilities and assets are as follows:

| (in thousands)   | December 31,        |                     |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
|  | 2014                | 2013                |
| Deferred tax liabilities:  |                     |                     |
| Property, plant and equipment and Rail Group assets leased to others | \$ (133,869)        | \$ (110,472)        |
| Prepaid employee benefits  | (18,453)            | (17,725)            |
| Investments  | (36,045)            | (29,749)            |
| Other  | (5,388)             | (5,426)             |
|  | <u>(193,755)</u>    | <u>(163,372)</u>    |
| Deferred tax assets:   |                     |                     |
| Employee benefits  | 52,107              | 36,593              |
| Accounts and notes receivable  | 1,784               | 1,890               |
| Inventory  | 9,964               | 6,605               |
| Net operating loss carryforwards                                     | 1,155               | 631                 |
| Other  | 148                 | 2,594               |
| Total deferred tax assets  | <u>65,158</u>       | <u>48,313</u>       |
| Valuation allowance  | (232)               | (92)                |
|  | <u>64,926</u>       | <u>48,221</u>       |
| Net deferred tax liabilities   | <u>\$ (128,829)</u> | <u>\$ (115,151)</u> |

On December 31, 2014, the Company had \$12.1 million in state net operating loss carryforwards that expire from 2017 to 2023. A deferred tax asset of \$0.5 million has been recorded with respect to state net operating loss carryforwards with no valuation allowance. On December 31, 2013 the Company had recorded a \$0.5 million deferred tax asset and a valuation allowance of \$0.1 million was established with respect to state net operating loss carryforwards.

On December 31, 2014, the Company had \$24.8 million in municipal net operating loss carryforwards that expire from 2016 to 2020. A deferred tax asset of \$0.2 million has been recorded with respect to municipal net operating loss carryforwards with a \$0.2 million valuation allowance.

On December 31, 2014, the Company had \$1.6 million in cumulative Canadian net operating losses that expire from 2031 to 2035. A deferred tax asset of \$0.4 million has been recorded with respect to Canadian net operating loss carryforwards. No valuation allowance has been established because based on all available evidence, the Company concluded it is more likely than not that it will realize the deferred tax asset. On December 31, 2013, the Company had recorded a deferred tax asset, and no valuation allowance, of \$0.1 million with respect to Canadian net operating loss carryforwards.

On December 31, 2014, the Company had no U.S. foreign tax credit carryforwards as it is expected to utilize all credits generated in the reporting period. On December 31, 2013, the Company had recorded a \$0.5 million deferred tax asset related to U.S. foreign credit carryforwards and no valuation allowance.

The Company's 2013 income tax provision includes deferred tax expense of \$1.4 million due to a correction of other comprehensive income related to the portion of the Company's retiree health care plan liability and the Medicare Part D subsidy. The correction related to the years 2009 through 2012 and was recorded during the first quarter of 2013. The impact of this error on amounts previously reported was determined to be immaterial to the Consolidated Financial Statements. As a result of the correction of the error, deferred income tax expense for the twelve months ended December 31, 2013 increased and accumulated other comprehensive loss decreased by \$1.4 million.

The Company accounts for utilization of windfall tax benefits based on tax law ordering and considered only the direct effects of stock-based compensation for purposes of measuring the windfall at settlement of an award. During 2014, there was no cash resulting from the exercise of awards and the tax benefit the Company realized from the exercise of awards was \$3.3 million. For 2013, there was no cash resulting from the exercise of awards and the tax benefit the Company realized from the exercise of awards was \$1.3 million.

The Company or one of its subsidiaries files income tax returns in the U.S., various foreign jurisdictions and various state and local jurisdictions. The Company is no longer subject to examinations by foreign jurisdictions for years before 2009 and is no longer subject to examinations by U.S. tax authorities for years before 2011. During 2014, the Internal Revenue Service commenced an examination of the Company's U.S. income tax returns for years 2011 and 2012. As of December 31, 2014, the Service has not proposed any adjustments to the Company's 2011 or 2012 federal income tax returns. The Company is no longer subject to examination by state tax authorities in most states for tax years before 2011.

A reconciliation of the January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2014 amount of unrecognized tax benefits is as follows:

(in thousands)

|  |    |       |
|--|----|-------|
| Balance at January 1, 2012                                   | \$ | 635   |
| Additions based on tax positions related to the current year |    | 97    |
| Additions based on tax positions related to prior years      |    | 415   |
| Reductions as a result of a lapse in statute of limitations  |    | (101) |
| Balance at December 31, 2012                                 |    | 1,046 |
| Additions based on tax positions related to the current year |    | 114   |
| Reductions based on tax positions related to prior years     |    | (45)  |
| Reductions as a result of a lapse in statute of limitations  |    | (5)   |
| Balance at December 31, 2013                                 |    | 1,110 |
| Additions based on tax positions related to the current year |    | 125   |
| Additions based on tax positions related to prior years      |    | 384   |
| Reductions as a result of a lapse in statute of limitations  |    | (132) |
| Balance at December 31, 2014                                 | \$ | 1,487 |

The unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, 2014 are associated with positions taken on state income tax returns, and would decrease the Company's effective tax rate if recognized. The Company does not anticipate any significant changes during 2015 in the amount of unrecognized tax benefits.

The Company has elected to classify interest and penalties as interest expense and penalty expense, respectively, rather than as income tax expense. The Company has \$0.4 million accrued for the payment of interest and penalties at December 31, 2014. The net interest and penalties expense for 2014 is \$0.2 million, due to increased uncertain tax positions. The Company had \$0.2

million accrued for the payment of interest and penalties at December 31, 2013. The net interest and penalties expense for 2013 was \$0.1 million.

## 15. Stock Compensation Plans

The Company's 2014 Long-Term Incentive Compensation Plan, dated February 28, 2014 and subsequently approved by Shareholders on May 2, 2014 (the "2014 LT Plan") is authorized to issue up to 1,750,000 shares of common stock as options, share appreciation rights, restricted shares and units, performance shares and units and other stock or cash-based awards. Only director retainer shares were issued from this plan in 2014 and approximately 1,749,000 shares remain available for issuance at December 31, 2014.

The Company's 2005 Long-Term Performance Compensation Plan, dated May 6, 2005 (the "LT Plan"), issued awards prior to the approval of the 2014 LT Plan. After approval of the 2014 LT Plan, the 519,000 unused shares were canceled as will be any subsequent forfeitures from outstanding awards made under the LT Plan. Outstanding LT Plan awards continued to be subject to the terms and conditions of the LT Plan and the award agreements.

Stock-based compensation expense for all stock-based compensation awards are based on the grant-date fair value. The Company recognizes these compensation costs on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the award. Total compensation expense recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Income for all stock compensation programs was \$8.6 million, \$4.3 million and \$4.0 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

### *Stock Only Stock Appreciation Rights ("SOSARs")*

SOSARs granted to directors and management personnel under the LT Plan beginning in 2008 have a term of five years and have three year graded vesting. SOSARs granted under the LT Plan are structured as fixed grants with the exercise price equal to the market value of the underlying stock on the date of the grant. The related compensation expense is recognized on a straight-line basis over the service period.

Beginning in 2011, the Company replaced the SOSAR equity awards with full value Restricted Stock Awards ("RSAs"). No SOSAR equity awards have been granted since 2010.

A reconciliation of the number of SOSARs outstanding and exercisable under the Long-Term Performance Compensation Plan as of December 31, 2014, and changes during the period then ended is as follows:

|  | Shares<br>(000's) | Weighted-<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price | Weighted-<br>Average<br>Remaining<br>Contractual<br>Term | Aggregate<br>Intrinsic<br>Value<br>(000's) |
|--|-------------------|---|--|--|
| SOSARs outstanding at January 1, 2014            | 173               | \$ 15.99                                  |  |  |
| SOSARs exercised                                 | (121)             | 13.49                                     |  |  |
| SOSARs cancelled / forfeited                     | —                 | —   |  |  |
| SOSARs outstanding at December 31, 2014          | 52                | \$ 21.83                                  | 0.16   | \$ 1,615                                   |
| Vested and expected to vest at December 31, 2014 | 52                | \$ 21.83                                  | 0.16   | \$ 1,615                                   |
| SOSARs exercisable at December 31, 2014          | 52                | \$ 21.83                                  | 0.16   | \$ 1,615                                   |

| (in thousands)                                 | Year ended December 31, |          |          |
|--|-------------------------|----------|----------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013     | 2012     |
| Total intrinsic value of SOSARs exercised      | \$ 5,193                | \$ 4,678 | \$ 1,937 |
| Total fair value of shares vested              | \$ —                    | \$ 576   | \$ 818   |
| Weighted average fair value of options granted | \$ —                    | \$ —     | \$ —     |

As of December 31, 2014, there was no unrecognized compensation cost related to SOSARs granted under the LT Plan.



## Restricted Stock Awards

The LT Plan permits awards of restricted stock. These shares carry voting and dividend rights; however, sale of the shares is restricted prior to vesting. Restricted shares granted prior to 2013 vest over a period of 3 years. Restricted shares granted in 2013 vest over a period of 2.25 years. Shares granted in 2014 vest over a period of 3 years, with one-third vesting each January 1 of the following first, second, and third years. Total restricted stock expense is equal to the market value of the Company's common shares on the date of the award and is recognized over the service period. In 2014, there were 59,288 shares issued to members of management and directors.

A summary of the status of the Company's nonvested restricted shares as of December 31, 2014, and changes during the period then ended, is presented below:

|  | Shares (000)'s | Weighted-Average Grant-Date<br>Fair Value |
|--|----------------|---|
| Nonvested restricted shares at January 1, 2014   | 188            | \$ 35.74                                  |
| Granted  | 59             | 54.84                                     |
| Vested   | (67)           | 33.99                                     |
| Forfeited  | (5)            | 42.34                                     |
| Nonvested restricted shares at December 31, 2014 | 175            | \$ 42.69                                  |

|  | Year ended December 31, |         |         |
|--|-------------------------|---------|---------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013    | 2012    |
| Total fair value of shares vested (000's)                | \$1,585                 | \$1,121 | \$590   |
| Weighted average fair value of restricted shares granted | \$54.84                 | \$47.65 | \$28.99 |

As of December 31, 2014, there was \$1.4 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to nonvested restricted shares granted under the LT Plan. That cost is expected to be recognized over the next 2.0 years.

## Performance Share Units ("PSUs")

The LT Plan also allows for the award of PSUs. Each PSU gives the participant the right to receive common shares dependent on the achievement of specified performance results over a specified performance period. For PSUs granted in 2014 and years prior to 2013, the performance period is 3 years. For PSUs granted in 2013, the performance period is 2.25 years. At the end of the performance period, the number of shares of stock issued will be determined by adjusting the award upward or downward from a target award. Fair value of PSUs issued is based on the market value of the Company's common shares on the date of the award. The related compensation expense is recognized over the performance period when achievement of the award is probable and is adjusted for changes in the number of shares expected to be issued if changes in performance are expected. In 2014, there were 96,232 PSUs issued to members of management. Currently, the Company is accounting for the awards granted in 2012, 2013 and 2014 at 71%, 50%, and 40%, respectively, of the maximum amount available for issuance.

## PSUs Activity

A summary of the status of the Company's PSUs as of December 31, 2014, and changes during the period then ended, is presented below:

|                                | Shares (000)'s | Weighted-Average Grant-Date<br>Fair Value |
|--------------------------------|----------------|---|
| Nonvested at January 1, 2014   | 350            | \$ 35.27                                  |
| Granted                        | 96             | 54.84                                     |
| Vested                         | (110)          | 31.87                                     |
| Forfeited                      | (7)            | 45.14                                     |
| Nonvested at December 31, 2014 | 329            | \$ 41.92                                  |

|   | Year ended December 31, |         |         |
|---|-------------------------|---------|---------|
|   | 2014                    | 2013    | 2012    |
| Weighted average fair value of PSUs granted | \$54.84                 | \$47.32 | \$28.99 |



As of December 31, 2014, there was \$2.4 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to nonvested PSUs granted under the LT Plan. That cost is expected to be recognized over the next 2.0 years.

*Employee Share Purchase Plan (the “ESP Plan”)*

The Company's 2004 ESP Plan allows employees to purchase common shares through payroll withholdings. The Company has approximately 248,000 common shares remaining available for issuance to and purchase by employees under this plan. The ESP Plan also contains an option component. The purchase price per share under the ESP Plan is the lower of the market price at the beginning or end of the year. The Company records a liability for withholdings not yet applied towards the purchase of common stock.

The fair value of the option component of the ESP Plan is estimated at the date of grant under the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following assumptions for the appropriate year. Expected volatility was estimated based on the historical volatility of the Company's common shares over the past year. The average expected life was based on the contractual term of the plan. The risk-free rate is based on the U.S. Treasury issues with a one year term. Forfeitures are estimated at the date of grant based on historical experience.

|   | 2014  | 2013  | 2012  |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| Risk free interest rate   | 0.13% | 0.16% | 0.11% |
| Dividend yield  | 0.74% | 1.49% | 1.37% |
| Volatility factor of the expected market price of the common shares | 0.23  | 0.27  | 0.41  |
| Expected life for the options (in years)                            | 1.00  | 1.00  | 1.00  |

## 16. Quarterly Consolidated Financial Information (Unaudited)

The following is a summary of the unaudited quarterly results of operations for 2014 and 2013:

| (in thousands, except for per common share data) | Sales and merchandising revenues | Gross profit      | Net income attributable to The Andersons, Inc. | Earnings per share-basic | Earnings per share-diluted |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Quarter ended 2014</b>                        |                                  |                   |  |                          |                            |
| March 31   | \$ 1,003,294                     | \$ 76,775         | \$ 22,708                                      | \$ 0.80                  | \$ 0.80                    |
| June 30  | 1,312,082                        | 121,495           | 44,301   | 1.56                     | 1.56                       |
| September 30                                     | 952,927                          | 84,918            | 16,825   | 0.59                     | 0.59                       |
| December 31                                      | 1,271,768                        | 113,951           | 25,892   | 0.89                     | 0.89                       |
| <b>Year ended 2014</b>                           | <b>\$ 4,540,071</b>              | <b>\$ 397,139</b> | <b>\$ 109,726</b>                              | <b>3.85</b>              | <b>3.84</b>                |
| <b>Quarter ended 2013</b>                        |                                  |                   |  |                          |                            |
| March 31   | \$ 1,271,970                     | \$ 79,273         | \$ 12,578                                      | \$ 0.45                  | \$ 0.45                    |
| June 30  | 1,566,964                        | 103,229           | 29,539   | 1.05                     | 1.05                       |
| September 30                                     | 1,181,374                        | 73,146            | 17,161   | 0.61                     | 0.61                       |
| December 31                                      | 1,584,266                        | 109,577           | 30,661   | 1.09                     | 1.08                       |
| <b>Year ended 2013</b>                           | <b>\$ 5,604,574</b>              | <b>\$ 365,225</b> | <b>\$ 89,939</b>                               | <b>3.20</b>              | <b>3.18</b>                |

Net income per share is computed independently for each of the quarters presented. As such, the summation of the quarterly amounts may not equal the total net income per share reported for the year.

## 17. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

The following tables summarize the after-tax components of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) attributable to the Company for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013:

### Changes in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) by Component (a)

#### For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

| (in thousands)   | Losses on Cash Flow Hedges | Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments | Investment in Debt Securities | Defined Benefit Plan Items | Total       |
|--|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance  | \$ (637)                   | \$ —                                     | \$ 7,861                      | \$ (28,405)                | \$ (21,181) |
| Other comprehensive income before reclassifications            | 273                        | (4,709)                                  | (7,735)                       | (20,904)                   | (33,075)    |
| Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss | —                          | —  | —                             | (339)                      | (339)       |
| Net current-period other comprehensive income                  | 273                        | (4,709)                                  | (7,735)                       | (21,243)                   | (33,414)    |
| Ending balance   | \$ (364)                   | \$ (4,709)                               | \$ 126                        | \$ (49,648)                | \$ (54,595) |

### Changes in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) by Component (a)

#### For the Year Ended December 31, 2013

| (in thousands)   | Losses on Cash Flow Hedges | Investment in Debt Securities | Defined Benefit Plan Items | Total       |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance  | \$ (902)                   | \$ 2,569                      | \$ (47,046)                | \$ (45,379) |
| Other comprehensive income before reclassifications            | 265                        | 5,292                         | 18,980                     | 24,537      |
| Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss | —                          | —                             | (339)                      | (339)       |
| Net current-period other comprehensive income                  | 265                        | 5,292                         | 18,641                     | 24,198      |
| Ending balance   | \$ (637)                   | \$ 7,861                      | \$ (28,405)                | \$ (21,181) |

(a) All amounts are net of tax. Amounts in parentheses indicate debits

The Following tables show the reclassification adjustments from accumulated other comprehensive income to net income for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013:

### Reclassifications Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (a)

(in thousands)

#### For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

| Details about Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income Components | Amount Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income | Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income Is Presented |
|---|---|---|
| Defined Benefit Plan Items                                      |   |   |
| Amortization of prior-service cost                              | \$ (543)  | (b)   |
|   | (543)   | Total before tax  |
|   | 204   | Tax expense   |
|   | \$ (339)  | Net of tax  |
| Total reclassifications for the period                          | \$ (339)  | Net of tax  |

### Reclassifications Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (a)

(in thousands)

| Details about Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income Components | For the Year Ended December 31, 2013                            |   |
|---|---|---|
|   | Amount Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income | Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income Is Presented |
| Defined Benefit Plan Items                                      |   |   |
| Amortization of prior-service cost                              | \$ (543)  | (b)   |
|   | (543)   | Total before tax  |
|   | 204   | Tax expense   |
|   | <u>\$ (339)</u>   | Net of tax  |
| Total reclassifications for the period                          | <u>\$ (339)</u>   | Net of tax  |

(a) Amounts in parentheses indicate debits to profit/loss

(b) This accumulated other comprehensive income component is included in the computation of net periodic benefit cost (see Note 6. Employee Benefit Plans footnote for additional details)

### 18. Supplemental Cash Flow Information

Certain supplemental cash flow information, including noncash investing and financing activities for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 are as follows:

|   | Year ended December 31, |           |           |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|   | 2014                    | 2013      | 2012      |
| <b>Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information</b>     |                         |           |           |
| Interest paid   | \$ 19,944               | \$ 22,932 | \$ 21,668 |
| Income taxes paid, net of refunds                           | \$ 36,783               | \$ 5,332  | \$ 36,269 |
| <b>Noncash investing and financing activity</b>             |                         |           |           |
| Capital projects incurred but not yet paid                  | \$ 6,000                | \$ 3,870  | \$ 2,876  |
| Purchase of a productive asset through seller-financing     | \$ 6,634                | \$ 14,694 | \$ 10,498 |
| Outstanding payment for acquisition of business             | \$ —                    | \$ 128    | \$ 3,345  |
| Shares issued for acquisition of business                   | \$ 31,050               | \$ —      | \$ —      |
| Outstanding shares to be issued for acquisition of business | \$ 4,470                | \$ —      | \$ —      |
| Dividends declared not yet paid                             | \$ 4,059                | \$ 3,107  | \$ 2,982  |

See Footnote 12 for the fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed as part of business acquisitions.

### 19. Subsequent Events

On January 21, 2015, the Company entered into an agreement to obtain \$20.0 million in senior notes payable, which are scheduled to fund on March 27, 2015. The notes payable include \$14.0 million with an interest rate of 5.0% due 2040 and \$6.0 million with an interest rate of 4.5% due 2030. These notes payable will partially replace the \$61.5 million note payable that is due to mature in March 2015.

**LANSING TRADE GROUP, LLC  
AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012

**LANSING TRADE GROUP, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
Overland Park, Kansas

**CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012

**CONTENTS**

|   |    |
|---|----|
| REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM | 86 |
| FINANCIAL STATEMENTS                                    |    |
| CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS                             | 88 |
| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME         | 90 |
| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY                       | 91 |
| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS                   | 92 |
| NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS              | 94 |

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Managers  
Lansing Trade Group, LLC  
Overland Park, Kansas

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Lansing Trade Group, LLC and Subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and the related consolidated statements of comprehensive income, equity and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2014. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We did not audit the consolidated financial statements of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à.r.l., an entity in which Lansing Trade Group, LLC has an investment in and accounts for under the equity method of accounting, for which Lansing Trade Group, LLC reflects an investment of \$48.4 million and \$48.2 million as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, and equity in earnings of affiliates of \$4.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, and \$1.6 million for the period of July 12, 2013, date of incorporation, to December 31, 2013. The financial statements of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à.r.l. were audited by other auditors whose report thereon has been furnished to us, and our opinion on the financial statements expressed herein, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à.r.l., is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits and the report of other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, based on our audits and the report of other auditors, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2014 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ Crowe Chizek LLP

Elkhart, Indiana  
February 27, 2015

## **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

### **To the Board of Directors of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à r.l.**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à.r.l. and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 and the related consolidated statements of income and retained earnings and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2014 and the period from July 12, 2013, date of incorporation, to December 31, 2013 (not included herein). Management is responsible for these consolidated financial statements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our audits of the consolidated financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall consolidated financial statement presentation. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the company's internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company S.à.r.l. and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2014 and the period of July 12, 2013, date of incorporation, to December 31, 2013 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

London, Ontario

LANSING TRADE GROUP, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
December 31, 2014 and 2013

| (amounts in thousands)  | 2014                | 2013                |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>   |                     |                     |
| Current assets:   |                     |                     |
| Cash and cash equivalents   | \$ 26,708           | \$ 22,567           |
| Margin deposits, net  | 26,482              | 24,858              |
| Accounts receivable (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$11,653 and \$21,365 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively) | 355,624             | 330,003             |
| Commodity derivative assets - current   | 223,065             | 142,689             |
| Inventories   | 391,187             | 327,988             |
| Other current assets  | 8,433               | 2,118               |
| Total current assets  | 1,031,499           | 850,223             |
| Property and equipment:   |                     |                     |
| Grain facilities assets   | 113,566             | 85,544              |
| Machinery and equipment   | 56,343              | 20,694              |
| Office furniture and computer software and equipment  | 15,174              | 9,557               |
|   | 185,083             | 115,795             |
| Accumulated depreciation  | (42,141)            | (31,687)            |
|   | 142,942             | 84,108              |
| Other assets:   |                     |                     |
| Commodity derivative assets - long-term   | 419                 | 101                 |
| Investments   | 55,378              | 49,949              |
| Goodwill  | 21,200              | 17,048              |
| Other intangibles, net  | 17,172              | 14,416              |
| Related party notes receivable  | 9,828               | 9,828               |
| Other assets  | 5,302               | 423                 |
| Total assets  | <u>\$ 1,283,740</u> | <u>\$ 1,026,096</u> |
| <b>Assets of Consolidated VIE's Included in Total Assets Above (isolated to settle the liabilities of the VIE's)</b>              |                     |                     |
| Cash and cash equivalents   | \$ 17               | \$ 286              |
| Accounts receivable   | —                   | 1,062               |
| Other current assets  | 941                 | 278                 |
| Property and equipment, net   | 23,612              | 34,721              |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements



LANSING TRADE GROUP, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
December 31, 2014 and 2013  
(Continued)

| (amounts in thousands)  | 2014         | 2013         |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| <b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>   |              |              |
| Current liabilities:  |              |              |
| Current maturities of long-term debt  | \$ 232,638   | \$ 156,471   |
| Accounts payable  | 481,751      | 460,229      |
| Commodity derivative liabilities - current  | 147,694      | 99,534       |
| Deferred income tax liabilities   | 2,186        | 2,792        |
| Other current liabilities   | 19,824       | 12,280       |
| Total current liabilities   | 884,093      | 731,306      |
| Commodity derivative liabilities - long-term  | 203          | 527          |
| Long-term debt  | 223,190      | 71,535       |
| Deferred income taxes   | 3,993        | 4,869        |
| Other long-term liabilities   | 1,312        | 118          |
| Total liabilities   | 1,112,791    | 808,355      |
| Equity subject to possible redemption   | 141,509      | 120,190      |
| Members' equity   | 21,127       | 78,294       |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss  | (5,640)      | (861)        |
| Total members' equity of Lansing Trade Group, LLC   | 15,487       | 77,433       |
| Noncontrolling interests  | 13,953       | 20,118       |
| Total equity  | 29,440       | 97,551       |
| Total liabilities and equity  | \$ 1,283,740 | \$ 1,026,096 |
| <b>Non-Recourse Liabilities of Consolidated VIE's Included in Total Liabilities Above</b> |              |              |
| Current maturities of long-term debt  | \$ —         | \$ 557       |
| Accounts payable  | 16,605       | 36,754       |
| Commodity derivative liabilities - current  | 1,656        | 6,999        |
| Other current liabilities   | 291          | 786          |
| Commodity derivative liabilities - long-term  | 11           | 19           |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

LANSING TRADE GROUP, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
Years Ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012

| (amounts in thousands)  | <b>2014</b>      | <b>2013</b>      | <b>2012</b>      |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Sales   | \$ 6,613,871     | \$ 8,848,415     | \$ 7,158,410     |
| Cost of goods sold  | 6,443,319        | 8,683,027        | 7,011,010        |
| Gross margin  | 170,552          | 165,388          | 147,400          |
| Other operating income  | 25,284           | 8,900            | 17,832           |
| Income before operating expenses, other income, and income taxes  | 195,836          | 174,288          | 165,232          |
| Operating, administrative, and general expenses                   | 109,938          | 106,435          | 96,059           |
| Interest expense  | 22,011           | 11,207           | 9,974            |
| Other income:   |                  |                  |                  |
| Equity in earnings of affiliates                                  | 5,560            | 3,075            | 51               |
| Other income - net  | 3,128            | 5,920            | 2,362            |
| Income before income taxes  | 72,575           | 65,641           | 61,612           |
| Income tax provision  | 10,607           | 3,109            | 1,710            |
| Net income  | 61,968           | 62,532           | 59,902           |
| Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests        | 4,383            | (1,475)          | 3,631            |
| Net income attributable to Lansing Trade Group, LLC               | <u>\$ 57,585</u> | <u>\$ 64,007</u> | <u>\$ 56,271</u> |
| Net income  | \$ 61,968        | \$ 62,532        | \$ 59,902        |
| Other comprehensive income adjustments:                           |                  |                  |                  |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment                           | (5,441)          | (160)            | 81               |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment, deferred income taxes    | 7                | (33)             | —                |
| Comprehensive income  | 56,534           | 62,339           | 59,983           |
| Comprehensive income (loss) attributable noncontrolling interests | 4,102            | (833)            | 3,631            |
| Comprehensive income attributable to Lansing Trade Group, LLC     | <u>\$ 52,432</u> | <u>\$ 63,172</u> | <u>\$ 56,352</u> |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

LANSING TRADE GROUP, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY  
Years Ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012

| (amounts in thousands)                          | Members'<br>Equity | Accumulated<br>Other<br>Comprehensive<br>Loss | Noncontrolling<br>Interests | Total     |
|---|--------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Balances at January 1, 2012</b>              | \$ 61,728          | \$ (107)                                      | \$ 26,799                   | \$ 88,420 |
| Net income                                      | 56,271             | —   | 3,631                       | 59,902    |
| Contributions                                   | 7,200              | —   | 1,250                       | 8,450     |
| Redemptions                                     | (9,511)            | —   | (2,011)                     | (11,522)  |
| Distributions                                   | (35,404)           | —   | (6,924)                     | (42,328)  |
| Collateralized member receivables               | 75                 | —   | —                           | 75        |
| Amortization of deferred compensation plans     | 6,351              | —   | —                           | 6,351     |
| Acquisition related addition                    | 375                | —   | —                           | 375       |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments        | —                  | 81  | —                           | 81        |
| Change in equity subject to possible redemption | (27,967)           | —   | —                           | (27,967)  |
| <b>Balances at December 31, 2012</b>            | 59,118             | (26)  | 22,745                      | 81,837    |
| Net income                                      | 64,007             | —   | (1,475)                     | 62,532    |
| Contributions                                   | 12,661             | —   | —                           | 12,661    |
| Redemptions                                     | (10,327)           | —   | (14,410)                    | (24,737)  |
| Distributions                                   | (34,874)           | —   | (95)                        | (34,969)  |
| Collateralized member receivables               | 75                 | —   | —                           | 75        |
| Fair value of noncontrolling interests acquired | —                  | —   | 12,121                      | 12,121    |
| Amortization of deferred compensation plans     | 7,474              | —   | 590                         | 8,064     |
| Acquisition related reduction                   | (446)              | —   | —                           | (446)     |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments        | —                  | (835)   | 642                         | (193)     |
| Change in equity subject to possible redemption | (19,394)           | —   | —                           | (19,394)  |
| <b>Balances at December 31, 2013</b>            | 78,294             | (861)   | 20,118                      | 97,551    |
| Net income                                      | 57,585             | —   | 4,383                       | 61,968    |
| Contributions                                   | 295                | —   | —                           | 295       |
| Redemptions                                     | (74,076)           | —   | (9,303)                     | (83,379)  |
| Distributions                                   | (18,649)           | —   | —                           | (18,649)  |
| Amortization of deferred compensation plans     | 7,825              | —   | (590)                       | 7,235     |
| Acquisition related reduction                   | (8,828)            | 374   | (374)                       | (8,828)   |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments        | —                  | (5,153)                                       | (281)                       | (5,434)   |
| Change in equity subject to possible redemption | (21,319)           | —   | —                           | (21,319)  |
| <b>Balances at December 31, 2014</b>            | \$ 21,127          | \$ (5,640)                                    | \$ 13,953                   | \$ 29,440 |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

LANSING TRADE GROUP, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
Years Ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012

| (amounts in thousands)   | 2014      | 2013      | 2012      |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                                |           |           |           |
| Net income   | \$ 61,968 | \$ 62,532 | \$ 59,902 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash from operating activities: |           |           |           |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 13,470    | 11,131    | 8,831     |
| Income from equity investments   | (5,560)   | (3,075)   | (51)      |
| Net (gain) loss on sale of investments and property                        | 242       | (5,949)   | (721)     |
| Deferred debt financing and discount accretion costs amortization          | 1,674     | 1,065     | 817       |
| Provision for bad debts  | (7,762)   | 760       | 6,917     |
| Amortization of deferred compensation plans                                | 8,031     | 8,221     | 6,468     |
| Change in deferred income tax liabilities                                  | (1,475)   | (486)     | (377)     |
| Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions:         |           |           |           |
| Margin deposits  | 11,770    | (25,754)  | 8,894     |
| Accounts receivable  | (18,350)  | 167,596   | (220,296) |
| Inventory  | (64,392)  | 144,362   | (288,775) |
| Derivative assets and liabilities  | (46,269)  | 35,713    | (54,146)  |
| Accounts payable   | 21,719    | 15,669    | 121,362   |
| Other assets and liabilities   | 2,648     | 3,421     | 1,537     |
| Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities                        | (22,286)  | 415,206   | (349,638) |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                                |           |           |           |
| Payments for business combinations, net of cash acquired                   | (26,574)  | (4,215)   | —         |
| Payments for equity interest in consolidated subsidiaries                  | (18,131)  | (2,700)   | (2,503)   |
| Proceeds from sale of assets   | 354       | 252       | —         |
| Payments for equity interests in unconsolidated subsidiaries               | (3,393)   | (40,410)  | (5,000)   |
| Payments for property and equipment  | (53,329)  | (22,617)  | (23,743)  |
| Principal payments received on related party note receivable               | —         | —         | 172       |
| Net cash used in investing activities                                      | (101,073) | (69,690)  | (31,074)  |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

LANSING TRADE GROUP, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
Years Ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012  
(Continued)

| (amounts in thousands)                                   | 2014        | 2013        | 2012        |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>              |             |             |             |
| Capital contributions by members                         | 295         | 505         | 7,200       |
| Redemption of membership interests                       | (74,076)    | (7,596)     | (6,089)     |
| Distributions to members                                 | (18,649)    | (34,874)    | (35,404)    |
| Redemption of noncontrolling interest                    | —           | —           | (211)       |
| Distributions to noncontrolling interest                 | —           | (95)        | (6,924)     |
| Borrowings on lines of credit                            | 1,689,724   | 1,308,188   | 1,874,374   |
| Principal payments on lines of credit                    | (1,595,881) | (1,624,882) | (1,497,907) |
| Borrowings on inventory repurchase agreements            | —           | 15,500      | 70,252      |
| Principal payments on inventory repurchase agreements    | (15,500)    | —           | (70,252)    |
| Borrowings on structured trade finance agreements        | 161,200     | 333,387     | 219,774     |
| Principal payments on structured trade finance agreement | (161,200)   | (365,533)   | (187,628)   |
| Borrowings on other long-term debt                       | 195,252     | 42,792      | 20,488      |
| Principal payments on other long-term debt               | (45,329)    | (15,698)    | (3,252)     |
| Cash paid for deferred debt issuance costs               | (7,705)     | (885)       | (402)       |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities      | 128,131     | (349,191)   | 384,019     |
| Effect of exchange rate on cash                          | (631)       | 360         | (8)         |
| Net change in cash and cash equivalents                  | 4,141       | (3,315)     | 3,299       |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year           | 22,567      | 25,882      | 22,583      |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year                 | \$ 26,708   | \$ 22,567   | \$ 25,882   |
| <b>Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information</b>  |             |             |             |
| Cash paid for interest                                   | \$ 15,426   | \$ 10,879   | \$ 8,151    |
| Cash paid for income taxes                               | 13,224      | 583         | 2,487       |

**Supplemental disclosures on non-cash investing and financing activities**

|  |      |           |         |
|--|------|-----------|---------|
| Non-cash capital contributions by members (a)        | \$ — | \$ 12,156 | \$ —    |
| Non-cash contributions from noncontrolling interests | —    | —         | 1,250   |
| Non-cash redemptions of membership interests         | —    | (3,860)   | (3,422) |
| Non-cash redemptions of noncontrolling interests (a) | —    | (12,156)  | —       |

(a) In January 2013, the noncontrolling interest holder exchanged all of its units in Lansing Ethanol Services, LLC (“LES”) for units in Lansing Trade Group, LLC (the “Company”), resulting in LES’s becoming a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company and a reclassification of the carrying amount of the noncontrolling interest in LES to members’ equity.

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

LANSING TRADE GROUP, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
Years Ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012

**NOTE 1 - NATURE OF BUSINESS AND STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Principles of Consolidation: These consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Lansing Trade Group, LLC and its wholly owned and controlled domestic and foreign subsidiaries (the “Company”) and, when applicable, entities for which the Company has a controlling financial interest or is the primary beneficiary. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

At December 31, 2014 and 2013 the Company held a variable interest in a joint venture that owns and operates two grain elevator facilities for which the Company was the primary beneficiary. The Company has a variable interest related to parental guarantees of the entity’s long-term debt and is responsible for managing its operations. At December 31, 2013 the Company also held a variable interest in a joint venture that constructs and operates transloading facilities for which the Company was the primary beneficiary. The Company had variable interests related to equity liquidation rights and contractual arrangements limiting economic activities of the entity. In June 2014, the transloading joint venture became a wholly owned and controlled subsidiary of the Company. In accordance with ASC 810, *Consolidation*, the Company performs an analysis to determine whether its variable interests give it a controlling financial interest in a Variable Interest Entity (“VIE”). This analysis identifies the primary beneficiary of the VIE as the entity that has (a) the power to direct the activities of the VIE that most significantly affect the VIE’s economic performance and (b) the obligation to absorb losses or the right to receive benefits that could potentially be significant to the VIE. As the primary beneficiary of these VIE’s, the entities’ assets, liabilities and results of operations are included in the Company’s consolidated financial statements. The other equity holders’ interests are reflected in noncontrolling interests in the Consolidated Balance Sheets and in net income attributable to noncontrolling interests in the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income. The table below presents the assets and liabilities of consolidated VIE’s.

| (amounts in thousands)                       | December 31,<br>2014 | December 31,<br>2013 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents                    | \$ 17                | \$ 294               |
| Margin deposits, net                         | 1,578                | 2,105                |
| Accounts receivable                          | 1,363                | 7,666                |
| Commodity derivative assets - current        | 2,128                | 5,090                |
| Inventories                                  | 20,389               | 21,111               |
| Other current assets                         | 941                  | 278                  |
| Property and equipment, net                  | 23,612               | 34,721               |
| Commodity derivative assets - long-term      | —                    | 17                   |
| Goodwill                                     | —                    | 2,155                |
| Other intangibles, net                       | —                    | 1,877                |
| Current maturities of long-term debt         | (1,695)              | (2,607)              |
| Accounts payable                             | (16,605)             | (36,754)             |
| Commodity derivative liabilities - current   | (1,656)              | (6,999)              |
| Other current liabilities                    | (291)                | (786)                |
| Commodity derivative liabilities - long-term | (11)                 | (19)                 |
| Long-term debt                               | (17,875)             | (25,120)             |

Operations: Lansing Trade Group, LLC is a merchandising company primarily involved in the trading and distribution of grain, grain products, fuels, and other agricultural raw material commodities. The Company is organized in the State of Delaware and has a perpetual term. Each member’s liability is limited to its capital contribution. A Board of Managers governs the Company pursuant to the limited liability company agreement. As a limited liability company, the Company combines many of the limited liability, governance, and management characteristics of a corporation with the pass-through income features of a partnership. The Company has operations in various states throughout the United States of America (the “U.S.”) and in foreign locations primarily in Canada, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”).

Use of Estimates and Assumptions: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The most notable estimates included in the financial statements involve the valuation of unrealized gains and losses on open derivative contracts; valuation of inventory; valuation of goodwill and intangibles; valuation of accounts receivable; and realization of derivative contract gains.

Derivative Presentation: The Company presents its derivative gains and losses and related cash collateral amounts paid or received on a net basis in situations where a master netting agreement exists.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments: The carrying amounts recorded in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets for accounts and notes receivable, accounts payable, lines of credit and term loans at December 31, 2014 and 2013 approximate their fair values based on the current interest rate environment and terms of the instruments. The Company records derivatives in its financial statements at fair value. The estimated fair value of the Company's senior notes at December 31, 2014 was approximately \$167,667,500 compared to a carrying value of \$175,000,000 included in long-term debt. The fair value was determined by the Company to be Level 2 under the fair value hierarchy and was based upon review of observable transfers of the notes in secondary markets.

Equity Subject to Possible Redemption: ASC 480, *Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity*, requires the redemption value of the portion of equity with redemption features that are not solely within the control of the Company to be stated separately from permanent equity. The Company's operating agreement requires redemption under any of the following conditions:

- Death or disability of a member that is a natural person;
- Any member's redemption request within a rolling 12-month period limited to \$100,000; and
- For members owning units with a redemption value over \$200,000, any redemption request that would not cause the Company to breach any of its financial covenants with its lenders or would not otherwise imperil the financial condition of the Company at the discretion of the Board of Managers over a series of separate redemption notices.

The redemption price of a membership unit is defined by the operating agreement and is dependent on the timing and circumstances of the event of withdrawal or sale or transfer of the membership unit. Generally, redemptions are based on an appraised value of the Company as determined by an independent appraiser, typically measured on a going-concern basis by applying the income approach and market approach, and approved by the Board of Managers. Based on the provisions of the operating agreement and membership units outstanding, the redemption value of equity subject to possible redemption beyond control of the Company totaled \$141,509,245 and \$120,189,697 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. This constitutes approximately 40% and 34% of member units and Restricted Membership Units at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Redemptions beyond these amounts, without consideration of the proceeds from life insurance policies disclosed below, would cause the Board of Managers to determine whether the financial condition of the Company would be imperiled. Accordingly, provisions of the operating agreement may be invoked by the Board of Managers at its discretion to limit further redemptions. Actual per unit redemption values likely will differ from those presented herein and will be subject to the applicable redemption value at the date of the redemption.

The Company holds life insurance policies on certain key employees. These policies would fund approximately \$81,000,000 of the current potential redemptions incurred upon death of the insured members.

Cash and Cash Equivalents: Cash equivalents consist of highly liquid investments that mature within 90 days or less. The Company maintains its cash in various bank accounts, which at times, may exceed federally insured limits.

Margin Deposits: Margin accounts represent uninsured deposits with brokers and counterparties, unrealized gains and losses on regulated futures and options contracts, exchange-cleared swaps, over-the-counter ("OTC") swaps, and foreign exchange forward rate agreements. The fair value of these financial instruments is presented in the accompanying consolidated statements on a net-by-counterparty basis. The Company nets fair value of cash collateral paid or received against fair value amounts recognized for net derivative positions executed with the same counterparty under the same master netting arrangement.

The net position is recorded within margin deposits or other accounts payable depending on whether the net amount is an asset or liability.

| (amounts in thousands)         | 2014             | 2013             |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Cash deposits posted           | \$ 15,781        | \$ 15,605        |
| Cash deposits received         | (13,077)         | (1,124)          |
| Unrealized gain on derivatives | 43,429           | 28,271           |
| Unrealized loss on derivatives | (19,651)         | (17,894)         |
|                                | <u>\$ 26,482</u> | <u>\$ 24,858</u> |

Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts: The majority of the Company's receivables are from other agribusinesses and companies in the petroleum business. The Company accounts for receivables based on the amounts billed to customers. Past due receivables are determined based on contractual terms. The Company does not typically accrue interest on any of its receivables.

The allowance for doubtful accounts is determined by management based on the Company's historical losses, specific customer circumstances and general economic conditions. Periodically, management reviews accounts receivable and records an allowance for specific customers based on current circumstances and charges off the receivable against the allowance when all reasonable attempts to collect the receivable have failed.

| (amounts in thousands)   | Balance at<br>beginning of<br>period | Charged to<br>costs and<br>expenses | (1)<br>Deductions | Balance at<br>end of<br>period |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Allowance for doubtful accounts receivable - year ended December 31, |                                      |                                     |                   |                                |
| 2014   | \$ 21,365                            | \$ 2,039                            | \$ 11,751         | \$ 11,653                      |
| 2013   | 20,965                               | 760                                 | 360               | 21,365                         |
| 2012   | 19,839                               | 6,917                               | 5,791             | 20,965                         |

(1) Uncollectible accounts written off, net of recoveries and adjustments to estimates for the allowance accounts.

Inventories: Grain and feed ingredient inventories are stated at estimated market value less cost of disposal. Ethanol inventories are stated at cost determined by the first-in, first-out method, which approximates market value less cost of disposal. All other significant inventories are valued at the lower of weighted average cost or market.

Property and Equipment and Depreciation: Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Expenditures that significantly extend the lives of assets and major improvements are capitalized. Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method for financial statement purposes over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets and included in operating, administrative, and general expenses.

Deferred Debt Issue Costs: Costs associated with the issuance of debt are capitalized. These costs are amortized using the effective interest method over the stated term of the debt.

Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets: Intangible assets are recorded at cost, less accumulated amortization. Amortization of intangibles is provided over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets using the straight-line method. Goodwill is recognized for the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of tangible and identifiable intangible net assets of businesses acquired. In accordance with ASC 350, *Intangibles-Goodwill and Other*, the Company reviews goodwill for impairment at least annually.

Impairment of Long-lived Assets: Long-lived assets, including intangible assets, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by comparing the carrying amount of the assets to the undiscounted future net cash flows the Company expects to generate with the assets. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the Company recognizes impairment expense for the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets.

Foreign Currency: The U.S. dollar (USD) is the functional currency of most of the Company's worldwide operations. For subsidiaries where the USD is the functional currency, all foreign currency asset and liability amounts are remeasured into USD at end-of-period exchange rates. Exchange gains and losses arising from remeasurement of foreign currency-denominated monetary assets and liabilities are included in income in the period in which they occur.



For subsidiaries where the local currency is the functional currency, assets and liabilities denominated in local currencies are translated into USD at end-of-period exchange rates and the resultant translation adjustments are reported, net of their related tax effects, as a component of accumulated comprehensive loss in equity. Assets and liabilities denominated in other than the local currency are remeasured into the local currency prior to translation into USD and the resultant exchange gains or losses are included in income in the period in which they occur.

The aggregate foreign currency transaction gain (loss) included in the determination of net income was \$(4,827,531), \$(2,187,742), and \$5,035,092 in 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively. To reduce the exposure to foreign currency exchange risk on foreign currency-denominated forward purchase and sale contracts, the Company may enter into regulated commodity futures that are not denominated in a foreign currency. The net gain and loss on these hedging activities offset the foreign currency transaction net gain and loss and are included in cost of goods sold. The Company also uses foreign exchange forward rate derivative contracts to mitigate foreign currency exchange risk as disclosed in Note 5.

**Revenue Recognition:** Revenue is recognized when title and risk of loss are transferred to customers upon delivery based on terms of sale and collectability is reasonably assured. The Company enters into contractual arrangements to deliver commodities to third-parties at specified dates, prices, and delivery points. Prior to delivery, some of these contracts are cancelled by offsetting contracts entered into with the same counterparty with the two contracts being net settled. Net settlement amounts related to cancelled contracts are included in revenue. Changes in the market value of inventories of merchandisable agricultural commodities, forward cash purchase and sales contracts, and exchange-traded futures and options contracts, OTC swaps, and forward rate agreements are recognized in cost of goods sold immediately.

Service fees for transloading, storage, and commodity marketing agreements are recognized in other operating income as earned and totaled \$19,350,452, \$6,222,193, and \$1,253,516 in 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively.

**Income Taxes:** Lansing Trade Group, LLC and its subsidiaries other than Lansing Vermont, Inc. ("LVI") and certain foreign branches and subsidiaries, are generally not subject to corporate income taxes. Instead, the members of the Company report their proportionate share of the Company's taxable income or loss on their income tax returns. Income tax expense for each period includes taxes currently payable plus the change in deferred income tax assets and liabilities. Deferred income taxes are provided for temporary differences between financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities and are measured using enacted tax rates and laws governing periods in which the differences are expected to reverse. The Company evaluates the realizability of deferred tax assets and provides a valuation allowance for amounts that management does not believe are more likely than not to be recoverable.

**Subsequent Events:** Management has performed an analysis of the activities and transactions subsequent to December 31, 2014 to determine the need for any adjustments to and disclosures within the consolidated financial statements for the period ended December 31, 2014. Management has performed their analysis through February 27, 2015, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

## **NOTE 2 - ACQUISITIONS**

In November 2014, the Company purchased a sand processing facility in Minnesota for \$26,573,860 in cash to expand the products and services it provides to the energy industry. Machinery and equipment assets were valued using the cost approach and based on replacement cost less physical depreciation and functional obsolescence. The fair value of the identifiable intangible assets was determined by applying the income approach. These fair value measurements were based on significant inputs that are not observable in the market and, therefore, represent Level 3 measurements as defined in ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*. Key assumptions include (1) cash flows based on estimates used to price the transaction, (2) a discount rate of 22%-23% that was benchmarked with reference to the implied rate of return from the transaction model, (3) a terminal value based on long-term sustainable growth rate of 3%. The weighted average amortization period of the acquired identifiable intangible assets is 9.3 years.

The following table summarizes the purchase price allocation of the assets acquired in the acquisition at their fair values as of the acquisition date. The excess of the purchase consideration over the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired was recorded as goodwill, which relates to the value of a fully functional business with future growth opportunities and that was complimentary to existing operations.

| (amounts in thousands)   | Sand processing facility |
|--|--------------------------|
| Consideration:   |                          |
| Cash paid  | \$ 26,574                |
| Recognized amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed: |                          |
| Inventory  | \$ 74                    |
| Machinery and equipment  | 16,788                   |
| Intangibles  | 5,560                    |
| Goodwill   | 4,152                    |
| Fair value of net assets acquired                              | \$ 26,574                |

In April 2013, the Company acquired a 50% controlling financial interest in a new joint venture created to construct and operate transloading facilities in Texas. The joint venture partner contributed its business and certain assets and contractual arrangements, including transloading fixed assets and machinery and equipment, for a 50% equity interest. Upon formation of the joint venture, the Company was determined to be the primary beneficiary and the results of operations of the joint venture since its formation are included in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Machinery and equipment assets were valued using the cost approach and based on replacement cost less physical depreciation and functional obsolescence. The fair value of the noncontrolling interest and identifiable intangible assets was determined by applying the income approach. Trademarks were valued using the relief from royalty method and the customer relationships were valued using the excess earnings method. These fair value measurements were based on significant inputs that are not observable in the market and, therefore, represent Level 3 measurements as defined in ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*. Key assumptions include (1) cash flows based on estimates used to price the transaction, (2) a discount rate range of 13%-14% that was benchmarked with reference to the implied rate of return from the transaction model, (3) a terminal value based on long-term sustainable growth rate of 3% (3) adjustments because of a lack of control or lack of marketability that market participants would consider when estimating the fair value of the noncontrolling interest. The weighted average amortization period of the acquired identifiable intangible assets is 6.4 years.

The following table summarizes the purchase price allocation of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed in the acquisition at their fair values as of the acquisition date. The excess of the purchase consideration over the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired was recorded as goodwill, which consists largely of management's knowledge of and experience in the markets in which the joint venture operates that are not separable from the acquired enterprise.

| (amounts in thousands)   | Transloading joint venture |
|--|----------------------------|
| Consideration:   |                            |
| Cash paid, net of cash acquired                                | \$ 2,969                   |
| Noncontrolling interest  | 3,000                      |
|  | \$ 5,969                   |
| Recognized amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed: |                            |
| Accounts receivable and other current assets                   | \$ 913                     |
| Machinery and equipment  | 7,603                      |
| Intangibles  | 2,100                      |
| Goodwill   | 2,155                      |
| Accounts payable and other current liabilities                 | (185)                      |
| Long-term debt   | (6,617)                    |
| Fair value of net assets acquired                              | \$ 5,969                   |

In June 2014, the Company purchased an additional 50% of the equity of the joint venture for \$21,000,000 in cash and equity, increasing its ownership to 100%. The Company recorded a \$8,043,346 reduction to members' equity for the amount of

consideration transferred in excess of the carrying amount of the noncontrolling interest acquired in accordance with ASC 810, *Consolidation*.

In August 2013, the Company purchased 51% of the equity of a U.K.-based commodity merchandising company. The stock purchase agreement requires the Company to acquire the remaining outstanding shares at various intervals through 2015. The results of operations for the business since the acquisition date are included in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

The fair value of the noncontrolling interest and identifiable intangible assets was determined by applying the income approach. Trademarks were valued using the relief from royalty method and the customer relationships were valued using the excess earnings method. These fair value measurements were based on significant inputs that are not observable in the market and, therefore, represent Level 3 measurements as defined in ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*. Key assumptions include (1) cash flows based on estimates used to price the transaction, (2) a discount rate range of 13%-14% that was benchmarked with reference to the implied rate of return from the transaction model, (3) a terminal value based on long-term sustainable growth rate of 4% (3) adjustments because of a lack of control or lack of marketability that market participants would consider when estimating the fair value of the noncontrolling interest. The weighted average amortization period of the acquired identifiable intangible assets is 5.0 years.

The following table summarizes the purchase price allocation of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed in the acquisition at their fair values as of the acquisition date.

| (amounts in thousands)   | U.K.-based commodity<br>merchandising company |
|--|---|
| Consideration:   |   |
| Cash paid, net of cash acquired                                | \$ 4,419                                      |
| Noncontrolling interest  | 9,121   |
|  | <u>\$ 13,540</u>                              |
| Recognized amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed: |   |
| Accounts receivable and other current assets                   | \$ 9,620                                      |
| Inventories  | 17,130  |
| Net commodity derivative gains                                 | 2,266   |
| Office furniture and computer equipment                        | 59  |
| Intangibles  | 693   |
| Accounts payable and other current liabilities                 | (6,065)                                       |
| Line of credit facility  | (9,437)                                       |
| Current and deferred income tax liabilities                    | (726)   |
| Fair value of net assets acquired                              | <u>\$ 13,540</u>                              |

In April 2014, the Company purchased an additional 25% of the equity of the U.K.-based commodity merchandising company for \$5,531,410 in accordance with the stock purchase agreement, increasing its ownership to 76%. The Company recorded a \$784,921 reduction to members' equity for the amount of consideration transferred in excess of the carrying amount of the noncontrolling interest acquired in accordance with ASC 810, *Consolidation*.

On December 31, 2013, the Company's then 50%-owned Canadian commodity merchandising joint venture repurchased the outstanding shares held by the Company's partner in the joint venture. As a result of the repurchase transaction, the Company consolidated the wholly owned subsidiary.

Prior to the acquisition, the joint venture was accounted for as an equity method investment since its formation in October 2012. The Company remeasured its previously held equity interest in the joint venture to fair value in the amount of \$6,463,574 and recorded a gain of \$515,370. The fair value of the previously held equity interest was determined by applying the income and market approach. These fair value measurements were based on significant inputs that are not observable in the market and, therefore, represent Level 3 measurements as defined in ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*. Key assumptions include (1) cash flows based on estimates used to price the transaction, (2) a discount rate range of 13%-14%, (3) a terminal value based on long-term implied growth rate of 1.2% (3) adjustments because of a lack of control or lack of marketability that market participants would consider when estimating the fair value previously held interest.

The following table summarizes the purchase price allocation of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed in the acquisition at their fair values as of the acquisition date.

| (amounts in thousands)   | Canadian commodity<br>merchandising company |
|--|---|
| Consideration:   |   |
| Fair value of previously held interest                         | \$ 6,464                                    |
| Cash acquired  | (3,173)                                     |
|  | <u>\$ 3,291</u>                             |
| Recognized amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed: |   |
| Margin deposits  | \$ 916                                      |
| Accounts receivable and other current assets                   | 15,161                                      |
| Inventories  | 6,084                                       |
| Net commodity derivative gains                                 | 1,770                                       |
| Other fixed assets   | 134   |
| Accounts payable and other current liabilities                 | (20,737)                                    |
| Other long-term liabilities                                    | (37)  |
| Fair value of net assets acquired                              | <u>\$ 3,291</u>                             |

In 2013, the Company completed its acquisition of three grain handling facilities in northeastern North Carolina and increased its ownership from 80% to 100% for \$2,700,000, including a true-up payment of \$250,000 related to the 20% stake purchased in 2012. The Company recorded a \$445,539 reduction to members' equity for the amount of consideration transferred in excess of the carrying amount of the noncontrolling interest acquired in accordance with ASC 810, *Consolidation*. The acquired facilities were part of a joint business venture formed with an affiliate in September 2010. The results of operations of the joint venture since formation are included in the consolidated financial statements of the Company.

### NOTE 3 - INVESTMENTS

Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries in which the Company has the ability to exercise significant influence, but not control, over the investee are accounted for using the equity method of accounting and, therefore, carried at cost and adjusted for the Company's proportionate share of their earnings and losses. Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries in which the Company does not have the ability to exercise significant influence and where the investment has no easily determinable fair value are accounted for using the cost method of accounting and are carried at historical cost.

In April 2014, the Company purchased approximately 10% of the equity of a Canadian grain elevator company for \$3,107,231 which it accounts for using the cost method. At December 31, 2014 the fair value of this investment was not estimated as there were no factors identified that may have a significant adverse effect on the fair value of the investment and the fair value of the investment is not easily determinable.

In July 2013, the Company paid cash of \$40,409,972 and contributed its Ontario-based Canadian commodity merchandising business for a non-controlling 50% equity share of a Canadian company that primarily owns and operates grain elevators in Ontario. The Company recognized a gain in other income of \$5,788,162 on the deconsolidation of the business contributed in accordance with ASC 810, *Consolidation*.

In October 2012, the Company invested \$5,000,000 for an equity interest of 50% in a newly formed Canadian commodity merchandising joint venture. The 50% equity interest not owned by the Company was repurchased by the joint venture on December 31, 2013. As a result of this redemption, the Canadian commodity merchandising entity is a wholly owned consolidated subsidiary of the Company.

The Company's equity method investments are summarized as follows:

| (amounts in thousands)          | December 31,<br>2014 | December 31,<br>2013 |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Canadian grain elevator company | \$ 48,379            | \$ 48,237            |
| Other investments at equity     | 3,283                | 1,712                |
|                                 | <u>\$ 51,662</u>     | <u>\$ 49,949</u>     |

The following is a summary of financial position and results of operations of the group of investees detailed above, which are similar in nature of operation:

| (amounts in thousands)         | 2014              | 2013              |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Current assets                 | \$ 500,748        | \$ 588,440        |
| Property, plant, and equipment | 95,214            | 98,184            |
| Other assets                   | 47,670            | 31,638            |
|                                | <u>\$ 643,632</u> | <u>\$ 718,262</u> |
| Current liabilities            | \$ 402,099        | \$ 492,181        |
| Long-term liabilities          | 119,517           | 120,782           |
| Equity                         | 122,016           | 105,299           |
|                                | <u>\$ 643,632</u> | <u>\$ 718,262</u> |
| Sales                          | \$ 2,493,129      | \$ 1,791,175      |
| Net income                     | \$ 17,126         | \$ 5,056          |

#### NOTE 4 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, defines fair value as the price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the Company's principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date.

The Company determines the fair market values of its readily marketable inventory, derivative contracts, and certain other assets and liabilities based on the fair value hierarchy established in ASC 820-35, which requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. Observable inputs are inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the Company's own assumptions based on market data and on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances.

The Standard describes three levels within its hierarchy that may be used to measure fair value:

Level 1 Inputs: Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets;

Level 2 Inputs: Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly; and

Level 3 Inputs: Unobservable inputs (e.g., a reporting entity's own data).

In many cases, a valuation technique used to measure fair value includes inputs from multiple levels of the fair value hierarchy. The lowest level of significant input determines the placement of the entire fair value measurement in the hierarchy.

ASC 820 excludes inventories measured at market value under ASC 905-330, *Agriculture*, as market value is similar to, but not intended to measure, fair value. Management has included inventories in the table below as ASC 820 encourages disclosure information about measurements similar to fair value, which includes the valuation of inventories measured at market value less cost of disposal. Valuation of the Company's grain and feed ingredients inventories is based on market price less cost of disposal, which management believes analogizes ASC 820 guidance.

The following tables present the Company's assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis under ASC 820 at December 31, 2014 and 2013:

| <b>2014</b>                      |   |  |  |                   |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|-------------------|
| (amounts in thousands)           | Quoted Price in<br>Active Markets<br>For Identical<br>Assets<br>(Level 1) | Significant Other<br>Unobservable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 2) | Significant<br>Unobservable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 3) | Total             |
| <b>Assets:</b>                   |   |  |  |                   |
| Margin deposits                  | \$ 1,875  | \$ 21,903  | \$ —   | \$ 23,778         |
| Readily marketable inventories   | —   | 318,947  | —  | 318,947           |
| Commodity derivative assets      | —   | 207,817  | 15,666   | 223,483           |
| <b>Total assets</b>              | <b>\$ 1,875</b>   | <b>\$ 548,667</b>  | <b>\$ 15,666</b>                                   | <b>\$ 566,208</b> |
| <b>Liabilities:</b>              |   |  |  |                   |
| Commodity derivative liabilities | —   | 147,897  | —  | 147,897           |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>         | <b>\$ —</b>   | <b>\$ 147,897</b>  | <b>\$ —</b>  | <b>\$ 147,897</b> |
| <b>2013</b>                      |   |  |  |                   |
| (amounts in thousands)           | Quoted Price in<br>Active Markets<br>For Identical<br>Assets<br>(Level 1) | Significant Other<br>Unobservable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 2) | Significant<br>Unobservable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 3) | Total             |
| <b>Assets:</b>                   |   |  |  |                   |
| Margin deposits                  | \$ 11,450   | \$ (1,073)   | \$ —   | \$ 10,377         |
| Readily marketable inventories   | —   | 280,389  | —  | 280,389           |
| Commodity derivative assets      | —   | 142,790  | —  | 142,790           |
| <b>Total assets</b>              | <b>\$ 11,450</b>  | <b>\$ 422,106</b>  | <b>\$ —</b>  | <b>\$ 433,556</b> |
| <b>Liabilities:</b>              |   |  |  |                   |
| Commodity derivative liabilities | —   | 100,061  | —  | 100,061           |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>         | <b>\$ —</b>   | <b>\$ 100,061</b>  | <b>\$ —</b>  | <b>\$ 100,061</b> |

Margin deposit assets reflect the fair value of futures and options contracts, exchange-cleared swaps, OTC swap contracts, and foreign exchange forward rate agreements that the Company has through regulated, institutional exchanges (e.g., CBOT or NYMEX) and counterparties with master netting arrangements. The regulated futures and options contracts included in margin deposits are valued based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets and are classified in Level 1. Fair value for exchange-cleared swaps, OTC swap contracts and forward rate agreements is estimated based on exchange-quoted prices and observable quotes and is classified in Level 2.

The Company uses the market approach valuation technique to measure the majority of its assets and liabilities carried at fair value. Estimated fair market values for inventories carried at market less cost of disposal are based on exchange-quoted prices, adjusted for observable quotes for local basis adjustments. In such cases, the inventory is classified in Level 2. Changes in the fair market value of inventories are recognized immediately in earnings as a component of cost of goods sold.

The Company's commodity derivative assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value include forward commodity purchase and sales contracts and are classified in Level 2 or Level 3. Fair value for forward commodity purchase and sales contracts is estimated based on exchange-quoted prices as well as observable quotes for local basis adjustments and at times unobservable inputs. Any transfers between levels are recorded at the beginning of the reporting period.

When observable inputs are available for substantially the full term of the asset or liability, the derivative contracts are classified in Level 2. When unobservable inputs, including management's estimate of the potential loss in the event counterparty non-

performance, have a significant impact on the measurement of fair value, the contract's fair value is classified in Level 3. The fair value of certain derivative contracts classified in Level 3 at December 31, 2014 includes an adjustment of \$4,717,761 related to potential counterparty non-performance losses.

The following table presents reconciliations for assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3). These instruments were valued using pricing models that management believes reflect assumptions that would be used by a marketplace participant.

| Level 3 Instruments  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Fair Value Measurements  |                               |
| (amounts in thousands)   | Commodity<br>Derivatives, Net |
| Balance at December 31, 2013                                   | \$ —                          |
| Net unrealized gains and losses included in cost of goods sold | (2,658)                       |
| Transfers into Level 3   | 18,324                        |
| Balance at December 31, 2014                                   | \$ 15,666                     |

## NOTE 5 - DERIVATIVES AND HEDGING

The Company hedges its inventory and forward cash purchase and sales contracts to the extent management considers practical. The objective for holding these hedging instruments is to protect the operating revenues and cash flows resulting from market fluctuations. These hedging activities are governed by a Risk Management Policy approved by the Company's Board of Managers. Hedging activities include the use of derivatives as defined by ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging*, in the form of forward contracts, regulated commodity futures and options, exchange-traded OTC contracts, other OTC commodity swaps, and forward rate agreements as tools to reduce this risk of loss. The results of these strategies can be significantly impacted by factors such as the volatility of the relationship between the value of exchange-traded futures and OTC products and the cash prices of the underlying commodities and counterparty contract defaults.

The Company believes the derivatives utilized are effective in hedging economic risks of the Company in accordance with its Risk Management Policy, but may not meet the correlation criteria outlined in ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging*. Therefore, all derivatives not considered hedges are recorded at their fair value with the offset being recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income.

Risks and Uncertainties for Derivatives: The Company enters into various derivative instruments in the normal course of business. The underlying derivatives are exposed to various risks such as market and counterparty risks. Due to the level of risk associated with the derivatives and the level of uncertainty related to changes in their value, it is at least reasonably possible changes in values will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the results of operations and financial position of the Company.

Commodity Derivatives: To reduce the exposure to market price risk on owned inventories and forward purchase and sale contracts, the Company may enter into regulated commodity futures and options, exchange-traded OTC contracts, and other OTC commodity swaps. The forward contracts are for physical delivery of the commodity in a future period. These forward contracts generally relate to the current or following marketing year for delivery periods quoted by regulated commodity exchanges. The terms of the forward contracts are consistent with industry standards. While the Company considers these contracts to be effective economic hedges, it does not designate or account for them as hedges as defined under current accounting standards. The Company's Risk Management Policy limits the Company's "unhedged" commodity position.

Changes in fair values of these commodity contracts and related inventories are included in cost of goods sold in the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income. The estimated fair value of the regulated commodity futures contracts as well as other exchange-traded contracts is recorded on a net basis (offset against cash collateral posted or received) within margin deposits on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Management determines fair value based on ASC 820.

The Company also uses futures and options contracts associated with its speculative trading policy. Open positions under the speculative trading policy are held in a non-guaranteed subsidiary and have been recorded at fair value with the offsets being recorded in other operating income and constitute substantially all of the other operating income disclosed below.

Foreign Currency Derivatives: The Company uses foreign exchange forward rate agreements in certain operations to mitigate the



risk from exchange rate fluctuations in connection with anticipated transactions denominated in foreign currencies. The fair value of the Company's foreign exchange forward rate agreements was a net loss of \$2,354,929 and \$922,651 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, and was included in margin deposits. Aggregate foreign currency transaction gains and losses related to non-trading activities are included in other income and presented separately in the derivative-based transaction activities alternative disclosure below. Aggregate foreign currency transaction gains and losses related to trading activities are included in cost of goods sold in the derivative-based transaction activities alternative disclosure below.

**Quantitative Disclosures:** The table below presents the fair value of the Company's commodity derivatives and the Consolidated Balance Sheet line item in which they are located as of December 31, 2014 and 2013:

| (amounts in thousands)   | December 31,<br>2014 | December 31,<br>2013 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Commodity derivative assets - current                            | \$ 223,065           | \$ 142,689           |
| Commodity derivative assets - long-term                          | 419                  | 101                  |
| Commodity derivative liabilities - current                       | (147,694)            | (99,534)             |
| Commodity derivative liabilities - long-term                     | (203)                | (527)                |
| Regulated futures and options contract gains in margin deposits  | 16,656               | 24,228               |
| Regulated futures and options contract losses in margin deposits | (14,781)             | (12,778)             |
| Exchange-traded OTC contract gains included in margin deposits   | 26,430               | 3,905                |
| Exchange-traded OTC contract losses included in margin deposits  | (2,172)              | (4,055)              |
| Total estimated fair value of commodity derivatives              | <u>\$ 101,720</u>    | <u>\$ 54,029</u>     |

At December 31, 2014, the Company had entered into contracts to purchase and sell certain foreign currencies for various time periods in the future, including net Canadian dollar purchases of \$CN 93,905,128 and net Great British pounds sales of UK£ 7,523,162. At December 31, 2013, the Company had entered into contracts to purchase and sell certain foreign currencies for various time periods in the future, including net Canadian dollar purchases of \$CN 75,833,814 and net Great British pounds of UK£ 8,907,339. The Company considers the functional currency of its U.S. operations the U.S. dollar. Accordingly, unrealized gains and losses on open contracts are charged to current cost of goods sold.

ASC 815-50 requires the Company to disclose the location and amount of the gains and losses from its derivative instruments reported in the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income. The Company uses various derivative instruments, as described above, as well as non-derivative instruments (i.e., commodity inventory valued at estimated market value less cost of disposal) in its risk management strategies and activities. Substantially all of the Company's sales are the result of physical delivery of commodities against forward cash contracts and substantially all of the Company's cost of goods sold are the result of purchases of commodities on forward cash contracts, gains and losses from all other derivatives along with the change in value of the Company's grain and feed ingredients inventories.

The following table includes the alternative disclosures about gains and losses from activities that include non-designated derivative instruments as well as non-derivative instruments and their reporting in the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income:

| (amounts in thousands)                  | 2014           | 2013           | 2012           |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Derivative-based transaction activities |                |                |                |
| Sales                                   | \$ 6,134,205   | \$ 8,574,336   | \$ 6,952,571   |
| Cost of goods sold                      | 5,995,964      | 8,422,324      | 6,813,129      |
| Gross margin                            | <u>138,241</u> | <u>152,012</u> | <u>139,442</u> |
| Other operating income                  | 5,934          | 2,678          | 16,578         |
| Other (loss) income - net               | (126)          | (397)          | 10             |



At December 31, 2014 and 2013, the Company had the following gross quantities outstanding on commodity derivative contracts:

|                            | 2014        | 2013        | Unit of measure |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Commodity:                 |             |             |                 |
| Corn                       | 407,405,806 | 471,571,514 | bushels         |
| Wheat                      | 170,383,252 | 98,916,149  | bushels         |
| Soybeans                   | 101,622,291 | 93,772,511  | bushels         |
| Dried distillers grain     | 3,967,415   | 4,215,219   | tons            |
| Cottonseed                 | 389,417     | 278,065     | tons            |
| Ethanol                    | 236,186,364 | 208,401,215 | gallons         |
| Crude oil                  | 5,491,853   | 12,960,877  | gallons         |
| Propane                    | 882,000     | 1,470,000   | gallons         |
| Gasoline                   | 19,572,000  | 26,334,000  | gallons         |
| Biodiesel                  | 14,175,822  | —           | gallons         |
| Forward freight agreements | 45          | 165         | days            |
| Other                      | 1,019,234   | 906,701     | metric tons     |

#### NOTE 6 - INVENTORIES

Grain and feed ingredients inventories stated at estimated market value less cost of disposal at December 31, 2014 and 2013 consist of the following:

| (amounts in thousands) | 2014              | 2013              |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Corn                   | \$ 86,799         | \$ 60,732         |
| Soybeans               | 108,910           | 101,438           |
| Wheat                  | 72,857            | 53,875            |
| Dried distillers grain | 19,560            | 49,028            |
| Cottonseed             | 17,765            | 6,862             |
| Other inventories      | 13,056            | 8,454             |
|                        | <u>\$ 318,947</u> | <u>\$ 280,389</u> |

Inventories stated at the lower of cost or market at December 31, 2014 and 2013 consist of the following:

| (amounts in thousands)         | 2014             | 2013             |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Ethanol                        | \$ 8,320         | \$ 3,436         |
| Potato products                | 20,355           | 16,252           |
| Organic grains and ingredients | 16,023           | 20,605           |
| Fishmeal                       | 4,753            | 4,138            |
| Crude oil                      | 10,939           | —                |
| Other inventories              | 11,850           | 3,168            |
|                                | <u>\$ 72,240</u> | <u>\$ 47,599</u> |

Inventories shown on the Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014 and 2013 do not include 611,468 and 1,257,002 bushels of grain, respectively, held in storage for others. The Company is liable for any deficiencies of grade or shortage of quantity that may arise in connection with the above inventory held in storage for others. Management does not anticipate material losses on any deficiencies.

## NOTE 7 - GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLES

As of December 31, 2014, the Company determined that no impairment to goodwill exists. Separable intangible assets with finite lives are amortized over their useful lives. Amortization expense was \$2,783,130, \$2,399,131, and \$2,070,000 for 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively. Other intangible assets consist of acquired customer lists and trade names.

| (amounts in thousands) | Goodwill  | Other Intangible Assets |                          |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
|                        |           | Gross Amount            | Accumulated Amortization |
| December 31, 2013      | \$ 17,048 | \$ 23,543               | \$ (9,127)               |
| December 31, 2014      | 21,200    | 29,060                  | (11,888)                 |

Expected future annual amortization expense is as follows:

| (amounts in thousands) |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| 2015                   | \$ 3,543 |
| 2016                   | 3,409    |
| 2017                   | 3,312    |
| 2018                   | 3,232    |
| 2019                   | 2,758    |
| Thereafter             | 918      |

## NOTE 8 - DEBT

At December 31, 2014 and 2013 the Company's debt consists of the following:

| (amounts in thousands)  | December 31,<br>2014 | December 31,<br>2013 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Line of credit facility   | \$ 218,853           | \$ 122,318           |
| Senior notes maturing February 15, 2019                                       | 175,000              | —                    |
| Term loans secured with certain property and equipment                        | 54,211               | 59,282               |
| Credit facilities of U.K.-based commodity merchandising company due on demand | 7,764                | 10,950               |
| Subordinated note payable maturing March 5, 2015                              | —                    | 14,950               |
| Inventory repurchase agreements   | —                    | 15,500               |
| Other obligations   | —                    | 5,006                |
|   | 455,828              | 228,006              |
| Less current maturities   | 232,638              | 156,471              |
|   | <u>\$ 223,190</u>    | <u>\$ 71,535</u>     |

On February 12, 2014, the Company issued \$175,000,000 in senior notes due February 15, 2019 to certain institutional investors pursuant to certain exemptions from registration under the Securities Act of 1933. Interest accrues on the notes at a fixed annual interest rate of 9.25% and is payable semi-annually. The effective interest rate on the notes is 10.1%.

On January 22, 2014, the Company amended the syndicated credit agreement, originally entered into on September 1, 2009 and subsequently amended on July 15, 2011, to extend the maturity date to January 22, 2018 and amend certain terms including allowing for the issuance of the senior notes. The credit facility provided a revolving line of credit in the amount of \$450,000,000 at December 31, 2014 and 2013. The actual credit available is based on security in the form of eligible current assets of the Company as determined by the provisions included in the credit agreement. Total availability under the agreement was \$273,175,425 and \$231,431,552 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The credit agreement accrues interest at a variable rate and had a weighted average interest rate on the outstanding borrowings of 2.06% and 2.21% at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

The amended credit agreement also provided for an additional \$40,000,000 loan tranche utilized to partially fund membership redemptions prior to the issuance of the senior notes. This additional tranche was borrowed on January 22, 2014 and repaid upon issuance of the senior notes in February 2014. The effective cost of this borrowing was 3.94%.

In October 2013, the Company was advanced \$15,500,000 by a financial institution under an inventory repurchase agreement for 2,500,000 bushels of wheat. The Company repurchased this grain on February 3, 2014 in accordance with this agreement. The effective cost of these funds was 1.78% at December 31, 2013.

In July 2013, the Company refinanced the existing term loan secured by certain property and equipment in Louisiana. The loan was increased to \$26,000,000 and now matures in July 2028. The fixed interest rate on these borrowings at December 31, 2014 was 4.76%.

On June 28, 2012, the Company entered into a term loan that was secured by certain property and equipment in Nebraska for \$5,600,000. The loan matures in July 2022. The fixed interest rate on these borrowings at December 31, 2014 was 4.19%.

In June 2013, the Company entered into a second term loan secured by certain property and equipment in Nebraska for \$16,363,750. The loan matures in June 2028. The fixed interest rate on these borrowings at December 31, 2014 was 4.45%.

On August 31, 2010, the Company entered into a term loan that was secured by certain property and equipment in Idaho for \$9,300,000. The loan matures in September 2020. The fixed interest rate on these borrowings at December 31, 2014 was 5.21%.

The long-term debt of the transloading company, formerly the transloading joint venture, was comprised of several term loans with a combined balance of \$5,749,541 and \$6,556,281 at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The notes have various maturities through April 2023, fixed interest rates between 4.99% and 6.50%, and are generally secured with certain equipment of the transloading company.

The debt of the acquired U.K.-based commodity merchandising company is comprised of credit agreements arranged with certain financial institutions extending a total \$28,000,000 for trade and inventory finance activities. Amounts drawn on the credit agreements are due on demand and accrue interest LIBOR plus spreads from 2% to 3%.

The \$15,000,000 subordinated note payable issued in March 2012 with a maturity date of March 5, 2015 was repaid upon issuance of the senior notes in February 2014. The note was issued at a discount of 75 basis points and required monthly cash interest payments at 9.0% plus the one year LIBOR rate. Unlike typical long-term debt, interest rates and other terms for subordinated debt are not readily available and generally involve a variety of factors, including due diligence by the debt holders. As such, the Company believes that it is not practicable to determine the fair value of the subordinated note payable at December 31, 2013 without incurring excessive costs.

The aggregate annual maturities of long-term borrowings are as follows:

(amounts in thousands)

|            |    |         |
|------------|----|---------|
| 2015       | \$ | 6,021   |
| 2016       |    | 5,851   |
| 2017       |    | 5,491   |
| 2018       |    | 5,402   |
| 2019       |    | 180,404 |
| Thereafter |    | 26,042  |

The Company had outstanding letters of credit totaling \$4,655,088 at December 31, 2014 expiring on or before October 30, 2015. The Company had outstanding letters of credit totaling \$6,892,071 at December 31, 2013 all of which expired or were canceled during 2014.

Borrowings under the credit agreement are secured by substantially all assets of the Company, excluding certain property and equipment. Because the actual credit available is based on eligible current assets of the Company as determined by the provisions included in the credit agreement, the balance due is presented as a current liability. The line of credit facility, subordinated note, and term loans contain various covenants, including covenants related to tangible net worth, working capital, and certain other items. The Company was in compliance with all financial covenants at December 31, 2014. The Company was in compliance with or had waivers for non-compliance for all financial covenants at December 31, 2013.

## NOTE 9 - INCOME TAXES

Lansing Trade Group, LLC and its subsidiaries other than LVI and certain foreign subsidiaries and branches, are generally not subject to federal income taxes. As such, the Company does not directly pay federal income taxes. Other than with respect to the corporate subsidiary and certain foreign subsidiaries and branches, the Company's taxable income is includable in the federal income tax returns of each of the Company's members. The Company's tax rate differs from statutory rates primarily due to being structured as a limited liability company, which is a pass-through entity for United States income tax purposes, while being treated as a taxable entity in certain states and foreign jurisdictions.

The components of deferred tax assets and liabilities at December 31, 2014 and 2013 are as follows:

| (amounts in thousands)                | 2014       | 2013       |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Deferred income tax assets:           |            |            |
| Unrealized derivative contract losses | \$ 16,333  | \$ 10,044  |
| Allowance for doubtful accounts       | 572        | 293        |
| In-transit activity                   | 773        | 423        |
| Other                                 | 360        | 456        |
| Net operating loss carryforwards      | 249        | 555        |
|                                       | 18,287     | 11,771     |
| Valuation allowance                   | (185)      | (346)      |
| Total deferred income tax assets      | 18,102     | 11,425     |
| Deferred income tax liabilities:      |            |            |
| Unrealized derivative contract gains  | (20,284)   | (14,195)   |
| In-transit activity                   | —          | —          |
| Property and equipment                | (4)        | (10)       |
| Intangibles                           | (3,993)    | (4,869)    |
| Other                                 | —          | (12)       |
| Total deferred income tax liabilities | (24,281)   | (19,086)   |
| Net deferred income tax liabilities   | \$ (6,179) | \$ (7,661) |

The components of the provision for income taxes for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 are as follows:

| (amounts in thousands)     | 2014      | 2013     | 2012     |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Current:                   |           |          |          |
| U.S. Federal               | \$ 5,682  | \$ 2,957 | \$ 1,904 |
| State                      | 922       | 204      | 380      |
| Foreign                    | 5,478     | 434      | (198)    |
|                            | 12,082    | 3,595    | 2,086    |
| Deferred:                  |           |          |          |
| U.S. Federal               | (1,358)   | 276      | (327)    |
| State                      | (61)      | (108)    | (57)     |
| Foreign                    | (56)      | (654)    | 8        |
|                            | (1,475)   | (486)    | (376)    |
| Total income tax provision | \$ 10,607 | \$ 3,109 | \$ 1,710 |

Under guidance issued by the FASB with respect to accounting for uncertainty in income taxes, a tax position is recognized as a

benefit only if it is “more likely than not” that the tax position would be sustained in a tax examination, with a tax examination being presumed to occur. The amount recognized is the largest amount of tax benefit that is greater than 50% likely of being realized on examination. For tax positions not meeting the “more likely than not” test, no tax benefit is recorded. Total unrecognized tax benefits were \$723,675 at December 31, 2014 and 2013. The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to income tax matters in income tax expense. The Company had \$273,992 of accrued interest and penalties at December 31, 2013 and 2012. The unrecognized tax benefit and related interest and penalties reflected at December 31, 2013 and 2012 are the result of amounts recorded in the LVI acquisition.

The Company does not anticipate that the total unrecognized tax benefits will be reduced within the next 12 months.

The Company or one of its subsidiaries files income tax returns in the United States, Canada, the U.K., and certain other foreign federal jurisdiction and various state and local jurisdictions. The Company is no longer subject to examinations by tax authorities for years before 2011. The Company does not expect the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits to change significantly in the next 12 months.

#### **NOTE 10 - SHARE BASED COMPENSATION PLANS**

The Company has a Restricted Membership Unit Plan, which is considered a share based compensation plan. The Board of Managers or a committee appointed by the Board of Managers determines employee eligibility for the plan. The Company believes that such awards better align the interests of its employees with those of its members. During 2014 and 2013, the committee authorized the granting of \$8,008,293 and \$8,960,734, respectively, worth of Restricted Membership Units with the number of units being determined based upon fair value determined by an independent valuation. The grants primarily are deferrals of annual performance incentives to be issued in Restricted Membership Units in accordance with the Company's compensation plans. The Restricted Membership Units generally vest one-fourth at issuance and one-fourth on January 1 each year for three years following the initial grant date as long as the individual remains an employee of the Company. The units vest immediately upon death or disability of the employee. The units also provide for accelerated vesting if there is a change in control (as defined in the Plan) or discharge without cause.

Upon vesting, Restricted Membership Units become full membership units subject to all provisions of the Company's operating agreement; however, upon the event of withdrawal from membership by the employee, the vested units received through this plan must be redeemed by the Company as if the member died or became disabled and unvested units are forfeited.

Compensation expense attributable to the vesting of Restricted Membership Units and charged against income for 2014, 2013, and 2012 was \$7,825,640, \$7,473,702, and \$6,467,938, respectively. Expected future compensation expense related to the granted awards, assuming no additional forfeitures, is as follows:

| (amounts in thousands) | 2014 Awards     | 2013 Awards     | 2012 Awards     | Total           |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2015                   | \$ 1,482        | \$ 1,673        | \$ 1,422        | \$ 4,577        |
| 2016                   | 1,454           | 1,482           | —               | 2,936           |
| 2017                   | 1,454           | —               | —               | 1,454           |
| Total                  | <u>\$ 4,390</u> | <u>\$ 3,155</u> | <u>\$ 1,422</u> | <u>\$ 8,967</u> |

#### **NOTE 11 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

The Company leases office space primarily in North America from various leasing companies under noncancelable operating leases expiring through January 31, 2018. These agreements require monthly rentals of approximately \$94,000, plus the payment of insurance and normal maintenance on the property.

The Company leases terminal space under noncancelable operating leases expiring on various dates through May 2015 for the purpose of storing ethanol inventory. These agreements require a minimum monthly warehousing charge, subject to escalation tied to the All-Urban Consumer Price Index (CPI), plus payment for storage capacity in excess of contracted capacity.

The Company leases railroad cars from various railcar leasing companies, including a member, for the transporting of commodities under noncancelable operating leases expiring through September 30, 2020. These agreements require monthly rentals of approximately \$2,100,000 plus the payment of excess mileage charges and any damage repairs.

Future minimum operating lease payments are as follows and include minimum lease payments to a member totaling \$611,955 and \$364,635 in 2015 and 2016, respectively:

(amounts in thousands)

|            |    |               |
|------------|----|---------------|
| 2015       | \$ | 20,614        |
| 2016       |    | 14,346        |
| 2017       |    | 8,717         |
| 2018       |    | 4,372         |
| 2019       |    | 2,575         |
| Thereafter |    | 1,069         |
|            | \$ | <u>51,693</u> |

Total rent expense for 2014, 2013, and 2012 was \$11,664,055, \$11,062,534, and \$13,470,716, respectively.

The Company is subject to various legal and administrative claims arising in the normal course of business. The Company records a liability in its consolidated financial statements for material loss contingencies when a loss is known or considered probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. If the reasonable estimate of a known or probable loss is a range, and no amount within the range is a better estimate than any other, the minimum amount of the range is accrued. Management estimates probable contingent losses for ongoing claims and has recorded liabilities for these claims at December 31, 2014. Management believes that any liability that may result from any known claims considered reasonably possible are immaterial to the Company's financial position.

#### NOTE 12 - RELATED PARTIES

The Company leases most of its employees from a related party under a services agreement. This agreement stipulates all payroll and payroll related benefits be reimbursed on a direct cost basis, including administrative costs, to the related party. Total charges for services provided for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 amounted to \$73,269,601, \$64,655,013, and \$57,455,697, respectively. Amounts due under the agreement at December 31, 2014 and 2013 were \$6,225,002 and \$5,714,905, respectively, and included as other current liabilities.

In August 2010, the Company issued a \$10,000,000 subordinated loan to a related party with a 7.00% coupon rate that is payable semi-annually. The note is due in full in seven years and requires the related party to make payments towards the outstanding balance in the interim periods based on certain earnings thresholds.

The Company buys and sells cash commodities and renewable fuels and enters into certain railcar leasing and maintenance transactions with related parties. These related party balances as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and transactions as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 are as follows:

(amounts in thousands)

|   | 2014      | 2013       | 2012       |
|---|-----------|------------|------------|
| Sales   | \$ 36,673 | \$ 129,810 | \$ 122,671 |
| Cost of goods sold  | 267,274   | 326,023    | 171,847    |
| Interest income   | 981       | 562        | 525        |
| Interest expense  | 205       | 467        | 221        |
| Gain on deconsolidation of a subsidiary                           | —         | 5,788      | —          |
| Accounts receivable   | \$ 372    | \$ 24,162  |            |
| Note receivable   | 9,828     | 9,828      |            |
| Current maturities of long-term debt                              | —         | 2,433      |            |
| Accounts payable  | 34,472    | 78,183     |            |
| Net gain (loss) on forward cash purchase and cash sales contracts | (283)     | (4,043)    |            |
| Long-term debt  | —         | 2,573      |            |

## **Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure**

None.

### **Item 9A. Controls and Procedures**

#### **Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

The Company has established disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that the information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management of the Company, with the participation of its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer (its "certifying officers"), as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Management of the Company, with the participation of its certifying officers, evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act. Based on the evaluation as of December 31, 2014, the certifying officers have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

#### **Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f). Internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the Company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the Company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management has excluded six grain and four agronomy locations from our assessment of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 because these locations were acquired from the Auburn Bean and Grain Company by the Company in an acquisition in the fourth quarter of 2014. The assets in the acquired locations represent approximately 6.7% of the Company's total assets as of December 31, 2014 and approximately 1.0% of the Company's total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Under the supervision and with the participation of management, including the certifying officers, the Company conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting based on the criteria established in the *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on the results of this evaluation, management concluded that, as of December 31, 2014, the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective.

The effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is included under Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

There have been no changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting during the Company's most recent fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal controls over financial reporting.

### **Part III.**

#### **Item 10. Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant**

For information with respect to the executive officers of the registrant, see “Executive Officers of the Registrant” included in Part I of this report. For information with respect to the Directors of the registrant, see “Election of Directors” in the Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders to be held on May 8, 2015 (the “Proxy Statement”), which is incorporated herein by reference; for information concerning 1934 Securities and Exchange Act Section 16(a) Compliance, see such section in the Proxy Statement, incorporated herein by reference.

#### **Item 11. Executive Compensation**

The information set forth under the caption “Executive Compensation” in the Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

#### **Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management**

The information set forth under the caption “Share Ownership” and “Executive Compensation - Equity Compensation Plan Information” in the Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

#### **Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions**

The information set forth under the caption “Review, Approval or Ratification of Transactions with Related Persons” in the Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

#### **Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

The information set forth under “Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm” in the Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.



**Part IV.**

**Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules, and Reports on Form 8-K**

- |         |  |      |
|---------|--|------|
| (a) (1) | The Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company are set forth under Item 8 of this report on Form 10-K. |      |
| (2)     | The following consolidated financial statement schedule is included in Item 15(d):                           | Page |
| II.     | Consolidated Valuation and Qualifying Accounts - years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012                | 117  |

All other schedules for which provisions are made in the applicable accounting regulation of the Securities and Exchange Commission are not required under the related instructions or are not applicable, and therefore have been omitted.

- (3) Exhibits:
- 2.1 Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated April 28, 1995 and amended as of September 26, 1995, by and between The Andersons Management Corp. and The Andersons. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Registration Statement No. 33-58963).
  - 3.1 Articles of Incorporation. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3(d) to Registration Statement No. 33-16936).
  - 3.4 Code of Regulations of The Andersons, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.4 to Registration Statement No. 33-58963).
  - 4.1 Form of Indenture dated as of October 1, 1985, between The Andersons, Inc. and Ohio Citizens Bank, as Trustee (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4 (a) in Registration Statement No. 33-819).
  - 4.3 Specimen Common Share Certificate. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Registration Statement No. 33-58963).
  - 4.4 The Seventeenth Supplemental Indenture dated as of August 14, 1997, between The Andersons, Inc. and The Fifth Third Bank, successor Trustee to an Indenture between The Andersons and Ohio Citizens Bank, dated as of October 1, 1985. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to The Andersons, Inc. 1998 Annual Report on Form 10-K).
  - 4.5 Loan Agreement dated October 30, 2002 and amendments through the ninth amendment dated March 14, 2007 between The Andersons, Inc., the banks listed therein and U.S. Bank National Association as Administrative Agent. (Incorporated by reference from Form 10-Q filed November 9, 2006).
  - 4.6 Form of Indenture dated June 28, 2012, between The Andersons, Inc. and Huntington National Bank, as Trustee (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 in Registration Statement No. 333-182428)
  - 10.1 Management Performance Program. \* (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10(a) to the Predecessor Partnership's Form 10-K dated December 31, 1990, File No. 2-55070).
  - 10.3 The Andersons, Inc. 2004 Employee Share Purchase Plan \* (Incorporated by reference to Appendix B to the Proxy Statement for the May 13, 2004 Annual Meeting).
  - 10.18 The Andersons, Inc. Long-Term Performance Compensation Plan dated May 6, 2005 \* (Incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the Proxy Statement for the May 6, 2005 Annual Meeting).
  - 10.26 Form of Stock Only Stock Appreciation Rights Agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 10-Q filed May 10, 2007).
  - 10.29 Note Purchase Agreement, dated March 27, 2008, between The Andersons, Inc., as borrowers, and several purchases with Wells Fargo Capital Markets acting as agent (Incorporated by reference from Form 8-K filed March 27, 2008).
  - 10.34 Form of Change in Control and Severance Participation Agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 8-K filed January 13, 2009).

- 10.35 Change in Control and Severance Policy (Incorporated by reference from Form 8-K filed January 13, 2009).
- 10.40 Amended and Restated Note Purchase Agreement, dated February 26, 2010, between The Andersons, Inc., as borrower, and Co-Bank, one of the lenders to the original agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 8-K filed March 5, 2010).
- 10.41 Form of Stock Only Stock Appreciation Rights Agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 10-Q filed May 7, 2010).
- 10.42 Form of Performance Share Award Agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 10-Q filed May 7, 2010).
- 10.46 Form of Restricted Share Award Agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 10-Q filed May 5, 2011).
- 10.47 Form of Performance Share Unit Agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 10-Q filed May 5, 2011).
- 10.48 Fourth Amended and Restated Loan Agreement, dated December 7, 2011, between The Andersons, Inc., as borrower, and several banks with U.S. Bank National Association acting as agent and lender (Incorporated by reference from Form 8-K filed December 8, 2011).
- 10.49 Form of Restricted Share Award Agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 10-Q filed May 9, 2012).
- 10.5 Form of Performance Share Unit Agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 10-Q filed May 9, 2012).
- 10.51 Form of Restricted Share Award Agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 10-Q filed May 9, 2012).
- 10.52 Form of Performance Share Unit Agreement (Incorporated by reference from Form 10-Q filed May 9, 2012).
- 10.53 Asset Purchase Agreement among Green Plains Grain Company LLC, Green Plains Grain Company TN LLC, Green Plains Renewable Energy, Inc. and The Andersons, Inc. dated October 26, 2012. (Incorporated by reference from Form 8-K filed October 29, 2012).
- 10.54 First Amendment to Asset Purchase Agreement between Green Plains Grain Company LLC, Green Plains Grain Company TN LLC, Green Plains Renewable Energy, Inc. and The Andersons, Inc. dated November 30, 2012 (Incorporated by reference from Form 8-K filed December 3, 2012).
- 10.55 Stock Purchase Agreement among the Sellers and The Andersons, Inc. and Lansing Trade Group LLC dated May 31, 2013 (Incorporated by reference from Form 8-K filed August 2, 2013).
- 10.56 Membership Interest Redemption Agreement between Lansing Trade Group, LLC and The Andersons Agriculture Group, L.P. (Incorporated by reference from Form 8-K filed January 23, 2014).
- 10.57 Second Amended and Restated Marketing Agreement between The Andersons, Inc. and Cargill, Incorporated dated June 1, 2013. (The exhibits to the Marketing Agreement have been omitted. The Company will furnish such exhibits to the SEC upon request.)
- 10.58 First Amendment to Lease and Sublease between Cargill, Incorporated and The Andersons, Inc. dated June 1, 2013. (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-K filed February 28, 2014).
- 10.59 Form of Performance Share Unit Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-K filed February 28, 2014).
- 10.6 Form of Restricted Share Award Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-K filed February 28, 2014).
- 10.61 Form of Restricted Share Award - Non-Employee Directors Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-K filed February 28, 2014).
- 10.62 Form of Performance Share Unit Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-Q filed May 9, 2014).

- 10.63 Form of Restricted Share Award Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-Q filed May 9, 2014).
- 10.64 Form of Restricted Share Award - Non-Employee Directors Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-Q filed May 9, 2014).
- 10.65 Fifth Amended and Restated Loan Agreement, dated March 4, 2014, between The Andersons, Inc., as borrower, and several banks with U.S. Bank National Association acting as agent and lender. (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-Q filed May 9, 2014).
- 10.66 The Andersons, Inc. 2014 Long-Term Incentive Compensation Plan effective May 2, 2014 \* (Incorporated by reference to Appendix C to the Proxy Statement for the May 2, 2014 Annual Meeting)
- 10.67 Agreement and Plan of Merger and Purchase Agreement Among The Shareholders of Auburn Bean and Grain Co. and The KMA Group LLC as Seller and The Andersons, Inc. as Buyer and TAI Acquisition Co. dated October 7, 2014. (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-K filed October 8, 2014).
- 12 Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges (filed herewith).
- 21 Consolidated Subsidiaries of The Andersons, Inc (filed herewith).
- 23.1 Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (filed herewith).
- 23.2 Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (filed herewith).
- 23.3 Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (filed herewith).
- 31.1 Certification of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer under Rule 13(a)-14(a)/15d-14(a) (filed herewith).
- 31.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer under Rule 13(a)-14(a)/15d-14(a) (filed herewith).
- 32.1 Certifications Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 (filed herewith).
- 101 Financial statements from the annual report on Form 10-K of The Andersons, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2014, formatted in XBRL: (i) the Consolidated Statements of Income, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income, (iii) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Equity, (v) the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and (vi) the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

\* Management contract or compensatory plan.

The Company agrees to furnish to the Securities and Exchange Commission a copy of any long-term debt instrument or loan agreement that it may request.

(b) Exhibits:

The exhibits listed in Item 15(a)(3) of this report, and not incorporated by reference, follow "Financial Statement Schedule" referred to in (c) below.

(c) Financial Statement Schedule

The financial statement schedule listed in 15(a)(2) follows "Signatures."

## SIGNATURES

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

THE ANDERSONS, INC.  
(Registrant)

Date: March 2, 2015

By /s/ Michael J. Anderson  
Michael J. Anderson  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (Principal  
Executive Officer)

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| <u>Signature</u>                | <u>Title</u>                         | <u>Date</u> | <u>Signature</u>               | <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| <u>/s/ Michael J. Anderson</u>  | Chairman and Chief Executive Officer | 3/2/2015    | <u>/s/ Ross W. Manire</u>      | Director     | 3/2/2015    |
| Michael J. Anderson             | (Principal Executive Officer)        |             | Ross W. Manire                 |              |             |
| <u>/s/ John Granato</u>         | Chief Financial Officer              | 3/2/2015    | <u>/s/ Donald L. Mennel</u>    | Director     | 3/2/2015    |
| John Granato                    | (Principal Financial Officer)        |             | Donald L. Mennel               |              |             |
| <u>/s/ Anne G. Rex</u>          | Vice President, Corporate Controller | 3/2/2015    | <u>/s/ Patrick S. Mullin</u>   | Director     | 3/2/2015    |
| Anne G. Rex                     | (Principal Accounting Officer)       |             | Patrick S. Mullin              |              |             |
| <u>/s/ Gerard M. Anderson</u>   | Director                             | 3/2/2015    | <u>/s/ John T. Stout, Jr.</u>  | Director     | 3/2/2015    |
| Gerard M. Anderson              |                                      |             | John T. Stout, Jr.             |              |             |
| <u>/s/ Robert J. King, Jr.</u>  | Director                             | 3/2/2015    | <u>/s/ Jacqueline F. Woods</u> | Director     | 3/2/2015    |
| Robert J. King, Jr.             |                                      |             | Jacqueline F. Woods            |              |             |
| <u>/s/ Catherine M. Kilbane</u> | Director                             | 3/2/2015    |                                |              |             |
| Catherine M. Kilbane            |                                      |             |                                |              |             |

THE ANDERSONS, INC.

SCHEDULE II - CONSOLIDATED VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS

(in thousands)

| (in thousands)   |                                | Additions                     |   |                |                          |  |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------|--------------------------|--|
| Description  | Balance at beginning of period | Charged to costs and expenses | Transferred from (to) allowance for accounts / notes receivable | (1) Deductions | Balance at end of period |  |
| Allowance for doubtful accounts receivable - Year ended December 31, |                                |                               |   |                |                          |  |
| 2014   | \$ 4,993                       | \$ 1,183                      | \$ —  | \$ (1,532)     | \$ 4,644                 |  |
| 2013   | 4,883                          | 1,187                         | —   | (1,077)        | 4,993                    |  |
| 2012   | 4,799                          | 1,129                         | 46  | (1,091)        | 4,883                    |  |

(1) Uncollectible accounts written off, net of recoveries and adjustments to estimates for the allowance accounts.

**THE ANDERSONS, INC.**

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Description</u>   |
|------------|--|
| 12         | Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.   |
| 21         | Consolidated Subsidiaries of The Andersons, Inc.   |
| 23.1       | Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.  |
| 23.2       | Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.  |
| 23.3       | Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.  |
| 31.1       | Certification of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer under Rule 13(a)-14(a)/15d-14(a).  |
| 31.2       | Certification of the Chief Financial Officer under Rule 13(a)-14(a)/15d-14(a).   |
| 32.1       | Certifications Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.   |
| 101        | Financial Statements from the annual report on Form 10-K of The Andersons, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2014, formatted in XBRL: (i) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income, (ii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income, (iii) the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, (iv) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Equity, (v) the Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and (vi) the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. |

COMPUTATION OF RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES  
THE ANDERSONS, INC.

The following table sets forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated:

(in thousands, except for ratio)

|  | Year Ended December 31, |                   |                   |                   |                   |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | 2014                    | 2013              | 2012              | 2011              | 2010              |
| Computation of earnings                |                         |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Pretax income (a)                      | \$ 87,623               | \$ 80,808         | \$ 103,646        | \$ 106,428        | \$ 78,136         |
| Add:                                   |                         |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Interest expense on indebtedness       | 21,760                  | 20,860            | 22,155            | 25,256            | 19,865            |
| Amortization of debt issue costs       | 1,375                   | 1,594             | 1,719             | 1,518             | 3,841             |
| Interest portion of rent expense (b)   | 7,702                   | 7,730             | 6,740             | 7,845             | 8,738             |
| Distributed income of equity investees | 125,058                 | 17,780            | 24,353            | 17,831            | 8,412             |
| Earnings                               | <u>\$ 243,518</u>       | <u>\$ 128,772</u> | <u>\$ 158,613</u> | <u>\$ 158,878</u> | <u>\$ 118,992</u> |
| Computation of fixed charges           |                         |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Interest expense on indebtedness       | \$ 21,760               | \$ 20,860         | \$ 22,155         | \$ 25,256         | \$ 19,865         |
| Amortization of debt issue costs       | 1,375                   | 1,594             | 1,719             | 1,518             | 3,841             |
| Interest portion of rent expense (b)   | 7,702                   | 7,730             | 6,740             | 7,845             | 8,738             |
| Fixed charges                          | <u>\$ 30,837</u>        | <u>\$ 30,184</u>  | <u>\$ 30,614</u>  | <u>\$ 34,619</u>  | <u>\$ 32,444</u>  |
| Ratio of earnings to fixed charges     | <u>7.90</u>             | <u>4.27</u>       | <u>5.18</u>       | <u>4.59</u>       | <u>3.67</u>       |

(a) Pretax income as presented is income from continuing operations before adjustment for income or loss from equity investees.

(b) The portion of rent expense on operating leases included in the calculation of the fixed charges ratio above is a reasonable approximation of the interest factor on those agreements.

## CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES OF THE ANDERSONS, INC.

| <b>Subsidiary</b>                            | <b>Place of Organization</b> |
|--|------------------------------|
| The Andersons Agriculture Group, L.P.        | Ohio                         |
| The Andersons AgVantage Agency, LLC          | Ohio                         |
| The Andersons ALACO Lawn, Inc.               | Alabama                      |
| The Andersons Canada, Inc.                   | Ohio                         |
| The Andersons Ethanol Investment, LLC        | Ohio                         |
| The Andersons Ethanol Champaign LLC          | Ohio                         |
| The Andersons Ethanol Investment II LLC      | Ohio                         |
| The Andersons Denison Ethanol LLC            | Delaware                     |
| The Andersons Farm Development Co., LLC      | Ohio                         |
| The Andersons Lawn Fertilizer Division, Inc. | Ohio                         |
| Andersons Lux Holdco Sarl                    | Luxembourg                   |
| The Andersons Rail Operating I, LLC          | Delaware                     |
| The Andersons ECO Services LLC               | Ohio                         |
| Andersons Ware Covington, LLC                | Delaware                     |
| The Andersons Winona Terminal, LLC           | Minnesota                    |
| Auburn Bean & Grain Co.                      | Michigan                     |
| Cap Acquire LLC                              | Delaware                     |
| Cap Acquire Mexico S. de R.L. de C.V.        | Mexico                       |
| Great Lakes Grain Storage LLC                | Iowa                         |
| Liqui Fert Corporation                       | Puerto Rico                  |
| Maumee Ventures LLC                          | Ohio                         |
| Metamora Commodity Company Incorporated      | Ohio                         |
| Mineral Processing Company                   | Ohio                         |
| NARCAT LLC                                   | Delaware                     |
| NARCAT Mexico S. De R.L. de C.V.             | Mexico                       |
| New Eezy-Gro Inc.                            | Ohio                         |
| NuRail USA LLC                               | Ohio                         |
| NuRail Canada ULC                            | Nova Scotia                  |
| TAI Holdings, Inc.                           | Michigan                     |
| TOP CAT Holding Co.                          | Delaware                     |



CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statements on Form S-8 (Nos. 333-139253, 333-139251 and 333-139250) and Registration Statements on Form S-3 (Nos. 333-169826 and 333-182428) of The Andersons, Inc. of our report dated March 2, 2015 relating to the consolidated financial statements, financial statement schedule and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, which appears in this Form 10-K.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Toledo, Ohio  
March 2, 2015

**CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statements on Form S-8 (Nos. 333-139253, 333-139250 and 333-139251) and Registration Statements on Form S-3 (No. 333-169826 and 333-182428) of The Andersons, Inc. of our report dated February 27, 2015 related to the consolidated financial statements of Lansing Trade Group, LLC and Subsidiaries appearing in this Form 10-K.

/s/ Crowe Chizek LLP

Elkhart, Indiana  
February 27, 2015

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statements on Form S-8 (Nos. 333-139253, 333-139251 and 333-139250) and Registration Statements on Form S-3 (Nos. 333-169826 and 333-182428) of The Andersons, Inc. of our report dated February 20, 2015 relating to the consolidated financial statements of Lux JV Treasury Holding Company, S.à r.l. which appears in this Form 10-K of The Andersons, Inc.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
London, Ontario, Canada  
February 27, 2015

**Certification of President and Chief Executive Officer  
Under Rule 13(a)-14(a)/15d-14(a)**

I, Michael J. Anderson, certify that:

- 1 I have reviewed this report on Form 10-K of The Andersons, Inc.
- 2 Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3 Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4 The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this annual report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5 The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

March 2, 2015

/s/ Michael J. Anderson

---

Michael J. Anderson

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (Principal  
Executive Officer)

**Certification of Chief Financial Officer  
under Rule 13(a)-14(a)/15d-14(a)**

I, John Granato, certify that:

- 1 I have reviewed this report on Form 10-K of The Andersons, Inc.
- 2 Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3 Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4 The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this annual report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5 The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

March 2, 2015

/s/ John Granato

---

John Granato

Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)

**The Andersons, Inc.**

**Certifications Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350**

In connection with the Annual Report of The Andersons, Inc. (the “Company”) on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “Report”), each of the undersigned officers of the Company certifies pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to such officer’s knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company as of the dates and for the periods expressed in the Report.

March 2, 2015

/s/ Michael J. Anderson

---

Michael J. Anderson

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

/s/ John Granato

---

John Granato

Chief Financial Officer