

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

FORM 10-Q

Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

For the quarterly period ended December 31, 2016

OR

Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

For the transition period from to .

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER 000-52033

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

North Dakota

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

76-0742311

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

3682 Highway 8 South, P.O. Box 11, Richardton, ND 58652

(Address of principal executive offices)

(701) 974-3308

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

Yes No

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

Yes No

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

Large Accelerated Filer

Accelerated Filer

Non-Accelerated Filer

Smaller Reporting Company

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

Yes No

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

As of February 14, 2017, there were 41,466,340 Class A Membership Units outstanding.

INDEX

Page Number

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Item 1. Financial Statements | 3 |
| Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations | 15 |
| Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk | 21 |
| Item 4. Controls and Procedures | 22 |

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Item 1. Legal Proceedings | 22 |
| Item 1A. Risk Factors | 22 |
| Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities | 22 |
| Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities | 23 |
| Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures | 23 |
| Item 5. Other Information | 23 |
| Item 6. Exhibits | 23 |

SIGNATURES

[24](#)

PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION**Item 1. Financial Statements****RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC
Condensed Balance Sheets**

| ASSETS | December 31, 2016 | September 30, 2016 |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| | (Unaudited) | |
| Current Assets | | |
| Cash and equivalents | \$ 20,127,186 | \$ 10,274,166 |
| Restricted cash - margin account | 2,908,856 | 2,661,331 |
| Accounts receivable, primarily related party | 3,383,952 | 3,639,317 |
| Other receivables | 129,759 | 64,872 |
| Inventory | 14,679,936 | 7,983,906 |
| Prepaid expenses | 225,567 | 57,812 |
| Total current assets | 41,455,256 | 24,681,404 |
| Property, Plant and Equipment | | |
| Land | 1,342,381 | 836,428 |
| Land improvements | 4,266,953 | 4,266,953 |
| Buildings | 8,036,031 | 7,836,031 |
| Plant and equipment | 86,033,966 | 83,243,945 |
| Construction in progress | 2,827 | 4,800 |
| | 99,682,158 | 96,188,157 |
| Less accumulated depreciation | 50,134,123 | 48,963,454 |
| Net property, plant and equipment | 49,548,035 | 47,224,703 |
| Other Assets | | |
| Investment in RPMG | 605,000 | 605,000 |
| Patronage equity | 3,040,304 | 3,040,304 |
| Deposits | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Total other assets | 3,685,304 | 3,685,304 |
| Total Assets | \$ 94,688,595 | \$ 75,591,411 |

Notes to Unaudited Condensed Financial Statements are an integral part of this Statement.

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC
Condensed Balance Sheets

| LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY | December 31, 2016 | September 30, 2016 |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| | (Unaudited) | |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 3,817,387 | \$ 2,187,886 |
| Accrued expenses | 17,511,336 | 5,452,506 |
| Commodities derivative instruments, at fair value (see note 2) | 152,202 | 215,700 |
| Accrued loss on firm purchase commitments (see note 7) | 20,000 | 74,000 |
| Current maturities of long-term debt | 2,602 | 2,597 |
| Total current liabilities | <u>21,503,527</u> | <u>7,932,689</u> |
| Long-Term Liabilities | | |
| Notes payable | 4,885 | 5,538 |
| Total long-term liabilities | <u>4,885</u> | <u>5,538</u> |
| Members' Equity (41,583,197 and 40,148,160 as of December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016, respectively, of Class A Membership Units issued and outstanding) | <u>73,180,183</u> | <u>67,653,184</u> |
| Total Liabilities and Members' Equity | <u>\$ 94,688,595</u> | <u>\$ 75,591,411</u> |

Notes to Unaudited Condensed Financial Statements are an integral part of this Statement.

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC
Condensed Statements of Operations (Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended December 31, 2016 | Three Months Ended December 31, 2015 |
|--|---|---|
| | (Unaudited) | (Unaudited) |
| Revenues, primarily related party | \$ 30,004,460 | \$ 25,439,795 |
| Cost of Goods Sold | | |
| Cost of goods sold | 27,127,930 | 23,695,268 |
| Lower of cost or market inventory adjustment | — | 583,392 |
| Total Cost of Goods Sold | <u>27,127,930</u> | <u>24,278,660</u> |
| Gross Profit | 2,876,530 | 1,161,135 |
| General and Administrative Expenses | <u>690,934</u> | <u>632,483</u> |
| Operating Income | 2,185,596 | 528,652 |
| Other Income (Expense) | | |
| Interest income | 18,112 | 27,545 |
| Other income | 568,269 | 19,980 |
| Interest expense | (15) | (72,466) |
| Total other income (expense), net | <u>586,366</u> | <u>(24,941)</u> |
| Net Income | <u>\$ 2,771,962</u> | <u>\$ 503,711</u> |
| Weighted Average Units Outstanding | | |
| Basic | <u>41,406,697</u> | <u>40,148,160</u> |
| Diluted | <u>41,406,697</u> | <u>40,148,160</u> |
| Net Income Per Unit | | |
| Basic | <u>\$ 0.07</u> | <u>\$ 0.01</u> |
| Diluted | <u>\$ 0.07</u> | <u>\$ 0.01</u> |

Notes to Unaudited Condensed Financial Statements are an integral part of this Statement.

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC
Condensed Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended December 31, 2016 | Three Months Ended December 31, 2015 |
|---|---|---|
| | (Unaudited) | (Unaudited) |
| Cash Flows from Operating Activities | | |
| Net income | \$ 2,771,962 | \$ 503,711 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 1,170,669 | 1,136,479 |
| Change in fair value of derivative instruments | (63,498) | (395,613) |
| Lower of cost or market inventory adjustment | — | 583,392 |
| Loss on firm purchase commitments | 20,000 | 24,000 |
| Change in operating assets and liabilities: | | |
| Restricted cash | (247,525) | 900,135 |
| Accounts receivable | 125,591 | 29,315 |
| Other receivables | 64,887 | 608,673 |
| Inventory | (6,716,029) | (5,043,623) |
| Prepaid expenses | (167,756) | (200,539) |
| Accounts payable | 1,629,501 | 803,354 |
| Accrued expenses | 12,058,830 | 8,418,016 |
| Accrued purchase commitment losses | (54,000) | (37,000) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 10,592,632 | 7,330,300 |
| Cash Flows from Investing Activities | | |
| Capital expenditures | (174,001) | (84,010) |
| Net cash (used in) investing activities | (174,001) | (84,010) |
| Cash Flows from Financing Activities | | |
| Unit repurchase | (564,963) | — |
| Debt repayments | (648) | (283,428) |
| Net cash (used in) financing activities | (565,611) | (283,428) |
| Net Increase in Cash and Equivalents | 9,853,020 | 6,962,862 |
| Cash and Equivalents - Beginning of Period | 10,274,166 | 5,090,662 |
| Cash and Equivalents - End of Period | \$ 20,127,186 | \$ 12,053,524 |
| Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information | | |
| Interest paid | \$ 15 | \$ 72,830 |
| Units issued in exchange for property | \$ 3,320,000 | \$ — |

Notes to Unaudited Condensed Financial Statements are an integral part of this Statement.

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

The accompanying condensed unaudited financial statements have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in annual financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have been condensed or omitted as permitted by such rules and regulations. These financial statements and related notes should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016, contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K.

In the opinion of management, the interim condensed unaudited financial statements reflect all adjustments considered necessary for fair presentation. The adjustments made to these statements consist only of normal recurring adjustments. Operating results for the periods presented are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Business

Red Trail Energy, LLC, a North Dakota limited liability company (the “Company”), owns and operates a 50 million gallon annual name-plate production ethanol plant near Richardton, North Dakota (the “Plant”).

Accounting Estimates

Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing these financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities and the reported revenues and expenses. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the useful lives of property, plant and equipment, inventory and allowance for doubtful accounts. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Net Income Per Unit

Net income per unit is calculated on a basic and fully diluted basis using the weighted average units outstanding during the period.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

Revenue from Contracts with Customers

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09, “Revenue from Contracts with Customers” which supersedes the guidance in “Revenue Recognition (Topic 605)” and requires entities to recognize revenue in a way that depicts the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled to in exchange for those goods or services. ASU 2014-09 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within that reporting period and is to be applied retrospectively, with early application not permitted. The Company has evaluated the new standard and anticipates no significant impact on our financial statements due to the nature of our revenue streams and our revenue recognition policy.

Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-11, "Simplifying the Measurements of Inventory" regarding inventory that is measured using the first-in, first-out or average cost method. The guidance does not apply to inventory measured using the last-in, first-out or the retail inventory method. The guidance requires inventory within its scope to be measured at the lower of cost or net realizable value, which is the estimated selling price in the normal course of business less reasonable predictable costs of completion, disposal and transportation. These amendments more closely align GAAP with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). ASU 2015-11 is effective for fiscal years beginning after September 30, 2017, including interim periods within those fiscal years, and should be applied prospectively with early adoption permitted as of the beginning of an interim or annual reporting period. The Company has evaluated the new standard and anticipates no significant impact to our financial statements due to the current inventory measurement policy.

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

Lease Accounting Standards

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, "Leases (topic 842)" which requires a lessee to recognize a right to use asset and a lease liability on its balance sheet for all leases with terms of twelve months or greater. This guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018, included interim periods within those years with early adoption permitted. The Company has evaluated the new standard and expects it will have a material impact on the financial statements as we will have to begin capitalizing leases on the balance sheet when the new standard is implemented.

2. DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

Commodity Contracts

As part of its hedging strategy, the Company may enter into ethanol, soybean, soybean oil, natural gas and corn commodity-based derivatives in order to protect cash flows from fluctuations caused by volatility in commodity prices in order to protect gross profit margins from potentially adverse effects of market and price volatility on ethanol sales, corn oil sales, and corn purchase commitments where the prices are set at a future date. These derivatives are not designated as effective hedges for accounting purposes. For derivative instruments that are not accounted for as hedges, or for the ineffective portions of qualifying hedges, the change in fair value is recorded through earnings in the period of change. Ethanol derivative fair market value gains or losses are included in the results of operations and are classified as revenue and corn derivative changes in fair market value are included in cost of goods sold.

| As of: | December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | | | September 30, 2016 | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Contract Type | # of Contracts | Notional Amount (Qty) | Fair Value | # of Contracts | Notional Amount (Qty) | Fair Value |
| Corn futures | 352 | 1,760,000 bushels | \$ 54,963 | 252 | 1,260,000 bushels | \$ (104,450) |
| Corn options | 505 | 2,525,000 bushels | \$ (266,063) | 2,000 | 10,000,000 bushels | \$ (111,250) |
| Soybean oil futures | 33 | 19,800 gal | \$ 18,228 | — | — gal | \$ — |
| Ethanol futures | 90 | 3,780,000 gal | \$ 40,950 | — | — gal | \$ — |
| Natural gas options | 14 | 140,000 dk | \$ (280) | — | — dk | \$ — |
| Total fair value | | | \$ (152,202) | | | \$ (215,700) |

Amounts are combined on the balance sheet - negative numbers represent liabilities

The following tables provide details regarding the Company's derivative financial instruments at December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016:

Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:

| Balance Sheet - as of December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | Asset | Liability |
|--|-------------|-------------------|
| Commodity derivative instruments, at fair value | \$ — | \$ 152,202 |
| Total derivatives not designated as hedging instruments for accounting purposes | \$ — | \$ 152,202 |

| Balance Sheet - as of September 30, 2016 | Asset | Liability |
|--|-------------|-------------------|
| Commodity derivative instruments, at fair value | \$ — | \$ 215,700 |
| Total derivatives not designated as hedging instruments for accounting purposes | \$ — | \$ 215,700 |

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

| Statement of Operations Income/(Expense) | Location of gain (loss) in fair value recognized in income | Amount of gain (loss) recognized in income during the three months ended December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | Amount of gain (loss) recognized in income during the three months ended December 31, 2015 (unaudited) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Corn derivative instruments | Cost of Goods Sold | \$ 218,357 | \$ 786,511 |
| Ethanol derivative instruments | Revenue | 40,950 | 6,426 |
| Soybean oil derivative instruments | Revenue | 12,216 | — |
| Natural gas derivative instruments | Cost of Goods Sold | 10,500 | (148,300) |
| Total | | \$ 282,023 | \$ 644,637 |

3. INVENTORY

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost or market. Inventory values as of December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016 were as follows:

| As of | December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | September 30, 2016 |
|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Raw materials, including corn, chemicals and supplies | \$ 10,195,752 | \$ 3,295,435 |
| Work in process | 739,231 | 754,096 |
| Finished goods, including ethanol and distillers grains | 1,663,323 | 1,881,560 |
| Spare parts | 2,081,630 | 2,052,815 |
| Total inventory | \$ 14,679,936 | \$ 7,983,906 |

Lower of cost or market adjustments for the three months ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 were as follows:

| | For the three months ended December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | For the three months ended December 31, 2015 (unaudited) |
|--|---|---|
| Loss on firm purchase commitments | \$ — | \$ — |
| Loss on lower of cost or market adjustment for inventory on hand | — | 583,392 |
| Total loss on lower of cost or market adjustments | \$ — | \$ 583,392 |

The Company has entered into forward corn purchase contracts under which it is required to take delivery at the contract price. At the time the contracts were created, the price of the contract approximated market price. Subsequent changes in market conditions could cause the contract prices to become higher or lower than market prices. As of December 31, 2016, the average price of corn purchased under certain fixed price contracts, that had not yet been delivered, was greater than approximated market price. Based on this information, the Company has an estimated loss on firm purchase commitments of \$20,000 and \$24,000 for the three months ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. The loss is recorded in “Loss on firm purchase commitments” on the balance sheet. The amount of the loss was determined by applying a methodology similar to that used in the impairment valuation with respect to inventory. Given the uncertainty of future ethanol prices, this loss may or may not be recovered, and further losses on the outstanding purchase commitments could be recorded in future periods.

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

4. BANK FINANCING

| As of | December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | September 30, 2016 |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Capital lease obligations (Note 6) | 7,487 | 8,135 |
| Total Long-Term Debt | 7,487 | 8,135 |
| Less amounts due within one year | 2,602 | 2,597 |
| Total Long-Term Debt Less Amounts Due Within One Year | \$ 4,885 | \$ 5,538 |

The Company also has a \$10,000,000 operating line-of-credit that matures on March 20, 2017. At December 31, 2016, the Company had \$0 drawn on this line-of-credit leaving a balance of \$10,000,000 available. The variable interest rate was 3.03% for amounts drawn on the operating line of credit. Of the \$10,000,000 revolving line-of-credit, the Company is not allowed to draw \$999,500 which is reserved as a source of funds to support a guaranteed payment the Company agreed to related to its natural gas pipeline. While the Company does not expect that it will be required to make a direct payment for the natural gas pipeline, the Company's agreement requires it to have funds available in the event the Company is required to make the guaranteed payment.

The Company's loans are secured by a lien on substantially all of the assets of the Company.

| Scheduled capital lease maturities for the twelve months ending December 31 | Totals | |
|--|-----------|--------------|
| 2017 | \$ | 2,602 |
| 2018 | | 2,622 |
| 2019 | | 2,263 |
| Total | \$ | 7,487 |

As of December 31, 2016, the Company was in compliance with all of its debt covenants.

5. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following table provides information on those assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016, respectively.

| | Carrying Amount as of December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | Fair Value as of December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | Fair Value Measurement Using | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
| Liabilities | | | | | |
| Commodities derivative instruments | \$ 152,202 | \$ 152,202 | \$ 152,202 | \$ — | \$ — |
| Total | \$ 152,202 | \$ 152,202 | \$ 152,202 | \$ — | \$ — |

| | Carrying Amount as of September 30, 2016 | Fair Value as of September 30, 2016 | Fair Value Measurement Using | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
| Liabilities | | | | | |
| Commodities derivative instruments | \$ 215,700 | \$ 215,700 | \$ 215,700 | \$ — | \$ — |
| Total | \$ 215,700 | \$ 215,700 | \$ 215,700 | \$ — | \$ — |

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

The fair value of the corn, ethanol, soybean oil and natural gas derivative instruments is based on quoted market prices in an active market.

6. LEASES

The Company leases equipment under operating and capital leases through January 2023. The Company is generally responsible for maintenance, taxes, and utilities for leased equipment. Equipment under operating lease includes a locomotive and rail cars. Rent expense for operating leases was approximately \$93,000 and \$106,000 for the three months ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. Equipment under capital leases consists of office equipment and plant equipment.

Equipment under capital leases is as follows at:

| As of | December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | September 30, 2016 |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Equipment | \$ 483,488 | \$ 483,488 |
| Less accumulated amortization | (103,935) | (98,570) |
| Net equipment under capital lease | <u>\$ 379,553</u> | <u>\$ 384,918</u> |

At December 31, 2016, the Company had the following minimum commitments, which at inception had non-cancelable terms of more than one year. Amounts shown below are for the 12 months period ending December 31:

| | Operating Leases | Capital Leases |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2017 | \$ 405,640 | \$ 2,602 |
| 2018 | 290,780 | 2,622 |
| 2019 | 252,948 | 2,263 |
| 2020 | 141,000 | — |
| 2021 | 132,600 | — |
| Thereafter | 143,650 | — |
| Total minimum lease commitments | <u>\$ 1,366,618</u> | <u>7,487</u> |
| Less amount representing interest | | — |
| Present value of minimum lease commitments included in current maturities of long-term debt on the balance sheet | | <u>\$ 7,487</u> |

7. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Firm Purchase Commitments for Corn

To ensure an adequate supply of corn to operate the Plant, the Company enters into contracts to purchase corn from local farmers and elevators. At December 31, 2016, the Company had various fixed price contracts for the purchase of approximately 1.5 million bushels of corn. Using the stated contract price for the fixed price contracts, the Company had commitments of approximately \$5.1 million related to the 1.5 million bushels under contract. The Company also has various unpriced basis contracts for the purchase of approximately 4.3 million bushels of corn that have been delivered to the Plant. The purchase price of these bushels will be set at the time of pricing the contracts at the July 2017 index price less basis. The estimated accrued payable for these bushels is \$16.2 million. The deadline for pricing these 4.3 million bushels is June 30, 2017.

The Company has entered into a Profit and Cost Sharing Agreement with Bismarck Land Company, LLC which became effective on November 1, 2016. The Profit and Cost Sharing Agreement provides that the Company will share 70% of the net revenue generated by the Company from business activities which are brought to the Company by Bismarck Land Company, LLC and conducted on the real estate purchased from the Bismarck Land Company, LLC. This obligation will terminate ten years after the real estate closing date of October 11, 2016 or after Bismarck Land Company, LLC receives \$10 million in proceeds from the agreement. In addition, the Company will pay Bismarck Land Company, LLC 70% of any net proceeds received by the Company

from the sale of the subject real estate if a sale were to occur in the future, subject to the \$10 million cap and the 10 year termination of this obligation. No payments have been made to the Bismarck Land Company, LLC at this time.

8. RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company has balances and transactions in the normal course of business with various related parties for the purchase of corn, sale of distillers grains and sale of ethanol. The related parties include unit holders, members of the board of governors of the Company, and RPMG, Inc. ("RPMG"). During the Company's first quarter of 2017, the Company received a capital account refund from RPMG which is included in other income (expense) in the Company's Statement of Operations. Significant related party activity affecting the financial statements is as follows:

| | December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | September 30, 2016 |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Balance Sheet | | |
| Accounts receivable | \$ 3,033,681 | \$ 3,472,359 |
| Accounts Payable | 34,455 | — |
| Accrued Expenses | 5,111,551 | 1,672,349 |

| | For the three months ended December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | For the three months ended December 31, 2015 (unaudited) |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Statement of Operations | | |
| Revenues | \$ 28,998,771 | \$ 29,120,303 |
| Cost of goods sold | 9,730 | 12,815 |
| General and administrative | 16,161 | 25,847 |
| Other income/expense | 247,307 | — |
| Inventory Purchases | \$ 6,078,986 | \$ 3,966,653 |

9. UNCERTAINTIES IMPACTING THE ETHANOL INDUSTRY AND OUR FUTURE OPERATIONS

The Company has certain risks and uncertainties that it experiences during volatile market conditions, which can have a severe impact on operations. The Company's revenues are derived from the sale and distribution of ethanol and distillers grains to customers primarily located in the United States. Corn for the production process is supplied to the Plant primarily from local agricultural producers and from purchases on the open market. The Company's operating and financial performance is largely driven by prices at which the Company sells ethanol and distillers grains and by the cost at which it is able to purchase corn for operations. The price of ethanol is influenced by factors such as prices, supply and demand, weather, government policies and programs, and unleaded gasoline and the petroleum markets, although since 2005 the prices of ethanol and gasoline began a divergence with ethanol selling for less than gasoline at the wholesale level. Excess ethanol supply in the market, in particular, puts downward pressure on the price of ethanol. The Company's largest cost of production is corn. The cost of corn is generally impacted by factors such as supply and demand, weather, government policies and programs. The Company's risk management program is used to protect against the price volatility of these commodities.

The Company's financial performance is highly dependent on the Federal Renewable Fuels Standard ("RFS") which requires that a certain amount of renewable fuels must be used each year in the United States. Corn based ethanol, such as the ethanol the Company produces, can be used to meet a portion of the RFS requirement. In November 2013, the EPA issued a proposed rule which would reduce the RFS for 2014, including the RFS requirement related to corn based ethanol. The EPA proposed rule was subject to a comment period which expired in January 2014. On November 30, 2015, the EPA released its final ethanol use requirements for 2014, 2015 and 2016 which were lower than the statutory requirements in the RFS.

The Company anticipates that the results of operations during the remainder of fiscal 2017 will continue to be affected by volatility in the commodity markets. The volatility is due to various factors, including uncertainty with respect to the availability and supply of corn, increased demand for grain from global and national markets, speculation in the commodity markets and demand for corn from the ethanol industry.

10. MEMBER'S EQUITY

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC

Unregistered Units Sales by the Company.

On October 10, 2016, the Company issued two million of the Company's membership units to Bismarck Land Company, LLC as part of the consideration for the acquisition of 338 acres of land adjacent to the ethanol plant that the Company will use to expand its rail yard. The membership units were issued pursuant to the exemption from registration set forth in Regulation D, Rule 506(b), as Bismarck Land Company, LLC is an accredited investor.

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLCUnit Purchases By the Company.

| Period | (a) Total Number of Units Purchased | (b) Average Price Paid per Unit | (c) Total Number of Units Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | (d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of the Units that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| October 2016 | None | None | None | None |
| November 2016 | None | None | None | None |
| December 2016 | 564,963 | \$1.00 | None | None |
| Total | 564,963 | \$1.00 | None | None |

*564,963 Units were purchased other than through a publicly announced plan or program, pursuant to a Membership Unit Repurchase Agreement, a private transaction between the Company and a Member.

11. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On January 11, 2017 the Company repurchased 116,857 membership units from the North Dakota Development Fund decreasing the units outstanding to 41,466,340. The units were purchased for \$1.00 per unit.

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

We prepared the following discussion and analysis to help you better understand our financial condition, changes in our financial condition, and results of operations for the three month period ended December 31, 2016, compared to the same period of the prior fiscal year. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the condensed financial statements, notes and information contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. Unless otherwise stated, references in this report to particular years, quarters, months, or periods refer to our fiscal years ended in September and the associated quarters, months, or periods of those fiscal years.

Forward Looking Statements

This report contains forward-looking statements that involve future events, our future performance and our future operations and actions. In some cases you can identify forward-looking statements by the use of words such as "may," "should," "anticipate," "believe," "expect," "plan," "future," "intend," "could," "estimate," "predict," "hope," "potential," "continue," or the negative of these terms or other similar expressions. These forward-looking statements are only our predictions and involve numerous assumptions, risks and uncertainties. Our actual results or actions may differ materially from these forward-looking statements for many reasons, including the following factors:

- Reductions in the corn-based ethanol use requirement in the Federal Renewable Fuels Standard;
- Lower oil prices which result in lower ethanol prices;
- Negative operating margins which result from lower ethanol prices;
- Lower distillers grains prices which result from the Chinese antidumping and countervailing duty tariffs;
- Logistics difficulties preventing us from delivering our products to our customers;
- Fluctuations in the price and market for ethanol, distillers grains and corn oil;
- Availability and costs of products and raw materials, particularly corn and natural gas;
- Changes in the environmental regulations that apply to our plant operations and our ability to comply with such regulations;
- Ethanol supply exceeding demand and corresponding ethanol price reductions impacting our ability to operate profitably and maintain a positive spread between the selling price of our products and our raw material costs;
- Our ability to generate and maintain sufficient liquidity to fund our operations, meet debt service requirements and necessary capital expenditures;
- Our ability to continue to meet our loan covenants;
- Limitations and restrictions contained in the instruments and agreements governing our indebtedness;
- Results of our hedging transactions and other risk management strategies;
- Changes and advances in ethanol production technology; and
- Competition from alternative fuels and alternative fuel additives.

Overview

Red Trail Energy, LLC, a North Dakota limited liability company (the "Company," "Red Trail," or "we," "our," or "us"), owns and operates a 50 million gallon annual name-plate production ethanol plant near Richardton, North Dakota. Our revenues are derived from the sale and distribution of our ethanol, distillers grains and corn oil primarily in the continental United States.

Corn is our largest cost component and our profitability is highly dependent on the spread between the price of corn and the price of ethanol.

The ethanol industry is dependent on several economic incentives to produce ethanol, the most significant of which is the Federal Renewable Fuels Standard (the "RFS"). The RFS requires that in each year, a certain amount of renewable fuels must be used in the United States. The RFS statutory volume requirement increases incrementally each year until the United States is required to use 36 billion gallons of renewable fuels by 2022. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (the "EPA") has the authority to waive the RFS statutory volume requirement, in whole or in part, provided one of the following two conditions have been met: (1) there is inadequate domestic renewable fuel supply; or (2) implementation of the requirement would severely harm the economy or environment of a state, region or the United States. Annually, the EPA is supposed to pass a rule that establishes the number of gallons of different types of renewable fuels that must be used in the United States which is called the renewable volume obligations. While the EPA's final renewable volume obligations for 2017 equal the statutory standard for corn-based ethanol, it is possible that the EPA could reduce this requirement in the future. Any reduction in the renewable volume obligations for corn-based ethanol could negatively impact ethanol prices and demand, and could result in reduced operating margins in the future.

China is the world's largest importer of distillers grains produced in the United States. On January 12, 2016, the Chinese government announced that it was conducting an anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigation related to distillers grains

imported from the United States. In September 2016, the Chinese instituted preliminary tariffs on distillers grains produced in the United States and exported to China. These tariffs were finalized in January 2017. In a final ruling, the Chinese Commerce Ministry reported that anti-dumping tariffs would range from 42.2% to 53.7% and the anti-subsidy tariffs will range from 11.2% to 12%. The Chinese investigation and the subsequent tariffs have negatively impacted market distillers grains prices in the United States by significantly reducing distillers grains demand. Management expects that this negative impact will continue for some time and that it could impact our ability to profitably operate the ethanol plant in the future.

Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

The following table shows the results of our operations and the percentages of revenues, cost of goods sold, general and administrative expenses and other items to total revenues in our unaudited statements of operations for the three months ended December 31, 2016 and 2015:

| Statement of Operations Data | Three Months Ended December 31, 2016 (Unaudited) | | Three Months Ended December 31, 2015 (Unaudited) | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------|--|--------|
| | Amount | % | Amount | % |
| Revenues | \$ 30,004,460 | 100.00 | \$ 25,439,795 | 100.00 |
| Cost of Goods Sold | 27,127,930 | 90.41 | 24,278,660 | 95.44 |
| Gross Profit | 2,876,530 | 9.59 | 1,161,135 | 4.56 |
| General and Administrative Expenses | 690,934 | 2.30 | 632,483 | 2.49 |
| Operating Income | 2,185,596 | 7.28 | 528,652 | 2.08 |
| Other Income (Expense) | 586,366 | 1.95 | (24,941) | (0.10) |
| Net Income | \$ 2,771,962 | 9.24 | \$ 503,711 | 1.98 |

The following table shows additional data regarding production and price levels for our primary inputs and products for the three months ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

| | Three Months ended December 31, 2016 (unaudited) | Three Months ended December 31, 2015 (unaudited) |
|--|--|--|
| Production: | | |
| Ethanol sold (gallons) | 16,202,835 | 14,641,203 |
| Dried distillers grains sold (tons) | 29,625 | 30,746 |
| Modified distillers grains sold (tons) | 25,122 | 23,204 |
| Corn oil sold (pounds) | 4,413,620 | 2,959,600 |
| Revenues: | | |
| Ethanol average price per gallon (net of hedging) | \$ 1.50 | \$ 1.33 |
| Dried distillers grains average price per ton | 104.50 | 122.01 |
| Modified distillers grains average price per ton | 51.99 | 60.86 |
| Corn oil average price per pound | 0.27 | 0.21 |
| Primary Inputs: | | |
| Corn ground (bushels) | 5,687,614 | 5,358,237 |
| Natural gas (MMBtu) | 415,586 | 423,573 |
| Costs of Primary Inputs: | | |
| Corn average price per bushel (net of hedging) | \$ 3.54 | \$ 3.58 |
| Natural gas average price per MMBtu (net of hedging) | 2.75 | 3.25 |
| Other Costs (per gallon of ethanol sold): | | |
| Chemical and additive costs | \$ 0.094 | \$ 0.105 |
| Denaturant cost | 0.032 | 0.034 |
| Electricity cost | 0.043 | 0.042 |
| Direct labor cost | 0.065 | 0.052 |

Revenue

Our revenue was higher for the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the same period of our 2016 fiscal year due to an increase in our total production along with higher average ethanol and corn oil prices during the 2017 period. These changes were partially offset by decreased average prices we received for our dried and modified distillers grains. During the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year, approximately 81.1% of our total revenue was derived from ethanol sales, approximately 14.7% was from distillers grains sales and approximately 3.9% was from corn oil sales. During the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year, approximately 76.5% of our total revenue was derived from ethanol sales, approximately 20.3% was from distillers grains sales and approximately 2.5% was from corn oil sales.

Ethanol

The average price we received for our ethanol was approximately 12.8% greater during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year. Management attributes this increase in the price we received for our ethanol during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year to increased market gasoline prices which can impact market ethanol prices. Management anticipates continued higher gasoline prices which management believes will continue to positively impact ethanol prices. However, following the end of our first quarter, ethanol prices have decreased which is a trend which is consistent with prior years. These lower ethanol prices may negatively impact our ability to profitably operate the ethanol plant during our second quarter of 2017. However, management anticipates that increased gasoline demand in the summer months will result in increased ethanol prices. The United States ethanol industry is continuing to work to open export markets for ethanol which may positively impact domestic ethanol prices. However, these export markets are not as reliable as the domestic ethanol market.

We sold more gallons of ethanol during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year due to increased production because of increased operating capacity at the plant and improved operating efficiency in the 2017 period. Management anticipates that our ethanol production and sales will continue to be higher during our 2017 fiscal year compared to our 2016 fiscal year due to the plant improvements we have made which have increased our total production capacity. In addition, the amount of ethanol we produced per bushel of corn we ground increased for the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year, which positively impacted our profitability. We continue to work to maximize the additional production capacity of our ethanol plant and improve our ethanol production efficiency.

From time to time we enter into forward sales contracts for our products. At December 31, 2016, we had open ethanol futures contracts for 3,780,000 gallons. Ethanol futures contracts resulted in a gain of approximately \$41,000 during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year which increased our revenue. We had no ethanol futures contracts the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year.

Distillers Grains

We sell the majority of our distillers grains in the dried form which is typically shipped outside of our local market. The average price we received for our dried distillers grains was lower during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year. Management attributes this decrease in dried distillers grains prices with lower export demand for distillers grains due to the Chinese antidumping and countervailing duty tariffs, along with increased corn supply which typically has an impact on the market price of distillers grains. The average price we received for our modified distillers grains was also lower during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year as compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year. However, management believes the local market for distillers grains was impacted less by the Chinese trade issues and as a result the decrease in modified distillers grains prices was less compared to the decrease in dried distillers grains prices. Management anticipates distillers grains prices will remain lower during the remaining quarters of our 2017 fiscal year as a result of the Chinese tariffs along with increased corn availability.

We produced and sold more total tons of distillers grains during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year due to increased overall production at the ethanol plant during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year. However, the increase in distillers grains production was less than the increase in our ethanol production because we produced more pounds of corn oil which reduces the total tons of distillers grains we produce. In addition, we produced more gallons of ethanol per bushel of corn which also results in decreased distillers grains production. Management anticipates relatively stable distillers grains production going forward due to anticipated increases in our ethanol conversion efficiency and increased production of corn oil, partially offset by anticipated increased ethanol production due to our plant improvement projects.

Corn Oil

The total pounds of corn oil we sold was higher during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year due to increased efficiency in extracting corn oil during the 2017 period along with increased total production at the ethanol plant during the 2017 period. Management anticipates that our corn oil production will continue to be higher during our 2017 fiscal year compared to our 2016 fiscal year due to increased corn oil extraction efficiency. The average price we received for our corn oil was higher during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year due primarily to increased corn oil demand from the biodiesel industry. The biodiesel blenders' tax credit was reinstated for 2016 which management believes increased biodiesel production and resulted in increased corn oil demand. However, the tax credit expired again at the end of 2016 which could negatively impact corn oil prices in the future.

Cost of Goods Sold

Our cost of goods sold is primarily made up of corn and natural gas expenses. Our cost of goods sold was greater for the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year as compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year due primarily to increased corn consumption partially offset by decreased average corn costs per bushel during the 2017 period. The increase in our cost of goods sold was less than the increase in our revenue during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year as compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year which increased our profitability.

Corn Costs

Our cost of goods sold related to corn was greater for the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year due to increased corn consumption partially offset by decreased average corn costs per bushel, before taking into account our hedge positions. For the the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year, we used approximately 6.1% more bushels of corn compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year. The average price we paid per bushel of corn, without taking into account our derivative instruments, was approximately 1.1% less for the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year. In addition, during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year, we had a realized gain of approximately \$218,000 for our corn derivative instruments which decreased our cost of goods sold. By comparison, for the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year, we had a realized gain of approximately \$787,000 for our corn derivative instruments which decreased our cost of goods sold. Management anticipates that we will consume more corn in the future due to our natural gas conversion project which allows us to produce more of our products. Management anticipates that corn prices will remain relatively stable during our 2017 fiscal year due to ample corn supplies and relatively stable corn demand.

From time to time we enter into forward purchase and option contracts for our commodity purchases and sales. At December 31, 2016, we had forward corn purchase contracts and corn options for various delivery periods through June 2017 for a total commitment of approximately \$5.0 million. Our corn derivative positions resulted in a net loss of approximately \$211,000 during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year which increased our cost of goods sold. By comparison, our corn derivative positions resulted in a loss of approximately \$215,700 during the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year which also increased our cost of good sold.

Energy Costs

During the second quarter of our 2015 fiscal year, our natural gas conversion project came online. As a result, during both the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year and the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year we were relying on natural gas as the fuel source for our ethanol plant. Management believes the switch to natural gas allows us to be more competitive in the ethanol industry and allows us to increase our total production capacity. Management anticipates that due to our location near a major source of natural gas production, we will be able to purchase natural gas at very favorable prices and will have sufficient natural gas supplies to meet our plant's operational needs. We have all of the natural gas supply and distribution agreements we need in place to continue to operate the ethanol plant. Management anticipates that our natural gas costs will be higher during the winter months and relatively lower during the summer months due to seasonal supply and demand shifts. We consumed approximately 1.9% less MMBtu of natural gas during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year, despite our increased production, due to efficiency improvements we experienced at the ethanol plant. In addition, our average cost per MMBtu of natural gas was approximately 15.4% less during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year. During the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year, we had a realized gain of approximately \$11,000 for our natural gas derivative instruments which decreased our cost of goods sold. By comparison, for the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year, we had a realized loss of approximately \$148,000 for our natural gas derivative instruments which increased our cost of goods sold.

General and Administrative Expenses

Our general and administrative expenses were higher for the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year due to an increase in property taxes and consulting and professional services fees.

Other Income/Expense

We had less interest income during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year due to having fewer customers with higher outstanding accounts receivable balances during our 2017 fiscal year. We had more other income during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year due to the earlier receipt of our capital account refund from RPMG, our marketer. In addition, we had less interest expense during the first quarter of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the first quarter of our 2016 fiscal year because we had less borrowings on our credit facilities.

Changes in Financial Condition for the Three Months Ended December 31, 2016

Current Assets. We had more cash and equivalents at December 31, 2016 compared to September 30, 2016 primarily due to the increase in deferred corn payments owed to our corn suppliers in our 2017 fiscal year. We had more restricted cash at December 31, 2016 compared to September 30, 2016 related to cash we deposit in our margin account for our hedging transactions. Due to the timing of payments from our marketers, we had less accounts receivable at December 31, 2016 compared to September 30, 2016. We had more other receivables at December 31, 2016 compared to September 30, 2016 due to the timing of the receipt of payment for federal excise tax refund from the Department of the Treasury. We had more inventory on hand at December 31, 2016 compared to September 30, 2016 due primarily to having more corn inventory at December 31, 2016.

Property, Plant and Equipment. The value of our property, plant and equipment was higher at December 31, 2016 compared to September 30, 2016 primarily due to the purchase of land adjacent to the plant site.

Current Liabilities. Our accounts payable was higher at December 31, 2016 compared to September 30, 2016 due to having more corn payables at December 31, 2016. Our accrued expenses were significantly higher at December 31, 2016 compared to September 30, 2016 because we had more deferred corn payments owed to our corn suppliers at December 31, 2016 compared to September 30, 2016.

Long-term Liabilities. Our long-term liabilities were lower at December 31, 2016 compared to September 30, 2016 because of capital lease payments we made during our 2017 fiscal year.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Based on financial forecasts performed by our management, we anticipate that we will have sufficient cash from our current credit facilities and cash from our operations to continue to operate the ethanol plant for the next 12 months. Should we experience unfavorable operating conditions in the future, we may have to secure additional debt or equity sources for working capital or other purposes.

The following table shows cash flows for the three months ended December 31, 2016 and 2015:

| | 2016 (unaudited) | 2015 (unaudited) |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Net cash provided by operating activities | \$ 10,592,632 | \$ 7,330,300 |
| Net cash (used in) investing activities | (174,001) | (84,010) |
| Net cash (used in) financing activities | (565,611) | (283,428) |
| Net increase in cash | \$ 9,853,020 | \$ 6,962,862 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period | \$ 20,127,186 | \$ 12,053,524 |

Cash Flow from Operations

Our operations provided more cash during the three months ended December 31, 2016 compared to the same period of our 2016 fiscal year due primarily to increased net income and an increase in our accrued expenses related to our corn purchases along with the issuance of additional membership units during the 2017 period.

Cash Flow From Investing Activities

We used more cash for capital expenditures during the three months ended December 31, 2016 compared to the same period of our 2016 fiscal year to purchase land adjacent to the plant site during the 2017 period. During the 2016 period, our primary capital project was a project to widen the road leading to the plant.

Cash Flow from Financing Activities

We used less cash for financing activities during the first three months of our 2017 fiscal year compared to the same period of our 2016 fiscal year due to less cash being used for debt repayments during the 2017 period.

Our liquidity, results of operations and financial performance will be impacted by many variables, including the market price for commodities such as, but not limited to, corn, ethanol and other energy commodities, as well as the market price for any co-products generated by the facility and the cost of labor and other operating costs. Assuming future relative price levels for corn, ethanol and distillers grains remain consistent, we expect operations to generate adequate cash flows to maintain operations.

Capital Expenditures

The Company had less than \$5,000 in construction in progress as of December 31, 2016. During the three months ended December 31, 2016, we placed in service approximately \$3.32 million in capital projects with the majority of these costs related to the purchase of land adjacent to the plant site.

Capital Resources

Short-Term Debt Sources

The Company has a revolving line-of-credit of \$10,000,000 with \$0 drawn on this line-of-credit as of December 31, 2016. This revolving line-of-credit matures on March 20, 2017. The variable interest rate on this line-of-credit is 2.25% over the one-month LIBOR with a rate of 3.03% as of December 31, 2016. Of the \$10 million revolving line-of-credit, we are not allowed to draw \$999,500 which we are reserving as a source of funds to support a guaranteed payment we agreed to related to our natural gas pipeline. While we do not expect that we will be required to make a direct payment for the natural gas pipeline, our agreement requires us to have funds available in the event we are required to make the guaranteed payment.

Long-Term Debt Sources

We repaid our term loan in full in March 2016.

Restrictive Covenants

We are subject to a number of covenants and restrictions in connection with our credit facilities, including:

- Providing FNBO with current and accurate financial statements;
- Maintaining certain financial ratios including minimum working capital;
- Maintaining adequate insurance;
- Making, or allowing to be made, any significant change in our business or tax structure;
- Limiting our ability to make distributions to members; and
- Maintaining a threshold of capital expenditures.

As of December 31, 2016, we were in compliance with our loan covenants.

Significant Accounting Policies and Estimates

We discuss our significant accounting policies in Note 2, *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*, of the Notes to Financial Statements included in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. We discuss our significant accounting estimates in Note 3, *Accounting Estimates*, of the Notes to Financial Statements included in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. We discuss our significant accounting policies in Note 2, *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*, of the Notes to Financial Statements included in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. We discuss our significant accounting estimates in Note 3, *Accounting Estimates*, of the Notes to Financial Statements included in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

We are exposed to the impact of market fluctuations associated with commodity prices as discussed below. We use derivative financial instruments as part of an overall strategy to manage market risk. We use cash, futures and option contracts to hedge changes to the commodity prices of corn and ethanol. We do not enter into these derivative financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes, nor do we designate these contracts as hedges for accounting purposes pursuant to the requirements of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP").

Commodity Price Risk

We expect to be exposed to market risk from changes in commodity prices. Exposure to commodity price risk results from our dependence on corn and natural gas in the ethanol production process and the sale of ethanol.

We enter into fixed price contracts for corn purchases on a regular basis. It is our intent that, as we enter into these contracts, we will use various hedging instruments (puts, calls and futures) to maintain a near even market position. For example, if we have 1 million bushels of corn under fixed price contracts we would generally expect to enter into a short hedge position to offset our price risk relative to those bushels we have under fixed price contracts. Because our ethanol marketing company (RPMG) is selling substantially all of the gallons it markets on a spot basis we also include the corn bushel equivalent of the ethanol we have produced that is inventory but not yet priced as bushels that need to be hedged.

Although we believe our hedge positions will accomplish an economic hedge against our future purchases, they are not designated as hedges for accounting purposes, which would match the gain or loss on our hedge positions to the specific commodity purchase being hedged. We use fair value accounting for our hedge positions, which means as the current market price of our hedge positions changes, the gains and losses are immediately recognized in our cost of sales. The immediate recognition of hedging gains and losses under fair value accounting can cause net income to be volatile from quarter to quarter and year to year due to the timing of the change in value of derivative instruments relative to the cost of the commodity being hedged. However, it is likely that commodity cash prices will have the greatest impact on the derivatives instruments with delivery dates nearest the current cash price.

As of December 31, 2016, we had no fixed corn purchase contracts and we had corn futures and option contracts for approximately 4.29 million bushels of corn. As of December 31, 2016 we had an unrealized loss of approximately \$211,000 related to our corn futures and option contracts.

It is the current position of our ethanol marketing company, RPMG, that under current market conditions selling ethanol in the spot market will yield the best price for our ethanol. RPMG will, from time to time, contract a portion of the gallons they market with fixed price contracts.

We estimate that our expected corn usage will be between 18 million and 22 million bushels per calendar year for the production of approximately 50 million to 60 million gallons of ethanol. As corn prices move in reaction to market trends and information, our income statement will be affected depending on the impact such market movements have on the value of our derivative instruments.

A sensitivity analysis has been prepared to estimate our exposure to corn, natural gas and ethanol price risk. Market risk related to our corn, natural gas and ethanol prices is estimated as the potential change in income resulting from a hypothetical 10% adverse change in the average cost of our corn and natural gas, and our average ethanol sales price as of December 31, 2016, net of the forward and future contracts used to hedge our market risk for corn, natural gas and ethanol. The volumes are based on our expected use and sale of these commodities for a one year period from December 31, 2016. The results of this analysis, which may differ from actual results, are as follows:

| | Estimated Volume Requirements for the next 12 months (net of forward and futures contracts) | Unit of Measure | Hypothetical Adverse Change in Price | Approximate Adverse Change to Income |
|-------------|--|------------------------|---|---|
| Ethanol | 60,350,000 | Gallons | 10% | \$ (8,485,000) |
| Corn | 21,900,000 | Bushels | 10% | \$ (5,656,000) |
| Natural gas | 1,664,000 | MMBtu | 10% | \$ (381,000) |

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow for timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

Our management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer (the principal executive officer), Gerald Bachmeier, along with our Chief Financial Officer, (the principal financial officer), Jodi Johnson, have reviewed and evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2016. Based on this review and evaluation, these officers believe that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective in ensuring that material information related to us is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods required by the forms and rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

For the fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2016, there has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

From time to time in the ordinary course of business, we may be named as a defendant in legal proceedings related to various issues, including without limitation, workers' compensation claims, tort claims, or contractual disputes. We are not currently involved in any material legal proceedings.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have not been any material changes to the risk factors that were previously disclosed on our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

Unregistered Units Sales by the Company.

On October 10, 2016, the Company issued two million of the Company's membership units to Bismarck Land Company, LLC as part of the consideration for the acquisition of 338 acres of land adjacent to the ethanol plant that the Company will use to expand its rail yard. The membership units were issued pursuant to the exemption from registration set forth in Regulation D, Rule 506(b), as Bismarck Land Company, LLC is an accredited investor.

Unit Purchases By the Company.

| Period | (a) Total Number of Units Purchased | (b) Average Price Paid per Unit | (c) Total Number of Units Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | (d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of the Units that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |
|---------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| October 2016 | None. | None. | None. | None. |
| November 2016 | None. | None. | None. | None. |
| December 2016 | 564,963 | \$1.00 | None. | None. |
| Total | 564,963 | \$1.00 | None. | None. |

*564,963 Units were purchased other than through a publicly announced plan or program, pursuant to a Membership Unit Repurchase Agreement, a private transaction between the Company and a Member.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures.

None.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

Item 6. Exhibits.

(a) The following exhibits are filed as part of this report.

| Exhibit No. | Exhibits |
|-------------|---|
| 31.1 | Certificate Pursuant to 17 CFR 240.13a-14(a)* |
| 31.2 | Certificate Pursuant to 17 CFR 240.13a-14(a)* |
| 32.1 | Certificate Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350* |
| 32.2 | Certificate Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350* |
| 101 | The following financial information from Red Trail Energy, LLC's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 2016, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) Condensed Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2016 and September 30, 2016, (ii) Statements of Operations for the three months ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, (iii) Statements of Cash Flows for the three months ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, and (iv) the Notes to Unaudited Condensed Financial Statements.** |

(*) Filed herewith.

(**) Furnished herewith.

SIGNATURES

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

RED TRAIL ENERGY, LLC

Date: February 14, 2017

/s/ Gerald Bachmeier
Gerald Bachmeier
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: February 14, 2017

/s/ Jodi Johnson
Jodi Johnson
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 17 CFR 240.15(d)-14(a)
(SECTION 302 CERTIFICATION)

I, Gerald Bachmeier, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Red Trail Energy, LLC;
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 officer(s) 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 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 an 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 officer(s) 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 the 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.

Date: February 14, 2017

/s/ Gerald Bachmeier

Gerald Bachmeier
Chief Executive Officer

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 17 CFR 240.15(d)-14(a)
(SECTION 302 CERTIFICATION)

I, Jodi Johnson, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Red Trail Energy, LLC;
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 officer(s) 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 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 an 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 officer(s) 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 the 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.

Date: February 14, 2017

/s/ Jodi Johnson
Jodi Johnson
Chief Financial Officer

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Red Trail Energy, LLC (the “Company”) for the fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2016, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “Report”), I, Gerald Bachmeier, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: February 14, 2017

/s/ Gerald Bachmeier

Gerald Bachmeier

Chief Executive Officer

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Red Trail Energy, LLC (the “Company”) for the fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2016, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “Report”), I, Jodi Johnson, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: February 14, 2017

/s/ Jodi Johnson

Jodi Johnson

Chief Financial Officer