

Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P.  
Form S-3  
August 17, 2017  
**Table of Contents**

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 17, 2017

Registration No. 333-

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

**FORM S-3**  
**REGISTRATION STATEMENT**  
***UNDER***  
***THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933***

**Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P.**  
**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

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

**20-5913059**  
**(I.R.S. Employer**  
**Identification Number)**

Edgar Filing: Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. - Form S-3

**700 Milam Street, Suite 1900**

**Houston, Texas 77002**

**(713) 375-5000**

**(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)**

**Michael J. Wortley**

**Executive Vice President and**

**Chief Financial Officer**

**Cheniere Energy Partners GP, LLC**

**700 Milam Street, Suite 1900**

**Houston, Texas 77002**

**(713) 375-5000**

**(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)**

*Copy to:*

**George J. Vlahakos**

**Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP**

**600 Travis, Suite 4200**

**Houston, TX 7002-3009**

**(713) 220-4200**

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

## Edgar Filing: Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. - Form S-3

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

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

Large accelerated filer		Accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer	(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Smaller reporting company
		Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered (1)(2)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit (3)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (3)	Amount of Registration Fee (4)
Common Units representing limited partner interests	202,450,687	\$28.08	\$5,684,815,290.96	\$658,871

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act ), the number of common units representing limited partner interests ( Common Units ) in Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. (the Partnership ) being registered on behalf of the selling unitholders named in this prospectus (the Selling Unitholders ) shall be adjusted to include any additional Common Units that may become issuable as a result of any unit distribution, split, combination or similar transaction.
- (2) The proposed maximum offering price per Common Unit will be determined from time to time in connection with, and at the time of, the sale by the Selling Unitholders.
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act on the basis of the average of the high and low sales prices of the Common Units on August 16, 2017, of \$28.08, as reported on the NYSE American.
- (4) Calculated in accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act.

**The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.**

**Table of Contents**

**The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. The securities may not be sold pursuant to this prospectus until the Registration Statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.**

**SUBJECT TO COMPLETION DATED August 17, 2017**

**PROSPECTUS**

**Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P.**

**202,450,687**

**Common Units Representing Limited Partner Interests**

This prospectus relates to 202,450,687 common units representing limited partner interests (the **Common Units**) in Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. (the **Partnership**) that were issued to or acquired by the selling unitholders named in this prospectus or in any supplement to this prospectus or any transferee, assignee or other successor-in-interest to the selling unitholders (the **Selling Unitholders**).

**We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of Common Units owned by the Selling Unitholders. For a more detailed discussion of the Selling Unitholders, please read **Selling Unitholders**.**

The Common Units may be offered and sold by each of the Selling Unitholders for its own account from time to time in accordance with the provisions set forth under **Plan of Distribution**. The Selling Unitholders may offer and sell the Common Units to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents, who may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions, or directly to purchasers, on a continuous or delayed basis. The Selling Unitholders may offer and sell the Common Units at various times in amounts, at prices and on terms to be determined by market conditions and other factors at the time of such offerings. This prospectus describes the general terms of the Common Units and the general manner in which the Common Units may be offered and sold by the Selling Unitholders. The specific manner in which the Selling Unitholders will offer and sell the Common Units will be described in a supplement to this prospectus, which may also add to, update or change the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You should carefully read this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and the documents we refer to under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information** of this prospectus before you purchase any of our Common Units.

Our Common Units are traded on the NYSE American under the symbol **CQP**. The last reported sales price of our Common Units on the NYSE American on August 16, 2017 was \$28.16 per Common Unit.

**Investing in our Common Units involves risks. You should carefully read and consider the risks related to an investment in our Common Units and each of the other risk factors described under Risk Factors on page 1 of this prospectus, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in our periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission before you make an investment in our Common Units.**

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities, or determined if this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

**The date of this prospectus is                      , 2017.**

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	ii
<u>INDUSTRY AND MARKET DATA</u>	ii
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	ii
<u>FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	iv
<u>ABOUT CHENIERE ENERGY PARTNERS, L.P.</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	1
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	1
<u>CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY AND RESTRICTIONS ON DISTRIBUTIONS</u>	2
<u>HOW WE MAKE CASH DISTRIBUTIONS</u>	4
<u>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND FIDUCIARY DUTIES</u>	14
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON UNITS</u>	22
<u>THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT</u>	24
<u>MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES</u>	38
<u>INVESTMENT IN CHENIERE ENERGY PARTNERS, L.P. BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS</u>	54
<u>SELLING UNITHOLDERS</u>	56
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	57
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	61
<u>EXPERTS</u>	61

**In making your investment decision, you should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement. Neither we nor any of the Selling Unitholders has authorized anyone to provide you with any other information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it.**

**You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus or in any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of those documents. You should not assume that the information contained in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus or in any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates of those documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.**

**This prospectus and any prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell, nor a solicitation of an offer to buy, Common Units in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.**

**Table of Contents**

**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we have filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, the Selling Unitholders may, from time to time, offer and sell up to 202,450,687 Common Units, a portion of which were issued to one of the Selling Unitholders upon conversion of 100,000,000 of the Partnership's Class B units representing limited partner interests (the "Class B Units") on August 2, 2017.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. and the Common Units that are registered hereunder that may be offered by the Selling Unitholders. Because each of the Selling Unitholders may be deemed to be an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act, each time any of the Selling Unitholders offers Common Units with this prospectus, such Selling Unitholder is required to provide you with this prospectus and the related prospectus supplement that will describe, among other things, the specific amounts and prices of the Common Units being offered and the terms of the offering.

The specific manner in which the Common Units may be offered and sold will be described in a supplement to this prospectus or a free writing prospectus. Any prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus may add to, update or change the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Any statement made or incorporated by reference in this prospectus will be modified or superseded by any inconsistent statement made in a prospectus supplement or a free writing prospectus. Therefore, you should read this prospectus (including any documents incorporated by reference) and any prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus before you invest in our Common Units.

This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement, or the exhibits that are a part of the registration statement, parts of which are omitted as permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC. Additional information, including our financial statements and the notes thereto, is incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our reports filed with the SEC. Please read "Where You Can Find More Information." You are urged to read carefully this prospectus and any attached prospectus supplements relating to the securities offered to you, together with the additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information," before investing in our Common Units.

Unless the context requires otherwise, as used in this prospectus, "Cheniere Partners," "the Partnership," "we," "our," "us" like terms mean Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership, and its subsidiaries. References to our "general partner" refer to Cheniere Energy Partners GP, LLC, the general partner of the Partnership, which effectively manages the business and affairs of the Partnership. References to our "partnership agreement" refer to the Fourth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of the Partnership.

**INDUSTRY AND MARKET DATA**

A portion of the market data and certain other statistical information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus is based on independent industry publications, government publications or other published independent sources. Some data is also based on our good faith estimates and our management's understanding of industry conditions. While we are not aware of any misstatements regarding our market, industry or similar data presented herein, such data involve risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various factors, including those discussed under the headings "Forward-Looking Statements" and "Risk Factors."

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**



Edgar Filing: Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. - Form S-3

We have filed a registration statement with the SEC under the Securities Act that registers the Common Units offered by this prospectus. The registration statement, including the attached exhibits, contains additional

---

**Table of Contents**

relevant information about us. The rules and regulations of the SEC allow us to omit some information included in the registration statement from this prospectus.

In addition, we file annual, quarterly and current reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information on the operation of the SEC's public reference room. Our SEC filings are available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. We also make available free of charge on our website at <http://www.cheniere.com>, all materials that we file electronically with the SEC, including our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, Section 16 reports and amendments to these reports, as soon as reasonably practicable after such materials are electronically filed with, or furnished to, the SEC.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we have filed with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you without actually including the specific information in this prospectus by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. These other documents contain important information about us, our financial condition and our results of operations. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus. Any statement contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein, or in any subsequently filed document which also is incorporated by reference herein, modifies or supersedes such earlier statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

**Unless otherwise specified, information contained on, or available by hyperlink from, our website or contained on the SEC's website is not incorporated into this prospectus.**

We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), (excluding any information in those documents that is deemed by the rules of the SEC to be furnished and not filed with the SEC) until all offerings under the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part are completed or terminated:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, filed on February 24, 2017;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2017, filed on May 4, 2017 and for the quarter ended June 30, 2017, filed on August 8, 2017;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 20, 2017, February 21, 2017, February 27, 2017, March 6, 2017, April 21, 2017, July 21, 2017 and August 16, 2017; and

the description of our Common Units contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A12B (File No. 001-33366) filed on March 15, 2007.

You may obtain copies of any of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus from the SEC through the SEC's website at the address provided above. You also may request a copy of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus (including exhibits to those documents specifically incorporated by reference in this prospectus), at no cost, by visiting our website at <http://www.cheniere.com>, or by writing or calling us at the following address:

Edgar Filing: Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. - Form S-3

Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P.

700 Milam Street, Suite 1900

Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 375-5000

Attn: Investor Relations

iii

**Table of Contents**

**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference herein and therein may contain certain statements that are, or may be deemed to be, forward-looking statements. All statements, other than statements of historical or present facts or conditions, included herein or incorporated herein by reference are forward-looking statements. Included among forward-looking statements are, among other things:

statements regarding our ability to pay distributions to our unitholders;

statements regarding our expected receipt of cash distributions from Sabine Pass LNG, L.P. ( SPLNG ), Sabine Pass Liquefaction, LLC ( SPL ) or Cheniere Creole Trail Pipeline, L.P. ( CTPL );

statements that we expect to commence or complete construction of our proposed liquefied natural gas ( LNG ) terminals, liquefaction facilities, pipeline facilities or other projects, or any expansions or portions thereof, by certain dates, or at all;

statements regarding future levels of domestic and international natural gas production, supply or consumption or future levels of LNG imports into or exports from North America and other countries worldwide or purchases of natural gas, regardless of the source of such information, or the transportation or other infrastructure or demand for and prices related to natural gas, LNG or other hydrocarbon products;

statements regarding any financing transactions or arrangements, or our ability to enter into such transactions;

statements relating to the construction of our natural gas liquefaction Trains ( Trains ), including statements concerning the engagement of any engineering, procurement and construction ( EPC ) contractor or other contractor and the anticipated terms and provisions of any agreement with any such EPC or other contractor, and anticipated costs related thereto;

statements regarding any LNG sale and purchase agreement ( SPA ) or other agreement to be entered into or performed substantially in the future, including any revenues anticipated to be received and the anticipated timing thereof, and statements regarding the amounts of total LNG regasification, natural gas liquefaction or storage capacities that are, or may become, subject to contracts;

statements regarding counterparties to our commercial contracts, construction contracts and other contracts;

statements regarding our planned development and construction of additional Trains;

statements that our Trains, when completed, will have certain characteristics, including amounts of liquefaction capacities;

statements regarding our business strategy, our strengths, our business and operation plans or any other plans, forecasts, projections, or objectives, including anticipated revenues, capital expenditures, maintenance and operating costs and cash flows, any or all of which are subject to change;

statements regarding legislative, governmental, regulatory, administrative or other public body actions, approvals, requirements, permits, applications, filings, investigations, proceedings or decisions; and

any other statements that relate to non-historical or future information.

All of these types of statements, other than statements of historical or present facts or conditions, are forward-looking statements. In some cases, forward-looking statements can be identified by terminology such as may, will, could, should, expect, plan, project, intend, anticipate, believe, estimate, predict, potential, pursue, negative of such terms or other comparable terminology. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the

**Table of Contents**

documents incorporated herein and therein are largely based on our expectations, which reflect estimates and assumptions made by our management. These estimates and assumptions reflect our best judgment based on known market conditions and other factors at the time of the statement. Although we believe that such estimates are reasonable, they are inherently uncertain and involve a number of risks and uncertainties beyond our control. In addition, assumptions may prove to be inaccurate. We caution that the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein are not guarantees of future performance and that such statements may not be realized or the forward-looking statements or events may not occur. Actual results may differ materially from those anticipated or implied in forward-looking statements as a result of a variety of factors described in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein and in the other reports and other information that we file with the SEC, including those discussed under **Risk Factors** . All forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by these risk factors. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made, and other than as required by law, we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement or provide reasons why actual results may differ, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

**Table of Contents**

**ABOUT CHENIERE ENERGY PARTNERS, L.P.**

We are a publicly traded Delaware limited partnership formed by Cheniere Energy, Inc. ( Cheniere ). Our vision is to be recognized as the premier global LNG company and provide a reliable, competitive and integrated source of LNG to our customers while creating a safe, productive and rewarding work environment for our employees. The liquefaction of natural gas into LNG allows it to be shipped economically from areas of the world where natural gas is abundant and inexpensive to produce to other areas where natural gas demand and infrastructure exist to economically justify the use of LNG. Through our wholly owned subsidiary, SPL, we are developing, constructing and operating natural gas liquefaction facilities (the Liquefaction Project ) at the Sabine Pass LNG terminal located in Cameron Parish, Louisiana, on the Sabine-Neches Waterway less than four miles from the Gulf Coast. We plan to construct up to six Trains, which are in various stages of development, construction and operations. Trains 1 through 3 are operational, Train 4 is undergoing commissioning, Train 5 is under construction and Train 6 is being commercialized and has all necessary regulatory approvals in place. Each Train is expected to have a nominal production capacity, which is prior to adjusting for planned maintenance, production reliability and potential overdesign, of approximately 4.5 mtpa of LNG. Through our wholly owned subsidiary, SPLNG, we own and operate regasification facilities at the Sabine Pass LNG terminal, which includes existing infrastructure of five LNG storage tanks with capacity of approximately 16.9 Bcfe, two marine berths that can accommodate vessels with nominal capacity of up to 266,000 cubic meters and vaporizers with regasification capacity of approximately 4.0 Bcf/d. We also own a 94-mile pipeline that interconnects the Sabine Pass LNG terminal with a number of large interstate pipelines through our wholly owned subsidiary, CTPL.

Our Common Units have been publicly traded since March 21, 2007 and are traded on the NYSE American under the symbol CQP. Our principal executive offices are located at 700 Milam Street, Suite 1900, Houston, Texas 77002, and our telephone number is (713) 375-5000.

**RISK FACTORS**

An investment in our Common Units involves risks. Before you invest in our Common Units, you should consider carefully the risk factors in our most recent annual report on Form 10-K, subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, and our other reports filed from time to time with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus, as the same may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by our filings under the Exchange Act, as well as those that may be included in any applicable prospectus supplement. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider these risks as well as all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference.

If any of these risks were to materialize, our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition could be materially adversely affected. In that case, our ability to make distributions to our unitholders may be reduced, the trading price of our Common Units could decline and you could lose all or part of your investment.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of Common Units by the Selling Unitholders. The Selling Unitholders will receive all of the net proceeds from the sale of Common Units.

**Table of Contents**

**CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY AND RESTRICTIONS ON DISTRIBUTIONS**

**General**

***Rationale for Our Cash Distribution Policy***

Our cash distribution policy reflects a basic judgment that our unitholders will be better served by our distributing our cash available after expenses and reserves rather than retaining it. Because we are not subject to entity level federal income tax, we will have more cash to distribute to our unitholders than would be the case were we subject to tax. Our cash distribution policy is consistent with the terms of our partnership agreement, which requires that we distribute all of our available cash quarterly.

***Limitations on Our Ability to Pay Quarterly Distributions***

There is no guarantee that unitholders will receive quarterly distributions from us. Our distribution policy may be changed at any time and is subject to certain restrictions and uncertainties, including:

Our ability to pay distributions to our unitholders will depend on the performance of us and our subsidiaries, and their ability to make distributions to us, which may be limited by the terms of our and their indebtedness.

We may lack sufficient cash to pay distributions to our unitholders due to a number of factors that could adversely affect us. Please read [Risk Factors](#).

Our general partner has broad discretion to establish reserves for the prudent conduct of our business, and the establishment of those reserves could result in a reduction of our cash distributions to you from levels we currently anticipate pursuant to our stated distribution policy.

Even if our cash distribution policy is not modified, the amount of distributions that we pay under our cash distribution policy and the decision to pay any distribution is determined by our general partner, taking into consideration the terms of our partnership agreement.

Although our partnership agreement requires us to distribute our available cash, our partnership agreement may be amended. During the subordination period, with certain exceptions, our partnership agreement may not be amended without the approval of a majority of nonaffiliated common unitholders. However, our partnership agreement can be amended with the consent of our general partner and the approval of a majority of the outstanding common units, after the subordination period has ended. Affiliates of our general partner own approximately 30.0% of our common units outstanding as of August 3, 2017. If the subordinated units were converted into common units, affiliates of our general partner would own approximately 49.6% of our common units outstanding as of August 3, 2017.



Under Section 17-607 of the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act, we may not make a distribution to you if the distribution would cause our liabilities to exceed the fair value of our assets.

***Our Cash Distribution Policy May Limit Our Ability to Grow***

We will distribute all of our available cash to our unitholders. As a result, we expect to rely primarily upon external financing sources, including commercial borrowings and issuances of debt or equity securities of us or our subsidiaries, to fund our acquisition and capital investment expenditures. The incurrence of additional commercial borrowings or other debt to finance our operations would result in increased interest expense, which in turn may impact the available cash that we have to distribute to our unitholders. If we are unable to finance growth externally, our cash distribution policy could significantly impair our ability to grow.

After the subordination period, there are no limitations in our partnership agreement on our ability to issue additional units, including units ranking senior to the common units. To the extent we issue additional units, the

**Table of Contents**

payment of distributions on those additional units may increase the risk that we will be unable to maintain or increase our per unit distribution level, which in turn may impact the available cash that we have to distribute on each unit.

***Cash Distributions***

The amount of the initial quarterly distribution on our common units is \$0.425 per unit, or \$1.70 per year. Until the end of the subordination period, before we make any quarterly distributions to subordinated unitholders, our common unitholders are entitled to receive payment of the full initial quarterly distribution plus any arrearages from prior quarters. Please read *How We Make Cash Distributions Subordination Period*.

Our general partner is entitled to 2% of all distributions that we make prior to our liquidation. The general partner's 2% interest in these distributions may be reduced if we issue additional units in the future and our general partner does not contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its 2% general partner interest. Our general partner has the right, but not the obligation, to contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its current general partner interest.

***Distributions on the Class B Units***

In 2012, we issued Class B Units, a new class of equity interests representing limited partner interests in us, in connection with the development of our project to add liquefaction capabilities adjacent to the Sabine Pass LNG terminal. The Class B Units were not entitled to cash distributions except in the event of our liquidation (or merger, combination or sale of substantially all of our assets). The Class B Units were subject to conversion, mandatorily or at the option of the holders of the Class B Units under specified circumstances, into a number of common units based on the then-applicable conversion value of the Class B Units. On a quarterly basis beginning on the initial purchase of the Class B Units, and ending on the conversion date of the Class B Units, the conversion value of the Class B Units increased at a compounded rate of 3.5% per quarter. The holders of Class B Units had a preference over the holders of the subordinated units in the event of our liquidation (or merger, combination or sale of substantially all of our assets). On August 2, 2017, all of our outstanding Class B Units mandatorily converted into common units.

In this section, references to unitholders made in the context of the recipients of quarterly cash distributions refer to our common unitholders and subordinated unitholders.

**Table of Contents**

**HOW WE MAKE CASH DISTRIBUTIONS**

**Distributions of Available Cash**

***General***

Our partnership agreement requires that, within 45 days after the end of each quarter, we distribute all of our available cash to unitholders of record on the applicable record date. In this section, references to unitholders refer to our common unitholders and subordinated unitholders.

***Definition of Available Cash***

We define available cash in our partnership agreement, and it generally means, for each fiscal quarter, the sum of all cash and cash equivalents on hand at the end of the quarter:

less the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner to:

provide for the proper conduct of our business;

comply with applicable law, any of our debt instruments, or other agreements; and

provide funds for distributions to our unitholders and to our general partner for any one or more of the next four quarters;

plus all additional cash and cash equivalents on hand on the date of determination of available cash for the quarter resulting from working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter. Working capital borrowings are generally borrowings that are made under a credit facility, commercial paper facility or similar financing arrangement, and in all cases are used solely for working capital purposes or to pay distributions to partners and with the intent of the borrower to repay such borrowings within 12 months.

***Minimum Quarterly Distribution***

We will distribute to the holders of common units and subordinated units on a quarterly basis at least the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.425 per unit, or \$1.70 per year, to the extent that we have sufficient cash from our operations after establishment of cash reserves and payment of fees and expenses, including payments to our general partner. However, there is no guarantee that we will pay the minimum quarterly distribution on the units in any quarter. Even if our cash distribution policy is not modified or revoked, the amount of distributions paid under our policy and the decision to make any distribution is determined by our general partner, taking into consideration the terms of our partnership agreement. Please see [Cash Distribution Policy and Restrictions on Distributions](#) for a discussion of the restrictions that may restrict our ability to make distributions.

***General Partner Interest and Incentive Distribution Rights***

## Edgar Filing: Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. - Form S-3

Our general partner is currently entitled to 2% of all quarterly distributions that we make prior to our liquidation. This general partner interest is represented by 9,877,523 general partner units as of August 3, 2017. Our general partner has the right, but not the obligation, to contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its current general partner interest. The general partner's 2% interest in these distributions may be reduced if we issue additional units in the future and our general partner does not contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its 2% general partner interest.

Our general partner also currently holds incentive distribution rights that entitle it to receive increasing percentages, up to a maximum of 50%, of the cash that we distribute from operating surplus (as defined below) in excess of \$0.489 per unit per quarter. Please see [Incentive Distribution Rights](#) for additional information.

**Table of Contents**

**Operating Surplus and Capital Surplus**

*Overview*

All cash distributed to unitholders will be characterized as either operating surplus or capital surplus. We treat distributions of available cash from operating surplus differently than distributions of available cash from capital surplus.

***Definition of Operating Surplus***

We define operating surplus in our partnership agreement, and for any period it generally means:

\$30 million (as described below); plus

all of our cash receipts, excluding cash from:

borrowings that are not working capital borrowings,

sales of equity securities and debt securities,

sales or other dispositions of assets outside the ordinary course of business,

the termination of commodity hedge contracts or interest rate swap agreements prior to the termination date specified therein,

capital contributions received, and

corporate reorganizations or restructurings; plus

working capital borrowings made after the end of a quarter but on or before the date of determination of operating surplus for the quarter; plus

cash distributions paid on equity issued in connection with the construction or development of a capital improvement or replacement asset during the period beginning on the date that we enter into a binding commitment to commence the construction or development of such capital improvement or replacement asset and ending on the earlier to occur of the date the capital improvement or replacement asset is placed into service and the date that it is abandoned or disposed of; less

all of our operating expenditures (as defined below); less

the amount of cash reserves established by our general partner to provide funds for future operating expenditures; less

all working capital borrowings not repaid within twelve months after having been incurred or repaid within such twelve-month period with the proceeds of additional working capital borrowings.

If a working capital borrowing, which increases operating surplus, is not repaid during the twelve month period following the borrowing, it will be deemed repaid at the end of such period, thus decreasing operating surplus at such time. When such working capital is in fact repaid, it will not be treated as a reduction in operating surplus because operating surplus will have been previously reduced by the deemed repayment.

We define operating expenditures in our partnership agreement, and it generally means all of our expenditures, including, but not limited to, taxes, payments to our general partner, reimbursements of expenses incurred by our general partner on our behalf, non-pro rata repurchases of units, repayment of working capital borrowings, debt service payments, interest payments, payments made in the ordinary course of business under commodity hedge contracts and maintenance capital expenditures, provided that operating expenditures will not include, among others, the following:

repayment of working capital borrowings deducted from operating surplus pursuant to the last bullet point of the definition of operating surplus above when such repayment actually occurs;

**Table of Contents**

payments (including prepayments) of principal of and premium on indebtedness other than working capital borrowings;

expansion capital expenditures;

investment capital expenditures;

payment of transaction expenses (including taxes) relating to interim capital transactions;

distributions to our partners;

non-pro rata repurchases of units of any class made with the proceeds of an interim capital transaction (as defined below); and

cash expenditures made to acquire, own, operate or maintain the operating capacity of the Creole Trail Pipeline prior to the date of first commercial delivery under the SPA with Gas Natural Fenosa.

***Capital Expenditures***

Maintenance capital expenditures are those capital expenditures required to maintain, including over the long-term, our operating capacity or asset base. Maintenance capital expenditures include interest (and related fees) on debt incurred and distributions on equity issued to finance the construction or development of a replacement asset during the period from the date we enter into a binding obligation to commence constructing or developing a replacement asset until the earlier to occur of the date any such replacement asset is placed into service and the date that it is abandoned or disposed.

Expansion capital expenditures are those capital expenditures that we expect will increase our operating capacity or asset base. Expansion capital expenditures include interest (and related fees) on debt incurred and distributions on equity issued to finance the construction or development of a capital improvement during the period from the date we enter into a binding commitment to commence construction or development of a capital improvement until the earlier to occur of the date any such capital improvement is placed into service and the date that it is abandoned or disposed.

Investment capital expenditures are those capital expenditures that are neither maintenance capital expenditures nor expansion capital expenditures. Examples of investment capital expenditures include traditional capital expenditures for investment purposes, such as purchases of securities, as well as other capital expenditures that might be made in lieu of such traditional investment capital expenditures, such as the acquisition of a capital asset for investment purposes, but which is not expected to expand our asset base for more than the short-term.

Neither investment capital expenditures nor expansion capital expenditures are subtracted from operating surplus. Because maintenance capital expenditures and expansion capital expenditures include interest payments (and related fees) on debt incurred and distributions on equity issued to finance the construction or development of a capital improvement or replacement asset during the period from such financing until the earlier to occur of the date any such capital improvement or replacement asset is placed into service or the date that it is abandoned or disposed, such

interest payments and equity distributions are also not subtracted from operating surplus (except, in the case of maintenance capital expenditures, to the extent such interest payments and distributions are included in maintenance capital expenditures).

Capital expenditures that are made in part for maintenance capital purposes and in part for investment capital or expansion capital purposes will be allocated as maintenance capital expenditures, investment capital expenditures or expansion capital expenditures by our general partner, based upon its good faith determination, subject to concurrence by our conflicts committee.



## **Table of Contents**

### ***Definition of Capital Surplus***

We also define capital surplus in our partnership agreement and in Characterization of Cash Distributions below, and it will generally be generated only by the following, which we call interim capital transactions:

borrowings other than working capital borrowings;

sales of debt and equity securities;

sales or other dispositions of assets for cash, other than inventory, accounts receivable and other assets sold in the ordinary course of business or as part of normal retirements or replacements of assets;

the termination of commodity hedge contracts or interest rate swap agreements prior to the termination date specified therein;

capital contributions received; and

corporate reorganizations or restructurings.

### ***Characterization of Cash Distributions***

Our partnership agreement requires that we treat all available cash distributed as coming from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed since we began operations equals the operating surplus as of the most recent date of determination of available cash. We will treat any amount distributed in excess of operating surplus, regardless of its source, as capital surplus. As reflected above, operating surplus includes a \$30 million basket. This amount does not reflect actual cash on hand that is available for distribution to our unitholders. It is instead a provision that enables us, if we choose, to distribute as operating surplus up to \$30 million of cash that we may receive from interim capital transactions that would otherwise be distributed as capital surplus. We do not anticipate that we will make any distributions from capital surplus.

### **Subordination Period**

#### ***General***

During the subordination period, the common units will have the right to receive distributions of available cash from operating surplus in an amount equal to the initial quarterly distribution of \$0.425 per quarter, plus any arrearages in the payment of the initial quarterly distribution on the common units from prior quarters, before any distributions of available cash from operating surplus may be made on the subordinated units. Cheniere Energy Partners LP Holdings, LLC ( Cheniere Holdings ) owns all of the 135,383,831 subordinated units in us as of the date of this prospectus. These units are deemed subordinated because for a period of time, referred to as the subordination period, the subordinated units will not be entitled to receive any distributions until after the common units have received the initial quarterly distribution plus any arrearages from prior quarters. Furthermore, no arrearages will be paid on the subordinated units.

The practical effect of the subordination period is to increase the likelihood that during this period there will be sufficient available cash to pay the initial quarterly distribution on the common units.

***Definition of Subordination Period***

The subordination period will extend until the first business day following the distribution of available cash to partners in respect of any quarter that each of the following occurs:

distributions of available cash from operating surplus on each of the outstanding common units, subordinated units and any other outstanding units that are senior or equal in right of distribution to the subordinated units equaled or exceeded the initial quarterly distribution for each of the three consecutive, non-overlapping four-quarter periods immediately preceding that date;

**Table of Contents**

the adjusted operating surplus (as defined below) generated during each of the three consecutive, non-overlapping four-quarter periods immediately preceding that date equaled or exceeded the sum of the initial quarterly distributions on all of the outstanding common units, subordinated units, general partner units and any other outstanding units that are senior or equal in right of distribution to the subordinated units during those periods on a fully diluted basis; and

there are no arrearages in payment of the initial quarterly distribution on the common units.

***Expiration of the Subordination Period***

When the subordination period expires, each outstanding subordinated unit will convert into one common unit and will then participate pro rata with the other common units in distributions of available cash. In addition, if the unitholders remove our general partner other than for cause and units held by the general partner and its affiliates are not voted in favor of such removal:

the subordination period will end and each subordinated unit will immediately convert into one common unit;

any existing arrearages in payment of the initial quarterly distribution on the common units will be extinguished; and

the general partner will have the right to convert its general partner units and its incentive distribution rights into common units or to receive cash in exchange for those interests.

***Early Conversion of Subordinated Units***

The subordination period will automatically terminate and all of the subordinated units will convert into common units on a one-for-one basis on the first business day following the distribution of available cash to partners in respect of any quarter that each of the following occurs:

in connection with distributions of available cash from operating surplus, the amount of such distributions constituting contracted adjusted operating surplus (as defined below) on each outstanding common unit, subordinated unit and any other outstanding unit that is senior or equal in right of distribution to the subordinated units equaled or exceeded \$0.638 (150% of the initial quarterly distribution) for each quarter in the four-quarter period immediately preceding that date;

the contracted adjusted operating surplus generated during each quarter in the four-quarter period immediately preceding that date equaled or exceeded the sum of a distribution of \$0.638 (150% of the initial quarterly distribution) on all of the outstanding common units, subordinated units, general partner units, any other units that are senior or equal in right of distribution to the subordinated units, and any other equity securities that are junior to the subordinated units that the board of directors of our general partner deems to be appropriate for the calculation, after consultation with management of our general partner, on a fully

diluted basis; and

there are no arrearages in payment of the initial quarterly distribution on the common units.

***Definition of Adjusted Operating Surplus***

We define adjusted operating surplus in our partnership agreement, and for any period, it generally means:

operating surplus generated with respect to that period; less

any net increase in working capital borrowings with respect to that period; less

any net reduction in cash reserves for operating expenditures with respect to that period not relating to an operating expenditure made with respect to that period; plus

any net decrease in working capital borrowings with respect to that period; plus

## **Table of Contents**

any net increase in cash reserves for operating expenditures with respect to that period required by any debt instrument for the repayment of principal, interest or premium.

Adjusted operating surplus is intended to reflect the cash generated from operations during a particular period and therefore excludes the \$30 million operating surplus basket, net increases in working capital borrowings, net drawdowns of reserves of cash generated in prior periods.

### ***Definition of Contracted Adjusted Operating Surplus***

We define contracted adjusted operating surplus in our partnership agreement and it generally means:

adjusted operating surplus derived solely from SPAs and terminal use agreements ( TUA ), in each case, with a minimum term of three years with counterparties who are not affiliates of Cheniere; and

excludes revenues and expenses attributable to the portion of payments made under the LNG sale and purchase agreements related to the final settlement price for the New York Mercantile Exchange's Henry Hub natural gas futures contract for the month in which the relevant cargo's delivery window is scheduled.

### **Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus During the Subordination Period**

We will make distributions of available cash from operating surplus for any quarter during the subordination period in the following manner:

*First*, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding common unit an amount equal to the initial quarterly distribution for that quarter;

*Second*, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding common unit an amount equal to any arrearages in payment of the initial quarterly distribution on the common units for any prior quarters during the subordination period;

*Third*, 98% to the subordinated unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding subordinated unit an amount equal to the initial quarterly distribution for that quarter; and

*Thereafter*, in the manner described in Incentive Distribution Rights below.

The preceding discussion is based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

### **Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus After the Subordination Period**

We will make distributions of available cash from operating surplus for any quarter after the subordination period in the following manner:

*First*, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until we distribute for each outstanding unit an amount equal to the initial quarterly distribution for that quarter; and

*Thereafter*, in the manner described in **Incentive Distribution Rights** below.

The preceding discussion is based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

### **Incentive Distribution Rights**

Incentive distribution rights represent the right to receive an increasing percentage of quarterly distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the initial quarterly distribution. Our general partner currently holds the incentive distribution rights but may transfer these rights separately from its general partner interest, subject to restrictions in our partnership agreement.

**Table of Contents**

If for any quarter:

we have distributed available cash from operating surplus to the unitholders in an amount equal to the initial quarterly distribution; and

we have distributed available cash from operating surplus on outstanding common units in an amount necessary to eliminate any cumulative arrearages in payment of the initial quarterly distribution to the common units;

then we will distribute any additional available cash from operating surplus for that quarter among the unitholders and our general partner in the following manner:

*First*, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.489 per unit for that quarter (the first target distribution );

*Second*, 85% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.531 per unit for that quarter (the second target distribution );

*Third*, 75% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.638 per unit for that quarter (the third target distribution ); and

*Thereafter*, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to our general partner.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if we distribute available cash from operating surplus as a result of the refinancing of our indebtedness for borrowed money, then the holder of the incentive distribution rights will not be entitled to any such distributions with respect thereto.

**Percentage Allocations of Available Cash from Operating Surplus**

The following table illustrates the percentage allocations of the additional available cash from operating surplus between the unitholders and our general partner up to the various target distribution levels. The amounts set forth under *Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions* are the percentage interests of our general partner and the unitholders in any available cash from operating surplus that we distribute up to and including the corresponding amount in the column *Total Quarterly Distribution*, until available cash from operating surplus that we distribute reaches the next target distribution level, if any. The percentage interests shown for the unitholders and our general partner for the initial quarterly distribution are also applicable to quarterly distribution amounts that are less than the initial quarterly distribution. The percentage interests set forth below for our general partner include its 2% general partner interest and assume that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and has not transferred its incentive distribution rights.

	<b>Total Quarterly Distribution</b>	<b>Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions</b>	
		<b>Common and Subordinated Unitholders</b>	<b>General Partner</b>
	<b>Target Amount</b>		
Initial quarterly distribution	\$0.425	98%	2%
First Target Distribution	above \$0.425 up to \$0.489	98%	2%
Second Target Distribution	above \$0.489 up to \$0.531	85%	15%
Third Target Distribution	above \$0.531 up to \$0.638	75%	25%
Thereafter	above \$0.638	50%	50%



## **Table of Contents**

### **Distributions from Capital Surplus**

#### ***How Distributions from Capital Surplus Will Be Made***

We will make distributions of available cash from capital surplus, if any, in the following manner:

*First*, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each common unit that was issued in our initial public offering an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to the initial public offering price;

*Second*, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we distribute for each common unit an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to any unpaid arrearages in payment of the initial quarterly distribution on the common units; and

*Thereafter*, we will make all distributions of available cash from capital surplus as if they were from operating surplus.

The preceding discussion is based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

#### ***Effect of a Distribution from Capital Surplus***

Our partnership agreement treats a distribution of capital surplus as the repayment of the initial unit price from our initial public offering, which is a return of capital. The initial public offering price less any distributions of capital surplus per unit is referred to as the unrecovered initial unit price. Each time a distribution of capital surplus is made, the initial quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels will be reduced in the same proportion as the corresponding reduction in the unrecovered initial unit price. Because distributions of capital surplus will reduce the initial quarterly distribution, after any of these distributions are made, it may be easier for our general partner to receive incentive distributions and for the subordinated units to convert into common units. However, any distribution of capital surplus before the unrecovered initial unit price is reduced to zero cannot be applied to the payment of the initial quarterly distribution or any arrearages.

Once we distribute capital surplus on a unit in an amount equal to the initial unit price, we will reduce the initial quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels to zero. We will then make all future distributions from operating surplus, with 50% being paid to the unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to our general partner. The percentage interests shown for our general partner include its 2% general partner interest and assume that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and has not transferred its incentive distribution rights.

#### **Adjustment to the Initial Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels**

In addition to adjusting the initial quarterly distribution and target distribution levels to reflect a distribution of capital surplus, if we combine our units into fewer units or subdivide our units into a greater number of units, we will proportionately adjust:

the initial quarterly distribution;

the target distribution levels;

the unrecovered initial unit price; and

the number of common units into which a subordinated unit is convertible.

For example, if a two-for-one split of the common units should occur, the initial quarterly distribution, the target distribution levels and the unrecovered initial unit price would each be reduced to 50% of its initial level and each subordinated unit would be convertible into two common units. We will not make any adjustment by reason of the issuance of additional units for cash or property.

## **Table of Contents**

In addition, if legislation is enacted or if existing law is modified or interpreted by a court of competent jurisdiction so that we become taxable as a corporation or otherwise subjecting us to a material amount of entity level taxation for federal, state or local income tax purposes, our general partner may reduce the initial quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels for each quarter by multiplying each distribution level by a fraction, the numerator of which is available cash for that quarter (after deducting our general partner's estimate of our aggregate liability for the quarter for such income taxes payable by reason of such legislation or interpretation) and the denominator of which is the sum of available cash for that quarter plus our general partner's estimate of our aggregate liability for the quarter for such income taxes payable by reason of such legislation or interpretation. To the extent that the actual tax liability differs from the estimated tax liability for any quarter, the difference will be accounted for in subsequent quarters.

## **Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation**

### ***General***

If we dissolve in accordance with our partnership agreement, we will sell or otherwise dispose of our assets in a process called liquidation. We will first apply the proceeds of liquidation to the payment of our creditors. We will distribute any remaining proceeds to the unitholders and our general partner in accordance with their capital account balances, as adjusted below to reflect any income, gain, loss and deduction for the current period and gain or loss upon the sale or other disposition of our assets in liquidation.

Our allocations of gain and loss upon liquidation are intended, to the extent possible, to entitle the holders of outstanding common units to a preference over the holders of outstanding subordinated units upon our liquidation, to the extent required to permit common unitholders to receive their unrecovered initial unit price plus the initial quarterly distribution for the quarter during which liquidation occurs plus any unpaid arrearages in payment of the initial quarterly distribution on the common units. However, there may not be sufficient gain upon our liquidation to enable the holders of common units to fully recover all of these amounts, although there may be cash available for distribution to the holders of subordinated units. Any further net gain recognized upon liquidation will be allocated in a manner that takes into account the incentive distribution rights currently owned by our general partner.

### ***Manner of Adjustments for Gain***

The manner of the adjustment for gain is set forth in our partnership agreement. If our liquidation occurs before the end of the subordination period, we will allocate any item of gain to the partners in the following manner:

*First*, to the general partner and the holders of units who have negative balances in their capital accounts to the extent of and in proportion to those negative balances;

*Second*, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until the capital account for each common unit is equal to the sum of:

- (1) the unrecovered initial unit price;
- (2) the amount of the initial quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs; and
- (3) any unpaid arrearages in payment of the initial quarterly distribution;

*Third*, 98% to the subordinated unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until the capital account for each subordinated unit is equal to the sum of:

- (1) the unrecovered initial unit price; and
- (2) the amount of the initial quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs;

**Table of Contents**

*Fourth*, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

- (1) the sum of the excess of the first target distribution per unit over the initial quarterly distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less
- (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the initial quarterly distribution per unit that we distributed 98% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to our general partner, for each quarter of our existence;

*Fifth*, 85% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

- (1) the sum of the excess of the second target distribution per unit over the first target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less
- (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the first target distribution per unit that we distributed 85% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to our general partner for each quarter of our existence;

*Sixth*, 75% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

- (1) the sum of the excess of the third target distribution per unit over the second target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less
- (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the second target distribution per unit that we distributed 75% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to our general partner for each quarter of our existence; and

*Thereafter*, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to our general partner.

The percentages set forth above are based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and has not transferred its incentive distribution rights and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

If the liquidation occurs after the end of the subordination period, the distinction between common units and subordinated units will disappear, so that clause (3) of the second bullet point above and all of the third bullet point above will no longer be applicable.

***Manner of Adjustments for Losses***

If our liquidation occurs before the end of the subordination period, we will generally allocate any loss to our general partner and the unitholders in the following manner:

Edgar Filing: Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. - Form S-3

*First*, 98% to holders of subordinated units in proportion to the positive balances in their capital accounts and 2% to our general partner, until the capital accounts of the subordinated unitholders have been reduced to zero;

*Second*, 98% to the holders of common units in proportion to the positive balances in their capital accounts and 2% to our general partner, until the capital accounts of the common unitholders have been reduced to zero; and

*Thereafter*, 100% to our general partner.

The 2% interests set forth in the first and second bullet points above for our general partner are based on the assumptions that our general partner maintains its 2% general partner interest and that we do not issue additional classes of equity securities.

## **Table of Contents**

If the liquidation occurs after the end of the subordination period, the distinction between common units and subordinated units will disappear, so that all of the first bullet point above will no longer be applicable.

### ***Adjustments to Capital Accounts***

We will make adjustments to capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units. In the event of an issuance of additional units, we will allocate any unrealized and, for tax purposes, unrecognized gain or loss resulting from the adjustments to the unitholders and our general partner in the same manner as we allocate gain or loss upon liquidation. In the event that we make positive adjustments to the capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units, we will allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional units or upon our liquidation in a manner which results, to the extent possible, in our general partner's capital account balances equaling the amount which they would have been if no earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts had been made.

## **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND FIDUCIARY DUTIES**

### **Conflicts of Interest**

Conflicts of interest exist and may arise in the future as a result of the relationships between our general partner and its affiliates, including Cheniere and Cheniere Holdings, on the one hand, and us and our limited partners, on the other hand. The directors and officers of our general partner have fiduciary duties to manage our general partner in a manner beneficial to its owners. At the same time, our general partner has a fiduciary duty to manage us in a manner beneficial to us and our unitholders. Our partnership agreement contains provisions that modify and limit our general partner's fiduciary duties to the unitholders. Our partnership agreement also restricts the remedies available to unitholders for actions taken that, without those limitations, might constitute breaches of fiduciary duty.

Whenever a conflict arises between our general partner or its affiliates, on the one hand, and us or any other partner, on the other hand, our general partner will resolve that conflict. Our general partner may, but is not required to, seek the approval of such resolution from the conflicts committee of the board of directors of our general partner. An independent third party is not required to evaluate the fairness of the resolution.

Our general partner will not be in breach of its obligations under our partnership agreement or its duties to us or our unitholders if the resolution of the conflict is:

approved by a majority of the conflicts committee, although our general partner is not obligated to seek such approval;

approved by the vote of a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding any units owned by our general partner or any of its affiliates;

on terms no less favorable to us than those generally being provided to or available from unrelated third parties; or

fair and reasonable to us, taking into account the totality of the relationships between the parties involved, including other transactions that may be particularly favorable or advantageous to us.

If our general partner seeks approval from the conflicts committee or does not seek approval from the conflicts committee and the board of directors of our general partner determines that the resolution or course of action taken with respect to the conflict of interest satisfies either of the standards set forth in the third and fourth bullet points above, then, in each case, it will be presumed that, in making its decision, the board of directors acted in good faith, and in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of any limited partner or the partnership, the person bringing or prosecuting such proceeding will have the burden of overcoming such presumption. Unless the resolution of a conflict is specifically provided for in our partnership agreement, our general partner or the



**Table of Contents**

conflicts committee may consider any factors that it determines in good faith to consider when resolving a conflict. When our partnership agreement requires someone to act in good faith, it requires that person to believe that he is acting in the best interests of the partnership.

Conflicts of interest could arise in the situations described below, among others.

***Actions taken by our general partner may affect the amount of cash available to pay distributions to unitholders or accelerate the right to convert subordinated units.***

The amount of cash that is available for distributions to unitholders is affected by decisions of our general partner regarding such matters as:

amount and timing of asset purchases and sales;

cash expenditures;

borrowings;

issuance of additional units; and

the creation, reduction or increase of reserves in any quarter.

In addition, borrowings by us and our affiliates do not constitute a breach of any duty owed by our general partner to our unitholders, including borrowings that have the purpose or effect of:

enabling our general partner or its affiliates to receive distributions on any subordinated units or incentive distribution rights held by them; or

hastening the expiration of the subordination period.

For example, in the event that we have not generated sufficient cash from our operations to pay the initial quarterly distribution on our common units and our subordinated units, our partnership agreement permits us to borrow funds, which would enable us to pay this distribution on all outstanding units. Please read [How We Make Cash Distributions](#) [Subordination Period](#).

Our partnership agreement provides that we and our subsidiaries may borrow funds from our general partner and its affiliates. Our general partner and its affiliates may not borrow funds from us or our subsidiaries.

***Neither our partnership agreement nor any other agreement requires Cheniere or Cheniere Holdings to pursue business strategies that favor us or utilize our assets or dictates what markets to pursue or grow. Cheniere and Cheniere Holdings' respective directors and officers have a fiduciary duty to make these decisions in the best***

***interests of the stockholders of Cheniere and Cheniere Holdings, respectively, which may be contrary to our interests.***

Because the officers and certain of the directors of our general partner are also directors and/or officers of Cheniere or Cheniere Holdings, such directors and officers have fiduciary duties to Cheniere and Cheniere Holdings, respectively, that may cause them to pursue business strategies that disproportionately benefit Cheniere and Cheniere Holdings, respectively, or which otherwise are not in our best interests.

***Our general partner is allowed to take into account the interests of parties other than us, such as Cheniere and Cheniere Holdings, in resolving conflicts of interest.***

Our partnership agreement contains provisions that reduce the standards to which our general partner would otherwise be held by state fiduciary duty law. For example, our partnership agreement permits our general partner to make a number of decisions in its individual capacity, as opposed to in its capacity as our general

**Table of Contents**

partner. This entitles our general partner to consider only the interests and factors that it desires, and it has no duty or obligation to give any consideration to any interest of, or factors affecting, us, our affiliates or any limited partner. Examples include the exercise of its limited call right, its voting rights with respect to the units that it owns, its registration rights and its determination whether or not to consent to any merger or consolidation of the partnership or amendment to our partnership agreement.

***Our general partner has limited its liability and reduced its fiduciary duties and has also restricted the remedies available to our unitholders for actions that, without the limitations, might constitute breaches of fiduciary duty.***

In addition to the provisions described above, our partnership agreement contains provisions that restrict the remedies available to our unitholders for actions that might otherwise constitute breaches of fiduciary duty. For example, our partnership agreement:

provides that our general partner will not have any liability to us or our unitholders for decisions made in its capacity as a general partner so long as it acted in good faith, meaning that it believed that the decision was in the best interests of our partnership;

generally provides that affiliated transactions and resolutions of conflicts of interest not approved by a majority of the conflicts committee of the board of directors of our general partner and not involving a vote of unitholders must be on terms no less favorable to us than those generally being provided to or available from unrelated third parties or be fair and reasonable to us, as determined by the board of directors of our general partner in good faith, and that, in determining whether a transaction or resolution is fair and reasonable, the board of directors may consider the totality of the relationships between the parties involved, including other transactions that may be particularly favorable or advantageous to us;

provides that our general partner and its officers and directors will not be liable for monetary damages to us or our limited partners for any acts or omissions unless there has been a final and non-appealable judgment entered by a court of competent jurisdiction determining that our general partner or those other persons acted in bad faith or engaged in fraud, willful misconduct or, in the case of a criminal matter, acted with knowledge that such conduct was criminal; and

provides that in resolving conflicts of interest, it will be presumed that in making its decision the conflicts committee or the general partner acted in good faith, and in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of any limited partner or us, the person bringing or prosecuting such proceeding will have the burden of overcoming such presumption.

***We do not have any officers or employees and rely solely on officers and employees of our general partner and its affiliates.***

Affiliates of our general partner conduct businesses and activities of their own in which we have no economic interest. If these separate activities are significantly greater than our activities, there could be material competition for the time and effort of the officers and employees who provide services to our general partner. The officers of our general partner are not required to work full time on our affairs. These officers are required to devote time to the affairs of Cheniere, Cheniere Holdings or their affiliates and are compensated by them for the services rendered to them.

*Certain of our general partner s officers are not required to devote their full time to our business.*

All of the senior officers of our general partner are also senior officers of Cheniere and will spend sufficient amounts of their time overseeing the management, operations, corporate development and future acquisition initiatives of our business. Jack A. Fusco is the principal executive responsible for the oversight of our affairs. Our non-executive directors will devote as much time as is necessary to prepare for and attend board of directors and committee meetings.

**Table of Contents**

***Our general partner and its affiliates receive management fees and cost reimbursements.***

We pay significant management fees to our general partner and its affiliates and reimburse them for expenses incurred on our behalf, which reduces our cash available for distribution to our unitholders. Our general partner and its affiliates will also be entitled to reimbursement for all other direct expenses that they incur on our behalf.

***Our general partner intends to limit its liability regarding our obligations.***

Our general partner intends to limit its liability under contractual arrangements so that the other party has recourse only to our assets and not against our general partner or its assets or any affiliate of our general partner or its assets. Our partnership agreement provides that any action taken by our general partner to limit its or our liability is not a breach of our general partner's fiduciary duties, even if we could have obtained terms that are more favorable without the limitation on liability.

***Common unitholders will have no right to enforce obligations of our general partner and its affiliates under agreements with us.***

Any agreements between us, on the one hand, and our general partner and its affiliates, on the other hand, will not grant to the unitholders, separate and apart from us, the right to enforce the obligations of our general partner and its affiliates in our favor.

***Contracts between us, on the one hand, and our general partner and its affiliates, on the other hand, will not be the result of arm's-length negotiations.***

Neither our partnership agreement nor any of the other agreements, contracts and arrangements between us and our general partner and its affiliates are or will be the result of arm's-length negotiations. Our partnership agreement generally provides that any affiliated transaction, such as an agreement, contract or arrangement between us and our general partner and its affiliates, must be:

on terms no less favorable to us than those generally being provided to or available from unrelated third parties; or

fair and reasonable to us, taking into account the totality of the relationships between the parties involved (including other transactions that may be particularly favorable or advantageous to us).

Our general partner will determine, in good faith, the terms of any of these transactions.

Our general partner and its affiliates will have no obligation to permit us to use any facilities or assets of our general partner and its affiliates, except as may be provided in contracts entered into specifically dealing with that use. Our general partner may also enter into additional contractual arrangements with any of its affiliates on our behalf. There is no obligation of our general partner and its affiliates to enter into any contracts of this kind.

***Except in limited circumstances, our general partner has the power and authority to conduct our business without unitholder approval.***

## Edgar Filing: Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. - Form S-3

Under our partnership agreement, our general partner has full power and authority to do all things, other than those items that require unitholder approval or with respect to which our general partner has sought conflicts committee approval, on such terms as it determines to be necessary or appropriate to conduct our business, including, but not limited to, the following:

the making of any expenditures, the lending or borrowing of money, the assumption or guarantee of, or other contracting for, indebtedness and other liabilities, the issuance of evidences of indebtedness, including indebtedness that is convertible into securities of our partnership, and the incurring of any other obligations;

**Table of Contents**

the making of tax, regulatory and other filings, or rendering of periodic or other reports to governmental or other agencies having jurisdiction over our business or assets;

the acquisition, disposition, mortgage, pledge, encumbrance, hypothecation or exchange of any or all of our assets or the merger or other combination of us with or into another person subject to any prior approval that may be required under our partnership agreement;

the use of our assets for any purpose consistent with the terms of our partnership agreement;

the negotiation, execution and performance of any contracts, conveyances or other instruments;

the distribution of partnership cash;

the selection and dismissal of employees and agents, outside attorneys, accountants, consultants and contractors and the determination of their compensation and other terms of employment or hiring;

the maintenance of insurance for our benefit and the benefit of our partners;

the formation of, or acquisition of an interest in, and the contribution of property and the making of loans to, any further limited or general partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, limited liability companies or other relationships subject to the restrictions in our partnership agreement;

the control of any matters affecting our rights and obligations, including the bringing and defending of actions at law or in equity and otherwise engaging in the conduct of litigation, arbitration or mediation and the incurring of legal expense and the settlement of claims and litigation;

the indemnification of any person against liabilities and contingencies to the extent permitted by law;

the entering into of listing arrangements with any national securities exchange and the delisting of some or all of our securities from, or requesting that trading be suspended on, any such exchange subject to the limitations specified in our partnership agreement;

the purchase, sale or other acquisition or disposition of our securities, or the issuance of options, rights, warrants and appreciation rights relating to our securities;

the undertaking of any action in connection with our participation in any of our subsidiaries; and

the entering into of agreements with any of its affiliates to render services to us or our subsidiaries or to itself in the discharge of its duties as our general partner.

Please read [The Partnership Agreement](#) [Voting Rights](#) for information regarding the voting rights of unitholders.

***Common units are subject to our general partner's limited call right.***

Our general partner may exercise its right to call and purchase common units as provided in our partnership agreement or assign this right to one of its affiliates or to us. Our general partner may use its own discretion, free of fiduciary duty restrictions, in determining whether to exercise this right. As a result, a common unitholder may have common units purchased at an undesirable time or price. Please read [The Partnership Agreement](#) [Limited Call Right](#).

***We may choose not to retain separate advisors for ourselves or for the holders of common units.***

The attorneys, independent accountants and others who perform services for us are selected by our general partner or the conflicts committee and may also perform services for our general partner and its affiliates. We may retain separate counsel for ourselves or the holders of our common units in the event of a conflict of interest between our general partner and its affiliates, on the one hand, and us or the holders of our common units, on the other hand, depending on the nature of the conflict. We do not intend to do so in most cases.



## **Table of Contents**

*Our general partner's affiliates may compete with us, and neither our general partner nor its affiliates have any obligation to present business opportunities to us.*

Our partnership agreement provides that our general partner is restricted from engaging in any business activities other than those incidental to its management of us. However, affiliates of our general partner are not prohibited from engaging in other businesses or activities, including those that might be in direct competition with us. Except for a right of first refusal that we have during the investor approval period if Cheniere transfers any assets relating to the liquefaction or regasification of natural gas to a master limited partnership formed by Cheniere, Cheniere may acquire, construct or dispose of pipelines or other assets in the future without any obligation to offer us the opportunity to purchase or construct any of those assets. In addition, under our partnership agreement, the doctrine of corporate opportunity, or any analogous doctrine, will not apply to the general partner and its affiliates. As a result, neither the general partner nor any of its affiliates will have any obligation to present business opportunities to us and may take advantage of such opportunities themselves.

## **Fiduciary Duties**

Our general partner is accountable to us and our unitholders as a fiduciary. Fiduciary duties owed to unitholders by our general partner are prescribed by law and our partnership agreement. The Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act, which we refer to as the Delaware Act, provides that Delaware limited partnerships may, in their partnership agreements, expand, restrict or eliminate the fiduciary duties otherwise owed by a general partner to limited partners and the partnership.

Our partnership agreement contains various provisions modifying and restricting the fiduciary duties that might otherwise be owed by our general partner. We have adopted these provisions to allow our general partner or its affiliates to engage in transactions with us that otherwise would be prohibited by state law fiduciary standards and to take into account the interests of other parties in addition to our interests when resolving conflicts of interest. We believe this is appropriate and necessary because the board of directors of our general partner has fiduciary duties to manage our general partner in a manner beneficial both to its indirect owner, Cheniere, as well as to you. Without these modifications, our general partner's ability to make decisions involving conflicts of interests would be restricted. The modifications to the fiduciary standards benefit our general partner by enabling it to take into consideration all parties involved in the proposed action. These modifications also strengthen the ability of our general partner to attract and retain experienced and capable directors. These modifications represent a detriment to the common unitholders because they restrict the remedies available to unitholders for actions that, without those limitations, might constitute breaches of fiduciary duty, as described below, and permit our general partner to take into account the interests of third parties in addition to our interests when resolving conflicted interests. The following is a summary of:

the fiduciary duties imposed on our general partner by the Delaware Act;

material modifications of these duties contained in our partnership agreement; and

certain rights and remedies of unitholders contained in the Delaware Act.

State law fiduciary duty standards

Fiduciary duties are generally considered to include an obligation to act in good faith and with due care and loyalty. The duty of care, in the absence of a provision in a partnership agreement providing otherwise, would generally require a general partner to act for the partnership in the same manner as a prudent person would act on his own behalf. The duty of loyalty, in the absence of a provision in a partnership agreement providing otherwise, would generally prohibit a general partner of a Delaware limited partnership from taking any action or engaging in any transaction where a conflict of interest is present unless such transaction is entirely fair to the partnership.

**Table of Contents**

Partnership agreement modified standards

Our partnership agreement contains provisions that waive or consent to conduct by our general partner and its affiliates that might otherwise raise issues as to compliance with fiduciary duties or applicable law. For example, Section 7.9 of our partnership agreement provides that when our general partner is acting in its capacity as our general partner, as opposed to in its individual capacity, unless another express standard is provided for in our partnership agreement it must act in good faith and will not be subject to any other standard under applicable law. For these purposes, our partnership agreement defines good faith as a belief that the determination or other action is in the best interest of the partnership. In addition, when our general partner is acting in its individual capacity, as opposed to in its capacity as our general partner, it may act without any fiduciary obligation to us or our unitholders whatsoever. These standards reduce the obligations to which our general partner would otherwise be held.

Our partnership agreement generally provides that affiliated transactions and resolutions of conflicts of interest not involving a vote of unitholders and that are not approved by a majority of the conflicts committee of the board of directors of our general partner must be:

on terms no less favorable to us than those generally being provided to or available from unrelated third parties; or

fair and reasonable to us, taking into account the totality of the relationships between the parties involved (including other transactions that may be particularly favorable or advantageous to us).

If our general partner does not seek approval from the conflicts committee and the board of directors of our general partner determines that the resolution or course of action taken with respect to the conflict of interest satisfies either of the standards set forth in the bullet points above, then it will be presumed that, in making its decision, the board of directors, which may include board members affected by the conflict of interest, acted in good faith, and in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of any limited partner or the partnership, the person bringing or prosecuting such proceeding will have the burden of overcoming such presumption. These standards reduce the obligations to which our general partner would otherwise be held.

Our partnership agreement provides that our general partner may consult with legal counsel, accountants, appraisers, management consultants, investment bankers and other consultants and advisers, and any act taken or omitted to be taken by our general partner in reliance upon the advice or opinion of such consultants and

advisers as to matters that our general partner reasonably believes to be within such person's professional or expert

---

**Table of Contents**

competence will be conclusively presumed to have been done or omitted in good faith and in accordance with such advice or opinion. In addition, our partnership agreement provides that our general partner is fully protected from liability to our partnership, its partners or other persons bound to the partnership agreement for such reliance made in good faith. These standards reduce the obligations to which our general partner would otherwise be held and limit the remedies available to our limited partners when we take or omit to take actions in reliance on the advice or opinions of experts.

In addition to the other more specific provisions limiting the obligations of our general partner, our partnership agreement further provides that our general partner, its affiliates and their officers and directors will not be liable for monetary damages to us or our limited partners for or any acts or omissions, unless there has been a final and non-appealable judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction determining that our general partner or its officers and directors acted in bad faith or engaged in fraud or willful misconduct or, in the case of a criminal matter, acted with knowledge that the indemnitee's conduct was criminal.

**Rights and remedies of unitholders**

The Delaware Act generally provides that a limited partner may institute legal action on behalf of the partnership to recover damages from a third party where a general partner has refused to institute the action or where an effort to cause a general partner to do so is not likely to succeed. These actions include actions against a general partner for breach of its fiduciary duties or of our partnership agreement. In addition, the statutory or case law of some jurisdictions may permit a limited partner to institute legal action on behalf of itself and all other similarly situated limited partners to recover damages from a general partner for violations of its fiduciary duties to the limited partners.

In order to become one of our limited partners, a unitholder is required to agree to be bound by the provisions in our partnership agreement, including the provisions discussed above. Please read [Description of the Common Units](#) [Transfer of Common Units](#). This is in accordance with the policy of the Delaware Act favoring the principle of freedom of contract and the enforceability of partnership agreements. The failure of a limited partner to sign our partnership agreement does not render our partnership agreement unenforceable against that person.

Under our partnership agreement, we must indemnify our general partner and its officers, directors and members, to the fullest extent permitted by law, against liabilities, costs and expenses incurred by our general partner or these other persons. We must provide this indemnification unless there has been a final and non-appealable judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction determining that these persons acted in bad faith or engaged in fraud or willful misconduct. We also must provide this indemnification for criminal proceedings unless our general partner or these other persons acted with knowledge that their conduct was unlawful. Thus, our general partner could be indemnified for its negligent acts if it meets the requirements set forth above. To the extent that these provisions purport to include indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act, in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is contrary to public policy and therefore unenforceable. If you have questions regarding the fiduciary duties of our

general partner, please read The Partnership Agreement Indemnification.

**Table of Contents**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON UNITS**

**The Units**

The common units and the subordinated units are separate classes of limited partner interests in us. The holders of units are entitled to exercise the rights or privileges available to limited partners under our partnership agreement. For a description of the relative rights and preferences of holders of common units and subordinated units in and to partnership distributions, please read this section and Cash Distribution Policy and Restrictions on Distributions. For a description of the rights and privileges of limited partners under our partnership agreement, including voting rights, please read The Partnership Agreement.

**Transfer Agent and Registrar**

***Duties***

Computershare Trust Company, N.A. serves as registrar and transfer agent for the common units. We pay all fees charged by the transfer agent for transfers of common units, except the following that must be paid by unitholders:

surety bond premiums to replace lost or stolen certificates, taxes and other governmental charges;

special charges for services requested by a holder of a common unit; and

other similar fees or charges.

There is no charge to unitholders for disbursements of our cash distributions. We will indemnify the transfer agent against all claims and losses that may arise out of all actions of the transfer agent or its agents or subcontractors for their activities in that capacity, except for any liability due to any gross negligence or willful misconduct of the transfer agent or its agents or subcontractors.

***Resignation or Removal***

The transfer agent may resign, by notice to us, or be removed by us. The resignation or removal of the transfer agent will become effective upon our appointment of a successor transfer agent and registrar and its acceptance of the appointment. If no successor has been appointed and has accepted the appointment within 30 days after notice of the resignation or removal, our general partner may act as the transfer agent and registrar until a successor is appointed.

**Transfer of Common Units**

The transfer of our common units to persons that purchase directly from the underwriters will be accomplished through the proper completion, execution and delivery of a transfer application by the investor. Any later transfers of a common unit will not be recorded by the transfer agent or recognized by us unless the transferee executes and delivers a properly completed transfer application. By executing and delivering a transfer application, the transferee of common units:

becomes the record holder of our common units and is an assignee until admitted into our partnership as a substituted limited partner;

requests admission as a substituted limited partner in our partnership;

executes and agrees to comply with and be bound by the terms and conditions of our partnership agreement;

represents that the transferee has the right, power and authority and, if an individual, the capacity to enter into our partnership agreement;



**Table of Contents**

grants powers of attorney to the officers of our general partner and any liquidator of us as specified in our partnership agreement; and

makes the waivers and gives the consents and approvals contained in our partnership agreement. An assignee will become a substituted limited partner of our partnership for the transferred common units automatically upon the recording of the transfer on our books and records. Our general partner will cause any unrecorded transfers for which a properly completed and duly executed transfer application has been received to be recorded on our books and records no less frequently than quarterly.

A transferee's broker, agent or nominee may, but is not obligated to, complete, execute and deliver a transfer application. We are entitled to treat the nominee holder of a common unit as the absolute owner. In that case, the beneficial holder's rights are limited solely to those that it has against the nominee holder as a result of any agreement between the beneficial owner and the nominee holder.

Common units are securities and are transferable according to the laws governing transfer of securities. In addition to other rights acquired upon transfer, the transferor gives the transferee the right to request admission as a substituted limited partner in our partnership for the transferred common units. A purchaser or transferee of common units who does not execute and deliver a properly completed transfer application obtains only:

the right to negotiate the common units to a purchaser or other transferee; and

the right to transfer the right to request admission as a substituted limited partner in our partnership for the transferred common units.

Thus, a purchaser or transferee of common units who does not execute and deliver a properly completed transfer application:

will not receive cash distributions;

will not be allocated any of our income, gain, deduction, losses or credits for federal income tax or other tax purposes;

may not receive some federal income tax information or reports furnished to record holders of common units; and

will have no voting rights;

unless the common units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application and certification as to itself and any beneficial holders.

## Edgar Filing: Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. - Form S-3

The transferor of common units has a duty to provide the transferee with all information that may be necessary to transfer the common units. The transferor does not have a duty to ensure the execution of the transfer application by the transferee and has no liability or responsibility if the transferee neglects or chooses not to execute and deliver a properly completed transfer application to the transfer agent. Please read The Partnership Agreement Status as Limited Partner or Assignee below.

Until a common unit has been transferred on our books, we and the transfer agent may treat the record holder of the unit as the absolute owner for all purposes, except as otherwise required by law or stock exchange regulations.

**Table of Contents**

**THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

The following is a summary of the material provisions of our partnership agreement. Our partnership agreement is filed with the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

We summarize the following provisions of our partnership agreement elsewhere in this prospectus:

with regard to distributions of available cash, please read [How We Make Cash Distributions](#);

with regard to the fiduciary duties of our general partner, please read [Conflicts of Interest and Fiduciary Duties](#);

with regard to the transfer of common units, please read [Description of the Common Units](#) [Transfer of Common Units](#); and

with regard to allocations of taxable income and taxable loss, please read [Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences](#).

**Organization and Duration**

We were organized on November 21, 2006 and have a perpetual existence.

**Purpose**

Our purpose under our partnership agreement is to engage in, directly or indirectly, any business activity that is approved by our general partner and in any event that lawfully may be conducted by a limited partnership organized under Delaware law; provided, that our general partner may not cause us to engage, directly or indirectly, in any business activity that our general partner determines would cause us to be treated as an association taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxable as an entity for federal income tax purposes. Any decision by our general partner to cause us or our subsidiaries to engage in activities will, to the fullest extent permitted by law, be free from any fiduciary or other duty or obligation whatsoever to us or the limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us and our limited partners. In general, our general partner is authorized to perform all acts it determines to be necessary or appropriate to carry out our purposes and to conduct our business.

**Power of Attorney**

Each limited partner and each person who acquires a unit from a unitholder and executes and delivers a transfer application grants to our general partner and, if appointed, a liquidator, a power of attorney to, among other things, execute and file documents required for our qualification, continuance or dissolution. The power of attorney also grants our general partner the authority under certain circumstances to amend, and to make consents and waivers under, our partnership agreement.

**Capital Contributions**

Unitholders are not obligated to make additional capital contributions, except as described below under Limited Liability.

**Voting Rights**

The approval of specified matters requires the limited partner vote specified below. Various matters require the approval of a unit majority, which means:

during the subordination period, the approval of a majority of the outstanding common units, excluding those common units held by our general partner and its affiliates, and a majority of the outstanding subordinated units, voting as a separate class; and

after the subordination period, the approval of a majority of the outstanding common units.

**Table of Contents**

As of the date of this prospectus, Blackstone holds a majority of the outstanding common units. Accordingly, Blackstone would control the voting of that class and, together with our general partner and its affiliates, would control the vote of a unit majority without the vote of any other unitholder.

In voting their common and subordinated units, our general partner and its affiliates will have no fiduciary duty or obligation whatsoever to us or the limited partners, including any duty to act in good faith or in the best interests of us and our limited partners.

The following is a summary of the vote requirements specified for certain matters under our partnership agreement:

Issuance of additional units	During the subordination period, we may not issue any additional common units or units senior to or <i>pari passu</i> with our common units without the approval of the conflicts committee of the board of directors of our general partner.
Amendment of our partnership agreement	Certain amendments may be made by our general partner without the approval of the limited partners. Other amendments generally require the approval of a unit majority. Please read Amendment of Our Partnership Agreement.
Merger or conversion of our partnership or the sale of all or substantially all of our assets	Unit majority in certain circumstances. Please read Merger, Conversion, Sale or Other Disposition of Assets.
Dissolution of our partnership	Unit majority. Please read Termination and Dissolution.
Continuation of our partnership upon dissolution	Unit majority. Please read Termination and Dissolution.
Withdrawal of our general partner	Our general partner may withdraw as general partner without first obtaining approval of any unitholder by giving 90 days written notice. Please read Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner.
Removal of our general partner	Not less than 66 2/3% of the outstanding common units and subordinated units, voting as a single class, including common units and subordinated units held by our general partner and its affiliates. Please read Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner.
Transfer of our general partner interest	Our general partner may transfer all, but not less than all, of its general partner interest in us, without a vote of our limited partners, to an affiliate or to another person in connection with its merger or consolidation with or into, or sale of all or substantially all of its assets to, such person. Please read Transfer of General Partner Interest.
Transfer of incentive distribution rights	

The holder of our incentive distribution rights may transfer the incentive distribution rights to a third party prior without the approval of any unitholder. Please read [Transfer of Incentive Distribution Rights](#).

Transfer of ownership interests in our general partner

No approval required at any time. Please read [Transfer of Ownership Interests in Our General Partner](#).

## Table of Contents

### **Limited Liability**

Assuming that a limited partner does not participate in the control of our business within the meaning of the Delaware Act and that it otherwise acts in conformity with the provisions of our partnership agreement, its liability under the Delaware Act will be limited, subject to possible exceptions, to the amount of capital that it is obligated to contribute to us for its limited partner interests plus its share of any undistributed profits and assets. If it were determined, however, that the right of, or exercise of the right by, the limited partners as a group:

to remove or replace our general partner,

to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement, or

to take other action under our partnership agreement

constituted participation in the control of our business for the purposes of the Delaware Act, then the limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under the laws of Delaware to the same extent as our general partner. This liability would extend to persons who transact business with us who reasonably believe that the limited partner is a general partner. Neither our partnership agreement nor the Delaware Act specifically provides for legal recourse against our general partner if a limited partner were to lose limited liability through any fault of our general partner. While this does not mean that a limited partner could not seek legal recourse, we know of no precedent for such a claim in Delaware case law.

Under the Delaware Act, a limited partnership may not make a distribution to a partner if, after the distribution, all liabilities of the limited partnership, other than liabilities to partners on account of their partnership interests and liabilities for which the recourse of creditors is limited to specific property of the partnership, would exceed the fair value of the assets of the limited partnership. For the purpose of determining the fair value of the assets of a limited partnership, the Delaware Act provides that the fair value of property subject to liability for which recourse of creditors is limited will be included in the assets of the limited partnership only to the extent that the fair value of that property exceeds the nonrecourse liability. The Delaware Act provides that a limited partner who receives a distribution and knew at the time of the distribution that the distribution was in violation of the Delaware Act will be liable to the limited partnership for the amount of the distribution for three years. Under the Delaware Act, an assignee who becomes a substituted limited partner of a limited partnership is liable for the obligations of his assignor to make contributions to the partnership, except the assignee is not obligated for liabilities unknown to him at the time he became a limited partner and that could not be ascertained from our partnership agreement.

We conduct business in two states. We may conduct business in other states in the future. Maintenance of our limited liability may require compliance with legal requirements in the jurisdictions in which Cheniere Energy Investments, LLC conducts business, including qualifying our subsidiaries to do business there. Limitations on the liability of limited partners for the obligations of a limited partnership have not been clearly established in many jurisdictions. If, by virtue of our membership interest in Cheniere Energy Investments, LLC or otherwise, it were determined that we were conducting business in any state without compliance with the applicable limited partnership statute, or that the right of, or exercise of the right, by the limited partners as a group, to remove or replace our general partner, to approve some amendments to our partnership agreement, or to take other action under our partnership agreement constituted participation in the control of our business for purposes of the statutes of any relevant jurisdiction, then the limited partners could be held personally liable for our obligations under the law of that jurisdiction to the same extent

as our general partner under the circumstances. We will operate in a manner that our general partner considers reasonable and necessary or appropriate to preserve the limited liability of the limited partners.

**Issuance of Additional Securities**

During the subordination period, we may not issue any additional common units or units senior to or on a parity with our common units without the approval of the conflicts committee of the board of directors of our



**Table of Contents**

general partner. After the subordination period, our partnership agreement authorizes us to issue an unlimited number of additional partnership securities for the consideration and on the terms and conditions determined by our general partner without the approval of the conflicts committee.

It is possible that we will fund acquisitions and capital expenditures through the issuance of additional common units, subordinated units or other partnership securities. Holders of any additional common units that we issue will be entitled to share equally with the then-existing holders of common units in our distributions of available cash. In addition, the issuance of additional common units or other partnership securities may dilute the value of the interests of the then-existing holders of common units in our net assets.

In accordance with Delaware law and the provisions of our partnership agreement, we may also issue additional partnership securities that, as determined by our general partner, have special voting rights to which the common units are not entitled. In addition, our partnership agreement does not prohibit the issuance by our subsidiaries of equity securities, which may effectively rank senior to the common units.

Upon issuance of additional partnership securities, our general partner will have the right, but not the obligation, to make additional capital contributions to the extent necessary to maintain its 2% general partner interest in us. Our general partner's 2% interest in us will thus be reduced if we issue additional partnership securities in the future and our general partner does not contribute a proportionate amount of capital to us to maintain its 2% general partner interest. In addition, our general partner will have the right, which it ma