

Green Plains Renewable Energy, Inc.

Form 10-Q

May 03, 2010

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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

**Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the**

**Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**For the Quarterly Period Ended March 31, 2010**

**Commission File Number 001-32924**

**GREEN PLAINS RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Iowa**  
(State or other jurisdiction of

**84-1652107**  
(I.R.S. Employer

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incorporation or organization)

Identification No.)

9420 Underwood Avenue,

Suite 100 Omaha, NE 68114

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(402) 884-8700

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

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

The number of shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, outstanding as of April 30, 2010 was 31,352,935 shares.

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**Table of Contents****GREEN PLAINS RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****(in thousands, except share amounts)**

	<b>March 31, 2010 (unaudited)</b>	<b>December 31, 2009</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 182,052	\$ 89,779
Restricted cash	8,056	12,554
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$139 and \$119, and including amounts from related parties of \$3,428 and \$2,311, respectively	42,934	44,637
Inventories	87,055	81,558
Prepaid expenses and other	6,901	7,574
Deferred income taxes	13,087	
Deposits	11,639	14,752
Derivative financial instruments	4,762	1,592
Total current assets	356,486	252,446
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$47,137 and \$38,730, respectively	590,151	596,235
Investment in unconsolidated subsidiaries	2,104	2,272
Goodwill	14,543	14,543
Financing costs and other, net	12,376	12,585
Total assets	\$ 975,660	\$ 878,081
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable, including amounts to related parties of \$1,707 and \$652, respectively	\$ 57,045	\$ 70,246
Accrued liabilities	16,260	24,052
Unearned revenue	21,099	9,535
Derivative financial instruments	4,924	2,109
Current maturities of long-term debt	72,111	68,390
Total current liabilities	171,439	174,332
Long-term debt	375,391	388,573
Deferred income taxes	17,563	
Other liabilities	4,332	4,468
Total liabilities	568,725	567,373
Stockholders' equity		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value; 50,000,000 shares authorized; 31,340,378 and 24,957,378 shares issued and outstanding, respectively	31	25
Additional paid-in capital	373,089	292,231
Retained earnings	24,907	9,331
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(246)	(123)

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Total Green Plains stockholders' equity	397,781	301,464
Noncontrolling interests	9,154	9,244
Total stockholders' equity	406,935	310,708
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 975,660	\$ 878,081

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****GREEN PLAINS RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS****(unaudited and in thousands, except per share amounts)**

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Revenues	\$ 426,474	\$ 221,082
Cost of goods sold	389,000	219,203
Gross profit	37,474	1,879
Selling, general and administrative expenses	12,969	9,059
Operating income (loss)	24,505	(7,180)
Other income (expense)		
Interest income	27	74
Interest expense	(4,656)	(2,514)
Other, net		334
Total other expense	(4,629)	(2,106)
Income (loss) before income taxes	19,876	(9,286)
Income tax expense	4,390	
Net income (loss)	15,486	(9,286)
Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	90	(55)
Net income (loss) attributable to Green Plains	\$ 15,576	\$ (9,341)
Earnings (loss) per share:		
Income (loss) attributable to Green Plains stockholders - basic	\$ 0.59	\$ (0.38)
Income (loss) attributable to Green Plains stockholders - diluted	\$ 0.58	\$ (0.38)
Weighted average shares outstanding:		
Basic	26,526	24,865
Diluted	27,026	24,865

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****GREEN PLAINS RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(unaudited and in thousands)

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net income (loss)	\$ 15,486	\$ (9,286)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	8,651	6,169
Deferred income taxes	4,307	
Stock-based compensation expense	1,323	153
Undistributed equity in loss of affiliates	168	100
Allowance for doubtful accounts	20	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	1,683	18,166
Inventories	(5,497)	(5,360)
Deposits	3,113	(1,565)
Unrealized gains on derivative financial instruments	(283)	(1,629)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	673	7,016
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(20,993)	(35,596)
Unearned revenues	11,564	11,881
Other	(612)	(616)
<b>Net cash provided (used) by operating activities</b>	<b>19,603</b>	<b>(10,567)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Purchases of property and equipment	(2,300)	(1,304)
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired		(3,220)
Other		(256)
<b>Net cash used by investing activities</b>	<b>(2,300)</b>	<b>(4,780)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>		
Proceeds from the issuance of long-term debt	1,750	322
Payments of principal on long-term debt	(8,833)	(2,932)
Proceeds from revolving debt	434,949	8,194
Payments on revolving debt	(437,312)	
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	79,844	
Change in restricted cash	4,498	230
Payments of loan fees	(26)	(1,191)
Other	100	40
<b>Net cash provided by financing activities</b>	<b>74,970</b>	<b>4,663</b>
<b>Net change in cash and equivalents</b>	<b>92,273</b>	<b>(10,684)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	89,779	62,294
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of period</b>	<b>\$ 182,052</b>	<b>\$ 51,610</b>

**Continued on the following page**



**Table of Contents****GREEN PLAINS RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS****(unaudited and in thousands)**

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	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Supplemental disclosures of cash flow:</b>		
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 25	\$
Cash paid for interest	\$ 8,792	\$ 2,064
<b>Noncash additions to property and equipment:</b>		
Property and equipment acquired in acquisitions	\$	\$ 7,437
Capital lease obligations incurred for equipment		322
<b>Total noncash additions to property and equipment</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 7,759</b>
<b>Supplemental noncash investing and financing activities:</b>		
Assets acquired in acquisitions and mergers	\$	\$ 21,593
Less: liabilities assumed		(6,202)
<b>Net assets acquired</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 15,391</b>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

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**GREEN PLAINS RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(unaudited)**

**1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION, DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

*References to the Company*

References to we, us, our, Green Plains or the Company in the consolidated financial statements and in these notes to the consolidated financial statements refer to Green Plains Renewable Energy, Inc., an Iowa corporation, and its subsidiaries.

*Consolidated Financial Statements*

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company, its wholly-owned subsidiaries, and entities which it controls. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated. Unconsolidated entities are included in the financial statements on an equity basis. Results for the interim periods presented are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected for the entire year. Certain amounts previously reported within the consolidated balance sheets and consolidated statements of cash flows have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP, for interim financial information and the instructions to Form 10-Q and Regulation S-X of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or Exchange Act. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. The financial statements should be read in conjunction with our annual report filed on Form 10-K, as amended, for the year ended December 31, 2009.

*Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Consolidated Financial Statements*

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

*Description of Business*

We are a vertically-integrated producer, marketer and distributor of ethanol. We have operations throughout the ethanol value chain, beginning upstream with our agronomy and grain handling operations, continuing through our approximately 480 million gallons per year, or mmgy, of ethanol production capacity and ending downstream with our ethanol marketing, distribution and blending facilities.

*Revenue Recognition*

The Company recognizes revenue when all of the following criteria are satisfied: persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists; risk of loss and title transfer to the customer; the price is fixed and determinable; and collectability is reasonably assured.

For sales of ethanol and distillers grains by Green Plains Trade Group LLC, our in-house, fee-based marketing business, revenue is recognized when title to the product and risk of loss transfer to an external customer. Revenues related to our marketing operations for third parties are recorded on a gross basis in the consolidated financial statements, as Green Plains Trade takes title to the product and assumes risk of loss. Unearned revenue is reflected on our consolidated balance sheet for goods in transit for which we have received payment and title has not been transferred to the customer. Revenues from Blendstar LLC, a majority-owned biofuel terminal operator that offers ethanol transload and splash blending services, are recognized as these services are rendered.

The Company routinely enters into fixed-price, physical-delivery ethanol sales agreements. In certain instances, the Company intends to settle the transaction by open market purchases of ethanol rather than by delivery from its own production. These transactions are reported net as a component of revenues.



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Sales of agricultural commodities, fertilizers and other similar products are recognized when title to the product and risk of loss transfer to the customer, which is dependent on the agreed upon sales terms with the customer. These sales terms provide for passage of title either at the time shipment is made or at the time the commodity has been delivered to its destination and final weights, grades and settlement prices have been agreed upon with the customer. Shipping and handling costs are presented gross in the statements of operations with amounts billed included in revenues and also as a component of cost of goods sold. Revenues from grain storage are recognized as services are rendered. Revenues related to grain merchandising are presented gross.

Intercompany revenues are eliminated on a consolidated basis for reporting purposes.

### *Cost of Goods Sold*

Cost of goods sold includes costs for direct labor, materials and certain plant overhead costs. Direct labor includes all compensation and related benefits of non-management personnel involved in the operation of our ethanol plants. Grain purchasing and receiving costs, other than labor costs for grain buyers and scale operators, are also included in cost of goods sold. Direct materials consist of the costs of corn feedstock, denaturant and process chemicals. Corn feedstock costs include realized and unrealized gains and losses on related derivative financial instruments, inbound freight charges, inspection costs and internal transfer costs. Plant overhead costs primarily consist of plant utilities, plant depreciation, sales commissions and outbound freight charges. Shipping costs incurred directly by us, including railcar lease costs, are also reflected in cost of goods sold.

The Company uses exchange-traded futures and options contracts to minimize the effects of changes in the prices of agricultural commodities on our agribusiness grain inventories and forward purchase and sales contracts. Exchange-traded futures and options contracts are valued at quoted market prices. Commodity inventories, forward purchase contracts and forward sale contracts are valued at market prices, where available, or other market quotes adjusted for differences, primarily transportation, between the exchange-traded market and the local markets on which the terms of the contracts are based. Changes in the market value of grain inventories, forward purchase and sale contracts, and exchange-traded futures and options contracts, are recognized in earnings as a component of cost of goods sold. These contracts are predominantly settled in cash. We are exposed to loss in the event of non-performance by the counter-party to forward purchase and forward sales contracts.

### *Unearned Revenue*

The Company receives cash advances on sales from customers in the ordinary course of business. These advance payments are reflected in unearned revenue until the service is performed or product is delivered to the customer, based on terms of the sale arrangement, at which time revenue is recognized.

### *Recent Accounting Pronouncements*

In January 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB, issued Accounting Standards Update, or ASU, 2010-06, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (Topic 820): Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements, which amends Subtopic 820-10. ASU 2010-06 enhances disclosure requirements related to fair value measurements. Certain provisions of ASU 2010-06 are effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2009 and others for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010. The Company has adopted certain provisions of ASU 2010-06 during the current quarter and has incorporated new disclosures regarding fair value measurements in *Note 3 Fair Value Disclosures*. The adoption of this standard did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2010, the FASB issued ASU 2010-09, Subsequent Events (Topic 855): Amendments to Certain Recognition and Disclosure Requirements. The amendments remove the requirement for filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, to disclose the date through which subsequent events have been evaluated. The adoption of this standard, which was effective upon its issuance, did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

## **2. PUBLIC OFFERING OF COMMON STOCK**

In March 2010, the Company sold approximately 6.3 million newly-issued shares of its common stock at a price of \$13.50 per share. The net proceeds of this equity offering totaled approximately \$79.8 million. The Company intends to use the net proceeds of this offering for general corporate purposes and to acquire or invest in additional facilities, assets or technologies consistent with its growth strategy.



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The following methods, assumptions and valuation techniques were used in estimating the fair value of the Company's financial instruments:

Level 1 unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Company has the ability to access at the measurement date. Level 1 unrealized gains and losses on commodity derivatives relate to open trade equity and option values in the Company's brokerage accounts.

Level 2 directly or indirectly observable inputs such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets other than quoted prices included within Level 1; quoted prices for identical or similar assets in markets that are not active; and other inputs that are observable or can be substantially corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. Inventory amounts are valued at nearby futures values, plus or minus nearby basis levels.

Level 3 unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are a significant component of the fair value of the assets or liabilities. The Company currently does not have any Level 3 financial instruments.

There have been no changes in valuation techniques and inputs used in measuring fair value and no transfers in and out of Level 1 or Level 2.

The following tables set forth the Company's assets and liabilities by level that were accounted for the periods indicated (in thousands):

	Fair Value Measurements at March 31, 2010		
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Total
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 182,052	\$	\$ 182,052
Restricted cash	8,056		8,056
Margin deposits	5,161		5,161
Agricultural inventories carried at market		14,283	14,283
Unrealized gains on commodity derivatives	4,687	75	4,762
<b>Total assets measured at fair value</b>	<b>\$ 199,956</b>	<b>\$ 14,358</b>	<b>\$ 214,314</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Unrealized losses on commodity derivatives	\$ 2,497	2,427	\$ 4,924
<b>Total liabilities measured at fair value</b>	<b>\$ 2,497</b>	<b>\$ 2,427</b>	<b>\$ 4,924</b>

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	Fair Value Measurements at December 31, 2009		
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Total
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 89,779	\$	\$ 89,779
Restricted cash	12,554		12,554
Margin deposits	1,588		1,588
Agricultural inventories carried at market		25,123	25,123
Unrealized gains on commodity derivatives	1,012	778	1,790
<b>Total assets measured at fair value</b>	<b>\$ 104,933</b>	<b>\$ 25,901</b>	<b>\$ 130,834</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Unrealized losses on commodity derivatives	\$ 1,758	\$ 370	\$ 2,128
<b>Total liabilities measured at fair value</b>	<b>\$ 1,758</b>	<b>\$ 370</b>	<b>\$ 2,128</b>

The Company believes the fair value of its debt approximates book value, which is \$447.5 million and \$457.0 million at March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

**4. ACQUISITIONS***Acquisitions of Ord and Central City Ethanol Plants*

On July 2, 2009, the Company acquired all of the membership interests in two limited liability companies that own ethanol plants in Ord, Nebraska and Central City, Nebraska. The two limited liability companies were renamed as Green Plains Ord LLC and Green Plains Central City LLC at closing. Pursuant to the terms of the respective purchase agreements, the Company acquired the membership interests of Green Plains Ord and Green Plains Central City for \$36.7 million and \$84.3 million, respectively. The sellers provided debt financing to fund the purchase and \$16.0 million in seasonal revolving loans to provide working capital for the plants. The Ord and Central City plants have annual expected operating capacities of 50 million and 100 million gallons, respectively. These facilities, which are a part of our ethanol production segment, were acquired to add to the Company's overall ethanol and distillers grain production. The results of Green Plains Ord and Green Plains Central City have been included in the consolidated financial statements since July 2, 2009.

**Preliminary amounts of identifiable assets acquired and****liabilities assumed (in thousands)**

	Green Plains Ord	Green Plains Central City
Current assets	\$ 1,897	\$ 2,583
Property and equipment, net	33,600	77,500
Other noncurrent assets	1,189	3,207
Current liabilities	(1,624)	(1,292)
<b>Total identifiable net assets</b>	<b>35,062</b>	<b>81,998</b>
Goodwill	1,604	2,341

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Purchase price paid	\$ 36,666	\$ 84,339
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The amounts above are preliminary purchase price allocations. The Company expects to finalize the purchase price allocations, specifically finalization of state tax incentives, during the second quarter of 2010 and it is not expected that any adjustments will materially impact the preliminary amounts shown above.



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It is impracticable for the Company to present supplemental pro forma information related to the acquisitions of Green Plains Ord and Green Plains Central City. These ethanol production facilities were part of a larger consolidated company before their acquisition by the Sellers in early 2009. From the date of the acquisition by the Sellers to the date of our acquisition in July 2009, the plants were not operating and generated no revenue or income. The predecessor owner did not maintain separate financial statements for these two facilities, and any attempt by us to present pro forma information (revenue and earnings on a pro forma combined basis for the three months ended March 31, 2009) would be based on estimated historical results for those facilities rather than actual operating results. We expect the goodwill to be deductible for tax purposes.

### **5. SEGMENT INFORMATION**

Company management reviews financial and operating performance in three separate operating segments. These segments are: (1) production of ethanol and related co-products (which we collectively refer to as "ethanol production"), (2) grain warehousing and marketing, as well as sales and related services of agronomy and petroleum products (which we collectively refer to as "agribusiness"), and (3) marketing and distribution of Company-produced and third-party ethanol and distillers grains (which we refer to as "marketing and distribution"). Selling, general and administrative expenses, primarily consisting of compensation of corporate employees, professional fees and overhead costs not directly related to a specific operating segment, are reflected in the table below as "corporate activities."

**Ethanol Production Segment.** Our ethanol production segment has the capacity to produce approximately 480 mmgy of ethanol. Our ethanol plants also produce co-products such as wet, modified wet or dried distillers grains. Processing at full capacity, our plants will consume approximately 175 million bushels of corn and produce approximately 1.5 million tons of distillers grains annually. Our plants use a dry mill process to produce ethanol and co-products. We operate each of our six ethanol plants through separate wholly-owned operating subsidiaries.

**Marketing and Distribution Segment.** We have an in-house, fee-based marketing business, Green Plains Trade, which is responsible for the sales, marketing and distribution of all ethanol and distillers grains produced at our six production facilities. We also market and distribute ethanol for four third-party ethanol producers. At capacity, we would market approximately 480 mmgy of ethanol from our six strategically-located plants along with approximately 360 mmgy from our four third-party producers.

**Agribusiness Segment.** We operate our agribusiness segment primarily through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Green Plains Grain Company LLC, which is a grain and farm supply business with three primary operating lines of business: bulk grain, agronomy and petroleum.

During the normal course of business, our segments enter into transactions with one another. Examples of these intersegment transactions include, but are not limited to, ethanol production segment selling ethanol to the marketing and distribution segment and the agribusiness segment selling grain to the ethanol production segment. These intersegment activities are recorded by each segment at prices approximating market and treated as if they are third-party transactions. Consequently, these transactions impact segment performance. However, revenues and corresponding costs are eliminated in consolidation, and do not impact consolidated results.

The following are certain financial data for our operating segments for the periods indicated (in thousands):

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	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>March 31,</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Ethanol production	\$ 250,053	\$ 137,503
Agribusiness	42,281	46,210
Marketing and distribution	388,095	178,353
Intersegment eliminations	(253,955)	(140,984)
	\$ 426,474	\$ 221,082
<b>Gross profit:</b>		
Ethanol production	\$ 31,759	\$ (2,761)
Agribusiness	2,769	2,746
Marketing and distribution	4,180	1,843
Intersegment eliminations	(1,234)	51
	\$ 37,474	\$ 1,879
<b>Operating income (loss):</b>		
Ethanol production	\$ 29,187	\$ (4,316)
Agribusiness	(530)	(34)
Marketing and distribution	1,341	(519)
Intersegment eliminations	(1,234)	51
Corporate activities	(4,259)	(2,362)
	\$ 24,505	\$ (7,180)

The following table sets forth revenues by product line for the periods indicated (in thousands):

<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>March 31,</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Ethanol	\$ 364,502	\$ 161,854
Distillers grains	37,005	34,880
Grain	17,851	17,318
Agronomy products	4,874	4,462
Other	2,242	2,568
Total revenues	\$ 426,474	\$ 221,082

**6. INVENTORIES**

Inventories are carried at the lower of cost or market, except grain held for sale, which is valued at market value. The components of inventories are as follows (in thousands):

<b>March 31,</b>	<b>December</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>31,</b>

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	<b>2009</b>	
Finished goods	\$ 28,925	\$ 23,574
Raw materials	22,829	16,323
Grain held for sale	14,283	25,123
Petroleum & agronomy items held for sale	12,257	8,501
Work-in-process	5,524	5,343
Supplies and parts	3,237	2,694
	<b>\$ 87,055</b>	<b>\$ 81,558</b>

**Table of Contents****7. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

To minimize the risk and the effects of the volatility of commodity price changes primarily related to corn, natural gas and ethanol, the Company uses various derivative financial instruments, including exchange-traded futures, and exchange-traded and over-the-counter options contracts. We monitor and manage this exposure as part of our overall risk management policy. As such, we seek to reduce the potentially adverse effects that the volatility of these markets may have on our operating results. We may take hedging positions in these commodities as one way to mitigate risk. While the Company attempts to link its hedging activities to purchase and sales activities, there are situations where these hedging activities can themselves result in losses.

The financial statement locations of derivatives are as follows (in thousands):

Derivative Instruments	Asset Derivatives Fair Value at		Liability Derivatives Fair Value at	
	March 31, 2010	December 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	December 31, 2009
<b>Consolidated Balance Sheet</b>				
Derivative financial instruments (current assets and liabilities)	\$ 4,762	\$ 1,592	\$ 4,924	\$ 2,109
Financing costs and other, net		198		
Other liabilities				19
Total	\$ 4,762	\$ 1,790	\$ 4,924	\$ 2,128

**Gains (Losses) on Derivative**

Instruments Consolidated Statements of Operations	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2010	2009
Revenue	\$ 680	\$ (6,920)
Cost of goods sold	7,142	13,762
Net gains recognized in earnings	\$ 7,822	\$ 6,842

The table below summarizes the volumes of open commodity derivative positions as of March 31, 2010 (in thousands):

Derivative Instruments	March 31, 2010				Unit of Measure	Commodity
	Exchange Traded	Non-Exchange Traded		Net Long & (Short) (1)		
		Long (2)	(Short) (2)			
Futures	(7,145)				Bushels	Corn and Soybeans
Futures	(12,982)				Gallons	Ethanol
Options	4,354				Bushels	Corn and Soybeans
Options	(6,021)				Gallons	Ethanol
Forwards		5,114	(83)		Bushels	Corn and Soybeans
Forwards		4,044	(5,274)		Gallons	Ethanol
Forwards		22	(13)		Tons	Distillers Grains

(1) Exchange traded futures and options are presented on a net long and (short) position basis.

(2) Non-exchange traded forwards are presented on a gross long and (short) position basis.

Energy trading contracts that do not involve physical delivery are presented net in revenues on the consolidated statements of operations. For the three months ended March 31, 2010, gross revenue and cost of goods sold under such contracts were \$2.4 million and \$2.7 million, respectively. For the three months ended March 31, 2009, gross revenue and cost of goods sold under such contracts were \$60.1 million and \$54.8 million,

respectively.

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Refer to *Note 3 - Fair Value Disclosures*, which also contains fair value information related to derivative financial instruments.

**8. LONG-TERM DEBT**

The principal balances of the components of long-term debt are as follows (in thousands):

	March 31, 2010	December 31, 2009
Green Plains Bluffton:		
Term loan	\$ 61,250	\$ 63,000
Revolving term loan	20,000	20,000
Revenue bond	21,320	22,000
Green Plains Central City:		
Term loan	55,000	55,000
Revolving term loan	30,500	30,500
Revolver	6,873	6,873
Equipment financing loan	274	288
Green Plains Obion:		
Term loan	50,400	52,800
Revolving term loan	36,200	36,200
Revolver	2,600	2,600
Note payable	151	160
Equipment financing loan	695	729
Economic development grant	1,581	1,603
Green Plains Ord:		
Term loan	25,000	25,000
Revolving term loan	13,000	13,000
Revolver	2,672	2,672
Green Plains Shenandoah:		
Term loan	18,400	19,600
Revolving term loan	17,000	17,000
Revolver	3,780	1,581
Economic development loan	90	105
Green Plains Superior:		
Term loan	30,375	31,750
Revolving term loan	10,000	10,000
Equipment financing loan	264	278
Green Plains Grain:		
Term loan	7,200	7,425
Revolving term loan	14,727	17,931
Equipment financing loans	1,133	1,262
Green Plains Trade:		
Revolving term loan	13,097	14,455
Other	3,920	3,151
<b>Total debt</b>	<b>447,502</b>	<b>456,963</b>
Less: current portion	(72,111)	(68,390)
<b>Long-term debt</b>	<b>\$ 375,391</b>	<b>\$ 388,573</b>

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Scheduled long-term debt repayments are as follows (in thousands):

<b>Year Ending December 31,</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2010	\$ 63,546
2011	47,090
2012	40,751
2013	97,847
2014	27,225
Thereafter	171,043
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 447,502</b>

**Loan Terminology**

Related to loan covenant discussions below, the following definitions generally apply to our loans (all calculated in accordance with GAAP consistently applied):

**Working capital** current assets over current liabilities.

**Net worth** total assets over total liabilities plus subordinated debt.

**Tangible owner's equity** net worth divided by total assets.

**Debt service coverage ratio** (1) net income (after taxes), plus depreciation and amortization, divided by (2) all current portions of regularly scheduled long-term debt for the prior period (previous year end).

**EBITDAR** net income plus interest expense, rent and lease expense, and noncash expenses (including depreciation and amortization expense, deferred income tax expense and unrealized gains and losses on futures contracts), less interest income and certain capital expenditures.

**Fixed charge coverage ratio** adjusted EBITDAR divided by fixed charges, which are the sum of interest expense, current maturities under the term loan, rent expense and lease expenses.

**Senior leverage ratio** debt, excluding amounts under the Green Plains Grain revolving credit line, divided by EBITDAR.

**Ethanol Production Segment**

Each of the Company's ethanol production segment subsidiaries has credit facilities with lender groups that provided for term and revolving term loans to finance construction and operation of the production facilities. The Green Plains Bluffton loan is comprised of a \$70.0 million amortizing term loan and a \$20.0 million revolving term facility (individually and collectively, the Green Plains Bluffton Loan Agreement). The Green Plains Central City loan is comprised of a \$55.0 million amortizing term loan and a \$30.5 million revolving term facility as well as a stated revolving credit supplement (revolver) of up to \$11.0 million (individually and collectively, the Green Plains Central City Loan Agreement). The Green Plains Obion loan is comprised of a \$60.0 million amortizing term loan, a revolving term loan of \$37.4 million and a stated revolving credit supplement (revolver) of up to \$2.6 million (individually and collectively, the Green Plains Obion Loan Agreement). The Green Plains Ord loan is comprised of a \$25.0 million amortizing term loan and a \$13.0 million revolving term facility as well as a stated

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revolving credit supplement (revolver) of up to \$5.0 million (individually and collectively, the Green Plains Ord Loan Agreement ). The Green Plains Shenandoah loan is comprised of a \$30.0 million amortizing term loan, a \$17.0 million revolving term facility, and a stated revolving credit supplement (revolver) of up to \$4.3 million (individually and collectively, the Green Plains Shenandoah Loan Agreement ). The Green Plains Superior loan is comprised of a \$40.0 million amortizing term loan and a \$10.0 million revolving term facility (individually and collectively, the Green Plains Superior Loan Agreement ).

### *Loan Repayment Terms*

Term Loans The term loans were available for advances until construction for each of the plants was completed.

Scheduled principal payments (plus interest) are as follows:

i

i	Green Plains Bluffton	\$0.583 million per month
i	Green Plains Obion	\$2.4 million per quarter
i	Green Plains Shenandoah	\$1.2 million per quarter
i	Green Plains Superior	\$1.375 million per quarter



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Scheduled monthly principal payments (plus interest) for Green Plains Central City of \$0.6 million and Green Plains Ord of \$0.3 do not begin until June 2011.

i

Final maturity dates (at the latest) are as follows:

i

i	Green Plains Bluffton	December 31, 2013
i	Green Plains Central City	July 1, 2016
i	Green Plains Obion	May 20, 2015
i	Green Plains Ord	July 1, 2016
i	Green Plains Shenandoah	May 20, 2014
i	Green Plains Superior	July 20, 2015

Each term loan has a provision that requires the respective subsidiary to make annual special payments equal to a percentage ranging from 50% to 75% of the available free cash flow from the related entity's operations (as defined in the respective loan agreements), subject to certain limitations, generally provided, however, that if such payment would result in a covenant default under the respective loan agreements, the amount of the payment shall be reduced to an amount which would not result in a covenant default.

i

As of March 31, 2010, free cash flow payments are discontinued when the aggregate of such future payments meets the following amounts:

i

i	Green Plains Bluffton	\$16.0 million
i	Green Plains Obion	\$18.0 million
i	Green Plains Shenandoah	\$6.0 million
i	Green Plains Superior	\$10.0 million

As of March 31, 2010, free cash flow payments are not to exceed the following amounts in any given year:

i

i	Green Plains Central City	\$2.8 million
i	Green Plains Ord	\$1.2 million

**Revolving Term Loans** The revolving term loans are generally available for advances throughout the life of the commitment. Allowable advances under the Green Plains Shenandoah Loan Agreement are reduced by \$2.4 million each six-month period commencing on the first day of the month beginning approximately six months after repayment of the term loan, but in no event later than November 1, 2014. Allowable advances under the Green Plains Superior Loan Agreement are reduced by \$2.5 million each six-month period commencing on the first day of the month beginning approximately six months after repayment of the term loan, but in no event later than January 1, 2016. Interest-only payments are due each month on all revolving term loans until the final maturity date for the Green Plains Bluffton, Green Plains Shenandoah, and Green Plains Superior Loan Agreements. The Green Plains Obion Loan Agreement requires additional semi-annual payments of \$4.675 million beginning November 1, 2015. Beginning

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January 1, 2010, the Green Plains Central City and Green Plains Ord Loan Agreements require interest-only payments due each month on the revolving term loans until the final maturity date.

Final maturity dates (at the latest) are as follows:

i

i	Green Plains Bluffton	December 31, 2013
i	Green Plains Central City	July 1, 2016
i	Green Plains Obion	May 1, 2019
i	Green Plains Ord	July 1, 2016
i	Green Plains Shenandoah	November 1, 2017
i	Green Plains Superior	July 1, 2017

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**Revolvers** The revolvers at Green Plains Central City, Green Plains Obion, Green Plains Ord and Green Plains Shenandoah support the working capital needs of the respective facilities. The revolvers are subject to borrowing base requirements ranging from 60% to 85% of eligible inventory and receivables.

Maturity dates are as follows:

i

i	Green Plains Central City	July 1, 2011
i	Green Plains Obion	June 1, 2010
i	Green Plains Ord	July 1, 2011
i	Green Plains Shenandoah	June 1, 2010

The Company intends to seek renewal of the revolvers maturing during 2010.

*Pricing and Fees*

The loans bear interest at LIBOR plus 1.5% to 4.35% or lender-established prime rates. Some have established a floor on the underlying LIBOR index. In some cases, the lender may allow us to elect to pay interest at a fixed interest rate to be determined. Certain loans were charged an application fee and have an annual recurring administrative fee. Unused commitment fees, when charged, range from 0.25% to 0.75%. Origination and other fees have been recorded in financing costs in the consolidated balance sheets.

*Security*

As security for the loans, the lenders received a first-position lien on all personal property and real estate owned by the respective entity borrowing the funds, including an assignment of all contracts and rights pertinent to construction and on-going operations of the plant. These borrowing entities are also required to maintain certain financial and non-financial covenants during the terms of the loans. In addition, the debt facilities within Green Plains Central City and Green Plains Ord loans are cross-collateralized.

*Representations, Warranties and Covenants*

The loan agreements contain representations, warranties, conditions precedent, affirmative covenants (including financial covenants) and negative covenants including:

Maintenance of working capital, including unused portion of revolver, as follows:

i	Green Plains Bluffton	\$9.0 million (increasing monthly to \$12.0 million by November 30, 2010).
i	Green Plains Central City and Green Plains Ord	\$10.0 million, combined, excluding current maturities of long-term debt.
i	Green Plains Obion	\$5.4 million (increasing to \$9.0 million on April 30, 2010).

i

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Green Plains Shenandoah \$6.0 million

i

Green Plains Superior \$(5.0) million (increasing periodically until reaching \$3.0 million by December 1, 2012).

i

Maintenance of net worth as follows:

Green Plains Bluffton \$82.1 million (increasing monthly to \$82.5 million by April 30, 2010)

i

Green Plains Obion \$77.0 million

i

Green Plains Shenandoah \$51.0 million

i

Green Plains Superior \$18.5 million (increasing periodically until reaching \$23.0 million by December 1, 2011)

i

Maintenance of tangible owner's equity as follows:

Green Plains Bluffton at least 40% (increasing to 50% by December 31, 2010)

i

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Maintenance of certain coverage ratios as follows:

Fixed charge coverage ratios:

i	Green Plains Bluffton	1.25 to 1.0
	Green Plains Central City	1.0 to 1.0 at December 31, 2010 (increasing to 1.15 to 1.0 on December 31, 2011)
i		
	Green Plains Obion	1.25 to 1.0 at December 31, 2010
i		
	Green Plains Ord	1.0 to 1.0 at December 31, 2010 (increasing to 1.15 to 1.0 on December 31, 2011)
i		

Debt service coverage ratios:

	Green Plains Shenandoah	1.50 to 1.0
i		
	Green Plains Superior	1.25 to 1.0
i		

Annual capital expenditures will be limited as follows:

	Green Plains Bluffton	\$1.0 million
i		
	Green Plains Central City	\$1.0 million
i		
	Green Plains Obion	\$1.0 million
i		
	Green Plains Ord	\$1.0 million
i		
	Green Plains Shenandoah	\$0.5 million
i		
	Green Plains Superior	\$0.6 million

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Allowable dividends or other annual distributions from each respective subsidiary, subject to certain additional restrictions including compliance with all loan covenants, terms and conditions, are as follows:

Green Plains Bluffton	Up to 35% of net profit before tax, and up to an additional 15% of net profit before tax, after free cash flow payment is made
Green Plains Central City and Green Plains Ord	Beginning with fiscal year ending December 31, 2010, up to 35% of net and income before tax may be distributed for payment of the subsidiary's allocated share of income taxes, and after December 31, 2010, unlimited after free cash flow payment is made, provided maintenance of 60% tangible owner equity
Green Plains Obion	After December 31, 2010, up to 40% of net profit before tax, and unlimited after free cash flow payment is made
Green Plains Shenandoah	Up to 40% of net profit before tax, and unlimited after free cash flow payment is made
Green Plains Superior	Up to 40% of net profit before tax and unlimited after free cash flow payment is made

As of March 31, 2010, all of our ethanol production subsidiaries are in compliance with their debt covenants.

### *Bluffton Revenue Bond*

**Bluffton Revenue Bond** Green Plains Bluffton also received \$22.0 million in Subordinate Solid Waste Disposal Facility Revenue Bond funds from the City of Bluffton, Indiana. The revenue bond requires: (1) semi-annual principal and interest payments of approximately \$1.5 million during the period commencing on March 1, 2010 through March 1, 2019, and (2) a final principal and interest payment of \$3.745 million on September 1, 2019.

The revenue bond bears interest at 7.50% per annum.

At March 31, 2010 Green Plains Bluffton had \$2.5 million cash that was restricted as to use for payment towards the current maturity and interest of the revenue bond.

Revenue bond issuance costs have been recorded in financing costs in the consolidated balance sheets.

### Agribusiness Segment

The Green Plains Grain loan is comprised of a \$9.0 million amortizing term loan and a \$35.0 million revolving term facility (individually and collectively, the Green Plains Grain Loan Agreement). Loan proceeds are used primarily for working capital purposes.

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### *Key Loan Information*

The term loan expires on April 3, 2013 and the revolving loan expires on September 30, 2010.

Payments of \$225,000 under the term loan are due on the last business day of each calendar quarter, with any remaining amount payable at the expiration of the loan term.

The loans bear interest at LIBOR plus 3.0%, subject to an interest rate floor of 4.5%.

As security for the loans, the lender received a first-position lien on real estate, equipment, inventory and accounts receivable owned by Green Plains Grain.

Unused commitment fees are 0.375% on the unused portion.

The loan agreements contain certain financial covenants and restrictions, including the following:

Maintenance of working capital of at least \$9.0 million.

Maintenance of tangible net worth of at least \$15.0 million.

Maintenance of a fixed charge ratio of 1.10x or more and a senior leverage ratio that does not exceed 2.25x.

Capital expenditures for Green Plains Grain are restricted to \$2.0 million per year. However, any unused portion from any fiscal year may be added to the limit for the next succeeding year.

As of March 31, 2010, Green Plains Grain was in compliance with all debt covenants in the loan agreement.

### *Equipment Financing Loans*

Green Plains Grain has two separate equipment financing agreements with AXIS Capital Inc. totaling \$1.75 million (individually and collectively, the Equipment Financing Loans). The Equipment Financing Loans provide financing for designated vehicles, implements and machinery. The Company agreed to guaranty the Equipment Financing Loans. Pursuant to the terms of the agreements, Green Plains Grain is required to make 48 monthly principal and interest payments of \$43,341, which commenced in April 2008.

### **Marketing and Distribution Segment**

The Green Plains Trade loan is comprised of a senior secured revolving credit facility. Under the credit agreement, the lender will loan up to \$30.0 million, subject to a borrowing base up to 85% of eligible receivables and a current availability block of \$5.0 million. At March 31, 2010 Green Plains Trade had \$7.7 million cash that was restricted as to use for payment towards the credit agreement. Such cash is presented in restricted cash on the consolidated balance sheet.

### *Key Loan Information*

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The revolving credit facility expires on July 30, 2012.

Interest is either: (1) Base Rate (lender's commercial floating rate plus 2.5%); or, (2) LIBOR plus 3.5%.

Origination and other fees have been recorded in financing costs in the consolidated balance sheets. The loan agreement contains certain financial covenants and restrictions, including the following:

Maintenance of a fixed charge ratio not less than 1.15 to 1.0.

Capital expenditures for Green Plains Trade are restricted to \$0.5 million per year.

As of March 31, 2010, Green Plains Trade was in compliance with all debt covenants in the loan agreements.

### Capitalized Interest

The Company had no capitalized interest for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009.



**Table of Contents****Restricted Net Assets**

At March 31, 2020, there were approximately \$310.9 million of net assets at the Company's subsidiaries that were not available to be transferred to the parent company in the form of dividends, loans, or advances due to restrictions contained in the credit facilities of these subsidiaries.

**9. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION**

The Company records noncash compensation expense related to payment for employee services by an equity award in the financial statements over the requisite service period. The Company measures share-based compensation grants at fair value on the grant date, adjusted for estimated forfeitures.

The Company has 2007 and 2009 Equity Incentive Plans which reserve a combined total of 2.0 million shares of common stock for issuance pursuant to the plans. The plans provide for the granting of shares of stock, including options to purchase shares of common stock, stock appreciation rights tied to the value of common stock, non-vested stock and non-vested stock unit awards to eligible employees, non-employee directors and consultants. Additionally, outstanding stock options were assumed as part of the merger.

Grants under the 2007 and 2009 Equity Incentive Plans may include stock options, stock awards and deferred stock units.

For stock options granted during the first three months of 2010, the fair value of options granted was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, a pricing model acceptable under GAAP, with the following weighted-average assumptions:

Expected life	6.0
Interest rate	2.52%
Volatility	63.20%
Dividend yield	

The expected life of options granted represents the period of time in years that options granted are expected to be outstanding. The Company uses a simplified method to estimate the expected life of options due to lack of historical experience. The interest rate represents the annual interest rate a risk-free investment could potentially earn during the expected life of the option grant. Expected volatility is based on weighted-average historical volatility of our common stock and a peer group.

All of the Company's existing share-based compensation awards have been determined to be equity awards. The Company recognizes compensation costs for stock option awards which vest with the passage of time with only service conditions on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period.

A summary of stock option activity for the three months ended March 31, 2010 is as follows:

	Shares	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (in years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (in thousands)
Outstanding at December 31, 2009	1,162,934	\$ 15.27		
Granted	41,000	16.70		
Exercised	(8,667)	9.37		
Forfeited	(7,334)	9.34		
Outstanding at March 31, 2010	1,187,933	\$ 15.39	5.7	\$

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Exercisable at March 31, 2010	820,183	\$ 18.17	4.8	\$
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All fully-vested stock options as of March 31, 2010 are exercisable and are included in the above table. Since weighted-average option prices exceeded the closing stock price at March 31, 2010, the aggregate intrinsic value was zero. The total intrinsic value of share options exercised were \$0.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010. The Company's option awards allow employees to exercise options through cash payment to us for the shares of common stock or through a simultaneous broker-assisted cashless exercise of a share option, through which the employee authorizes the exercise of an option and the immediate sale of the option shares in the open market. The Company uses newly-issued shares of common stock to satisfy our share-based payment obligations.

The following table summarizes non-vested stock award activity for the three months ended March 31, 2010:

	Weighted- Average Number of Non-vested Shares	Weighted- Average Grant- Date Fair Value	Weighted- Average Remaining Vesting Term (in years)
Nonvested at December 31, 2009	267,256	\$ 3.33	
Granted	217,500	16.95	
Forfeited			
Vested	(73,125)	12.83	
Nonvested at March 31, 2010	411,631	\$ 8.13	2.2

The following table summarizes DSU activity for the three months ended March 31, 2010:

	Weighted- Average Number of DSUs	Weighted- Average Grant- Date Fair Value	Weighted- Average Remaining Vesting Term (in years)
Nonvested at December 31, 2009	60,000	\$ 2.82	
Granted			
Forfeited			
Vested			
Nonvested at March 31, 2010	60,000	\$ 2.82	0.2

Compensation costs expensed for share-based payment plans described above were approximately \$1.3 million and \$0.2 million during the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. At March 31, 2010, there was \$4.8 million of unrecognized compensation costs from share-based compensation arrangements, which is related to non-vested shares. This compensation is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of approximately 2 years. The potential tax benefit realizable for the anticipated tax deductions of the exercise of share-based payment arrangements generally would approximate 40% of these expense amounts.

**10. EARNINGS PER SHARE**

Basic earnings per common share, or EPS, is calculated by dividing net income available to common stockholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS is computed by dividing net income available to common stockholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period, adjusted for the dilutive effect of any outstanding dilutive

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securities. The calculation of diluted earnings per share gives effect to common stock equivalents. A reconciliation of basic and diluted EPS is as follows (in thousands):

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	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2010	2009
Net income (loss) attributable to Green Plains	\$ 15,576	\$ (9,341)
Weighted average shares outstanding - basic	26,526	24,865
Earnings (loss) per share attributable to Green Plains stockholders - basic	\$ 0.59	\$ (0.38)
Weighted average shares outstanding - basic	26,526	24,865
Effect of dilutive stock options - as converted method	500	
Total potential shares outstanding	27,026	24,865
Earnings (loss) per share attributable to Green Plains stockholders - diluted	\$ 0.58	\$ (0.38)

The number of shares not included in the computation of diluted earnings (loss) per share above, as they would be anti-dilutive, was 18,463 at March 31, 2009.

**11. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**

Comprehensive income (loss) is as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2010	2009
Net income (loss) attributable to Green Plains	\$ 15,576	\$ (9,341)
Unrealized loss on derivatives	(123)	(9)
Comprehensive income (loss)	15,453	(9,350)
Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interest		
Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Green Plains	\$ 15,453	\$ (9,350)

**12. STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY**

Components of stockholders equity are as follows (in thousands):

	Common Shares	Common Stock Amount	Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained	Accum.	Total	Non- controlling Interest	Total Stockholders Equity
				(Accum. Deficit)	Other Comp. Loss	Green Plains Stockholders Equity		
Balance, December 31, 2009	24,957	\$ 25	\$ 292,231	\$ 9,331	\$ (123)	\$ 301,464	\$ 9,244	\$ 310,708
Net income				15,576		15,576	(90)	15,486

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Unrealized loss on derivatives					(123)	(123)		(123)
Total comprehensive income						15,453	(90)	15,363
Stock-based compensation	58		1,020			1,020		1,020
Share issuance	6,325	6	79,838			79,844		79,844
Balance, March 31, 2010	31,340	31	\$ 373,089	\$ 24,907	\$ (246)	\$ 397,781	\$ 9,154	\$ 406,935

**Table of Contents****13. INCOME TAXES**

The Company records income tax expense during interim periods based on its best estimate of the full year's effective tax rate. Certain items are given discrete period treatment and, as a result, the tax effects of such items are reported in full in the relevant interim period.

Income tax expense for the first quarter of 2010 and 2009 was \$4.4 million and \$0, respectively. The effective tax rate (calculated as the ratio of income tax expense to income before income taxes) was approximately 22% and 0% for the first quarter of 2010 and 2009, respectively. The effective tax rate for the first quarter of 2010 reflects the release of a portion of valuation allowances provided against certain of the Company's deferred tax assets, primarily federal and state net operating losses and tax credits due to anticipated income in fiscal year 2010. The effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2009 was 0% due to losses for both book and tax purposes, and because the Company had determined it was more likely than not that any benefit from such losses would not be realized prior to their expiration. There was no change in the Company's liabilities related to accounting for uncertainty in income taxes for the three months ended March 31, 2010 and March 31, 2009.

The full year 2010 effective tax rate can be affected as a result of variances among the estimates and amounts of full year sources of taxable income (among the various states), the realization of tax credits, adjustments that may arise from the resolution of tax matters under review and the Company's assessment of its liability for uncertain tax positions.

**14. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES***Operating Leases*

We lease certain facilities and parcels of land under agreements that expire at various dates. For accounting purposes, rent expense is based on a straight-line amortization of the total payments required over the lease term. The Company incurred lease expenses of \$2.6 million and \$1.3 million during the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Aggregate minimum lease payments under these agreements for the remainder of 2010 and in future fiscal years are as follows (in thousands):

<b>Year Ending December 31,</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2010	\$ 7,175
2011	6,827
2012	5,382
2013	4,391
2014	2,607
Thereafter	5,667
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 32,049</b>

*Commodities*

As of March 31, 2010, we had contracted for future corn deliveries valued at \$144.1 million, natural gas deliveries valued at approximately \$16.1 million, ethanol product deliveries valued at approximately \$4.3 million and distillers grains product deliveries valued at approximately \$2.5 million.

**15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS***Sales and Financing Contracts*

Three subsidiaries have executed separate financing agreements for equipment with AXIS Capital Inc. Gordon F. Glade, President and Chief Executive Officer of AXIS Capital is a member of our Board of Directors. A total of \$1.5 million and \$1.6 million is included in debt at March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively, under these financing arrangements. Principal and interest payments totaled \$0.1 million and less than \$0.1 million respectively, during the three months ended March 31, 2010. Principal and interest payments totaled \$0.1 million and less than \$0.1 million respectively, during the three months ended March 31, 2009. The highest amount outstanding during the three-month period ended March 31, 2010 was \$1.6 million and the weighted average interest rate for all financing agreements is 8.3%.





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The Company has entered into fixed-price ethanol purchase and sale agreements with Center Oil Company. Gary R. Parker, President and Chief Executive Officer of Center Oil, is a member of our Board of Directors. The purchases and sales agreements are executed to hedge prices on a portion of our expected ethanol production. During the three months ended March 31, 2010, cash receipts from Center Oil totaled \$21.1 million and payments to Center Oil totaled \$1.1 million on these contracts. During the three months ended March 31, 2009, cash receipts and payments totaled \$27.1 million and \$0.2 million, respectively, on these contracts. The Company had \$3.4 million included in accounts receivable and \$1.7 million in accounts payable at March 31, 2010 under these purchase and sale agreements. At December 31, 2009, the Company had \$2.3 million included in accounts receivable and no outstanding payables in current liabilities under these purchase and sale agreements.

### *Aircraft Lease*

The Company entered into an agreement on November 10, 2009 with Hoovestol, Inc. for the lease of an aircraft. Wayne B. Hoovestol, President of Hoovestol Inc., is Chairman of our Board of Directors. The Company has agreed to pay \$3,333 a month for two years for use of an aircraft. Any flight time hours in excess of 50 hours per year will incur additional hourly-based charges. For the three months ended March 31, 2010, payments related to this agreement totaled \$10,000. At March 31, 2010 the Company had \$4,567 included in accounts payable and at December 31, 2009 the Company did not have any outstanding payables related to this lease. Effective April 1, 2010, the agreement was amended to increase the Company's monthly payment for use of the aircraft to \$6,667. In addition, any flight time hours in excess of 100 per year will incur additional hourly-based charges.

## **16. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

On April 21, 2010, the Company acquired agribusiness operations in western Tennessee which includes five grain elevators with federally licensed grain storage capacity of 11.7 million bushels. All of the grain elevators acquired are located within 50 miles of the Company's Obion, Tennessee ethanol plant. With the addition of these agribusiness assets, the Company operates 13 grain elevators with 30.3 million bushels of grain storage capacity. Also acquired were grain and fertilizer inventories and other agribusiness assets. The agribusiness assets were acquired from companies owned by the Thomas W. Wade, Jr. family and from Farmers Grain of Trenton LLC for consideration of cash and notes to the sellers totaling approximately \$25.7 million. The five grain elevators and other assets acquired will be owned by Green Plains Grain Company TN LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, and included in the Company's agribusiness segment.

Upon closing the acquisitions, Green Plains Grain Company and Green Plains Grain Company TN (collectively, "Green Plains Grain") simultaneously entered into a second amended and restated secured credit facility, amending the existing Green Plains Grain Company LLC credit agreement. The security for the credit facility includes a first lien on all real estate and working capital of Green Plains Grain. The second amended and restated credit agreement and related documents entered into by and between Green Plains Grain and First National Bank of Omaha include base revolving, seasonal and term credit commitments totaling \$85.0 million.

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

***General***

The following discussion and analysis provides information which management believes is relevant to an assessment and understanding of our consolidated financial condition and results of operations. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements included herewith and notes to the consolidated financial statements thereto and our annual report filed on Form 10-K, as amended, for the year ended December 31, 2009, including the consolidated financial statements, accompanying notes and the risk factors contained therein.

***Cautionary Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements***

This report contains forward-looking statements based on current expectations that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements generally do not relate strictly to historical or current facts, but rather to plans and objectives for future operations based upon management's reasonable estimates of future results or trends, and include statements preceded by, followed by, or that include words such as anticipates, believes, continue, estimates, expects, intends, outlook, plans, predicts, may, could, should, will, and would, impact, and include, but are not limited to, statements regarding future operating or financial performance, business strategy, business environment, key trends, and benefits of actual or planned acquisitions. In addition, any statements that refer to expectations, projections or other characterizations of future events or circumstances, including any underlying assumptions, are forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements are made pursuant to safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Although we believe that our expectations regarding future events are based on reasonable assumptions, any or all forward-looking statements in this report may turn out to be incorrect. They may be based on inaccurate assumptions or may not account for known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Consequently, no forward-looking statement is guaranteed, and actual future results may vary materially from the results expressed or implied in our forward-looking statements. The cautionary statements in this report expressly qualify all of our forward-looking statements. In addition, we are not obligated, and do not intend, to update any of our forward-looking statements at any time unless an update is required by applicable securities laws. Factors that could cause actual results to differ from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those discussed in Part I, Item 1A Risk Factors of our annual report on Form 10-K, as amended, for the year ended December 31, 2009. Specifically, we may experience significant fluctuations in future operating results due to a number of economic conditions, including, but not limited to, competition in the ethanol and other industries in which we compete, commodity market risks, financial market risks, counter-party risks, risks associated with changes to federal policy or regulation, and other risk factors detailed in our reports filed with the SEC. Actual results may differ from projected results due, but not limited, to unforeseen developments.

In light of these assumptions, risks and uncertainties, the results and events discussed in the forward-looking statements contained in this report or in any document incorporated by reference might not occur. Investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this report or the date of the document incorporated by reference in this report. We are not under any obligation, and we expressly disclaim any obligation, to update or alter any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

***Overview***

We are a leading, vertically-integrated producer of ethanol. We focus on generating stable operating margins through our diversified business segments and our risk management strategy. We believe that owning and operating assets throughout the ethanol value chain enables us to mitigate the effects of changes in commodity prices and differentiates us from companies focused only on ethanol production. Today, we have operations throughout the ethanol value chain, beginning upstream with our agronomy and grain handling operations, continuing through our approximately 480 million gallons per year, or mmgy, of ethanol production capacity and ending downstream with our ethanol marketing, distribution and blending facilities.

Our management reviews our operations in three separate operating segments:

*Ethanol Production.* We operate a total of six ethanol plants in Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska and Tennessee, with approximately 480 mmgy of total ethanol production capacity. At capacity, our plants collectively will consume approximately 175 million bushels of corn and produce approximately 1.5 million tons of distillers grains annually.

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*Agribusiness.* We operate three lines of business within our agribusiness segment: bulk grain, agronomy and petroleum. In our bulk grain business, with the April 2010 addition of agribusiness assets in western Tennessee, we have 13 grain elevators with approximately 30.3 million bushels of total grain storage capacity. We sell fertilizer and

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other agricultural inputs and provide application services to area producers, through our agronomy business. Additionally, we sell petroleum products including diesel, soydiesel, blended gasoline and propane, primarily to agricultural producers and consumers. We believe our bulk grain business provides synergies with our ethanol production segment as it supplies a portion of the feedstock for our ethanol plants.

*Marketing and Distribution.* Our in-house, fee-based marketing business is responsible for the sales, marketing and distribution of all ethanol and distillers grains produced at our six plants. We also market and distribute ethanol for four third-party ethanol producers with expected production totaling approximately 360 mmgy. Additionally, we hold a majority interest in Blendstar LLC, which operates nine blending or terminaling facilities with approximately 495 mmgy of total throughput capacity in seven states in the south central United States.

We were formed in June 2004, incurring development costs until our first two plants were completed. Our plant in Shenandoah, Iowa commenced operations in August 2007 and our plant in Superior, Iowa commenced operations in July 2008. To complement and enhance our ethanol production facilities, in April 2008, we acquired Great Lakes Cooperative, a full-service farm cooperative in northwestern Iowa and southwestern Minnesota. As a result of our October 2008 merger with VBV LLC, we acquired two additional ethanol plants, located in Bluffton, Indiana and Obion, Tennessee. Operations commenced at the Bluffton and Obion plants in September 2008 and November 2008, respectively. In January 2009, we acquired a majority interest in Blendstar. In July 2009, we acquired the membership interests in two limited liability companies that owned ethanol plants in Central City and Ord, Nebraska that added expected operating capacity totaling 150 mmgy. In April 2010, we acquired five grain elevators with federally licensed grain storage capacity of 11.7 million bushels, all located within 50 miles of our Obion ethanol plant.

We intend to continue to take a disciplined approach in evaluating new opportunities related to potential acquisition of additional ethanol plants by considering whether the plants fit within the design, engineering and geographic criteria we have developed. We also intend to pursue opportunities to develop or acquire additional grain elevators and agronomy businesses, specifically those located near our ethanol plants. We believe that owning additional agribusiness operations in close proximity to our ethanol plants enables us to strengthen relationships with local corn producers, allowing us to source corn more effectively and at a lower average cost. We also plan to continue to grow our downstream access to customers and are actively looking at new marketing opportunities with other ethanol producers.

***Industry Factors Affecting our Results of Operations***

*Variability of Commodity Prices.* Our operations and our industry are highly dependent on commodity prices, especially prices for corn, ethanol, distillers grains and natural gas. Because the market prices of these commodities are not always correlated, at times ethanol production may be unprofitable. As commodity price volatility poses a significant threat to our margin structure, we have developed a risk management strategy focused on locking in favorable operating margins. We continually monitor market prices of corn, natural gas and other input costs relative to the prices for ethanol and distillers grains at each of our production facilities. We create offsetting positions by using a combination of derivative instruments, fixed-price purchases and sales contracts, or a combination of strategies within strict limits. Our primary focus is not to manage general price movements of individual commodities, for example to minimize the cost of corn consumed, but rather to lock in favorable profit margins whenever possible. By using a variety of risk management tools and hedging strategies, including our internally-developed real-time margin management system, we believe we are able to maintain a disciplined approach to risk.

*Reduced Availability of Capital.* Some ethanol producers have faced financial distress recently, culminating with bankruptcy filings by several companies. This, in combination with continued volatility in the capital markets has resulted in reduced availability of capital for the ethanol industry generally. In this market environment, we may experience limited access to incremental financing.

*Legislation.* Federal and state governments have enacted numerous policies, incentives and subsidies to encourage the usage of domestically-produced alternative fuel solutions. Passed in 2007 as part of the Energy Independence and Security Act, a federal Renewable Fuels Standard, or RFS, has been and we expect will continue to be a driving factor in the growth of ethanol usage. To further drive growth in the increased adoption of ethanol, Growth Energy, an ethanol industry trade association, and a number of ethanol producers have requested a waiver from the EPA to increase the allowable amount of ethanol blended into gasoline from the current 10% level, or E10, to a 15% level, or E15. A final decision may not be publicly announced until the latter half of 2010. Another major benefit to the industry is the blender's credit, which allows gasoline distributors who blend ethanol with gasoline to receive a federal excise tax credit of \$0.45 per gallon of pure ethanol used, or \$0.045 per gallon for E10 and \$0.3825 per gallon for E85. Currently, the blender's credit is set to expire in

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December 31, 2010. However, as has been done historically, we believe the credit will be extended in some form prior to expiration.

### ***Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates***

This disclosure is based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires that we make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We base our estimates on historical experience and other assumptions that we believe are proper and reasonable under the circumstances. We continually evaluate the appropriateness of estimates and assumptions used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates. Key accounting policies, including but not limited to those relating to revenue recognition, property and equipment, impairment of long-lived assets and goodwill, derivative financial instruments, and accounting for income taxes, are impacted significantly by judgments, assumptions and estimates used in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements. See further discussion of our critical accounting policies and estimates, as well as significant accounting policies, in our Form 10-K, as amended, for the year ended December 31, 2009.

### ***Recent Accounting Pronouncements***

In January 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB, issued Accounting Standards Update, or ASU, 2010-06, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (Topic 820): Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements, which amends Subtopic 820-10. ASU 2010-06 enhances disclosure requirements related to fair value measurements. Certain provisions of ASU 2010-06 are effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2009 and others for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010. The Company has adopted certain provisions of ASU 2010-06 during the current quarter and has incorporated new disclosures regarding fair value measurements in *Note 3 Fair Value Disclosures*. The adoption of this standard did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2010, the FASB issued ASU 2010-09, Subsequent Events (Topic 855): Amendments to Certain Recognition and Disclosure Requirements. The amendments remove the requirement for filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, to disclose the date through which subsequent events have been evaluated. The adoption of this standard, which was effective upon its issuance, did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

### ***Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements***

We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future material effect on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations or liquidity.

### ***Components of Revenues and Expenses***

*Revenues.* Our revenues are derived primarily from the sale of ethanol and the sale of distillers grains, which are co-products of the ethanol production process, and the sale of grain, fertilizer and petroleum products through our agribusiness segment. In our marketing and distribution segment, the sale of ethanol and distillers grains that we market for our six ethanol plants, and the sale of ethanol we market for four ethanol plants owned by third-parties represent our primary sources of revenue. Revenues also include net gains or losses from derivatives relating to ethanol and distillers grains.

*Cost of Goods Sold.* Cost of goods sold includes costs for direct labor, materials and certain plant overhead costs. Direct labor includes all compensation and related benefits of non-management personnel involved in the operation of our ethanol plants. Our cost of goods sold is mainly affected by the cost of ethanol, corn, natural gas and transportation. In our ethanol production segment, corn is our most significant raw material cost. We purchase natural gas to power steam generation in our ethanol production process and to dry our distillers grains. Within our ethanol production segment, natural gas represents our second largest cost. Plant overhead costs primarily consist of plant utilities, plant depreciation, sales commissions and outbound freight charges. Cost of goods sold also includes net gains or losses from derivatives relating to corn and natural gas.

In our agribusiness segment, grain, fertilizer and petroleum acquisition costs represent our primary cost of goods sold. Grain inventories, forward purchase contracts and forward sale contracts are valued at market prices, where available, or other market quotes adjusted for differences, primarily transportation, between the exchange-traded market and the local markets on which the terms of the contracts are based. Changes in the market value of grain inventories, forward purchase



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and sale contracts, and exchange-traded futures and options contracts, are recognized in earnings as a component of cost of goods sold.

In our marketing and distribution segment, purchases of ethanol and distillers grains represent the largest components of cost of goods sold. Transportation expense represents an additional major component of our cost of goods sold in our marketing and distribution segment. Transportation expense includes rail car leases, freight and shipping of our ethanol and co-products, as well as costs incurred in storing ethanol at destination terminals.

*Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.* Selling, general and administrative expenses are recognized at the segment level, as well as at the corporate level. These expenses consist of employee salaries, incentives and benefits; office expenses; board fees; and professional fees for accounting, legal, consulting, investor relations activities; as well as non-plant depreciation and amortization costs. Personnel costs, which include employee salaries, incentives and benefits, are the largest single category of expenditures in selling, general and administrative expenses. We refer to selling, general and administrative expenses that are not allocable to a specific operating segment as corporate activities.

*Other Income (Expense).* Other income (expense) includes the interest on our debt and the amortization of the related fees to obtain debt financing.

**Results of Operations***Segment Results*

During the normal course of business, our segments enter into transactions with one another. For example, our ethanol production segment sells ethanol to our marketing and distribution segment and our agribusiness segment sells grain to our ethanol production segment. These intersegment activities are recorded by each segment at market prices and treated as if they are third-party transactions. Consequently, these transactions impact segment performance. However, revenues and corresponding costs are eliminated in consolidation, and do not impact consolidated results.

The table below reflects selected operating segment financial information (in thousands):

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Ethanol production	\$ 250,053	\$ 137,503
Agribusiness	42,281	46,210
Marketing and distribution	388,095	178,353
Intersegment eliminations	(253,955)	(140,984)
	\$ 426,474	\$ 221,082
<b>Gross profit:</b>		
Ethanol production	\$ 31,759	\$ (2,761)
Agribusiness	2,769	2,746
Marketing and distribution	4,180	1,843
Intersegment eliminations	(1,234)	51
	\$ 37,474	\$ 1,879
<b>Operating income (loss):</b>		
Ethanol production	\$ 29,187	\$ (4,316)
Agribusiness	(530)	(34)
Marketing and distribution	1,341	(519)
Intersegment eliminations	(1,234)	51

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Corporate activities	(4,259)	(2,362)
	\$ 24,505	