

NUCOR CORP
Form S-3ASR
August 20, 2014
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 20, 2014

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

NUCOR CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

1915 Rexford Road

Charlotte, North Carolina 28211

13-1860817
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

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(704) 366-7000

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

James D. Frias

Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Executive Vice President

1915 Rexford Road

Charlotte, North Carolina 28211

(704) 366-7000

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

Copies to:

Ernest S. DeLaney III, Esq.

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Moore & Van Allen PLLC

100 North Tryon Street, Suite 4700

Charlotte, North Carolina 28202-4003

(704) 331-1000

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

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.

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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, 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

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of each class of | Amount to be registered / |
|---|---|
| securities to be registered | Proposed maximum offering price per unit / |
| | Proposed maximum aggregate offering price / |
| | Amount of registration fee (1)(2)(3) |
| Debt Securities | |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.40 per share | |
| Preferred Stock, par value \$4.00 per share | |

- (1) An unspecified aggregate initial offering price or number of the securities of each identified class is being registered as may from time to time be offered at unspecified prices. Separate consideration may or may not be received for securities that are issuable upon conversion or exchange of other securities or that are issued in units with other securities registered hereunder. In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the registrant is deferring payment of all of the registration fee.
- (2) Securities registered hereunder may be sold separately, together or as units with other securities registered hereunder.
- (3) Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement also covers any additional securities that may be offered or issued in connection with any stock split, stock dividend or similar transaction.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

Nucor Corporation

Debt Securities

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

We may use this prospectus to offer and sell from time to time, together or separately, debt securities, common stock and preferred stock. The debt securities and preferred stock may be convertible into or exchangeable for common or preferred stock or other of our securities. Our common stock is listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol **NUE**.

We may offer and sell these securities to or through one or more underwriters or dealers, through one or more agents, or directly to purchasers, on a delayed or continuous basis. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer and sell. The specific terms of any securities to be offered will be provided in a supplement to this prospectus and, if applicable, a free writing prospectus. The prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus.

You should read this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus carefully before you invest. This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

Investing in our securities involves risks. You should carefully consider the risks described under Risk Factors on page 1 of this prospectus, as well as the other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, before making a decision to invest in our securities.

Our principal executive offices are located at 1915 Rexford Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28211, and our telephone number at that location is (704) 366-7000.

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

The date of this prospectus is August 20, 2014.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| <u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u> | 1 |
| <u>RISK FACTORS</u> | 1 |
| <u>CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u> | 2 |
| <u>OUR COMPANY</u> | 3 |
| <u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u> | 3 |
| <u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</u> | 3 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF OUR DEBT SECURITIES</u> | 4 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF OUR COMMON STOCK</u> | 11 |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF OUR PREFERRED STOCK</u> | 14 |
| <u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u> | 15 |
| <u>LEGAL MATTERS</u> | 17 |
| <u>EXPERTS</u> | 17 |
| <u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u> | 17 |
| <u>INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE</u> | 18 |

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this process, we may offer and sell from time to time any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer and sell. Each time we sell securities pursuant to this prospectus, we will provide a supplement to this prospectus and, if applicable, a free writing prospectus that will contain specific information about the offering and the terms of the particular securities to be offered. The prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, you should rely on the information in that prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, as applicable. You should carefully read this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

The registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, including the exhibits to the registration statement, provides additional information about us and the securities. Wherever references are made in this prospectus to information that will be included in a prospectus supplement, to the extent permitted by applicable law, rules or regulations, we may instead include such information or add, update or change the information contained in this prospectus by means of a post-effective amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, through filings we make with the SEC that are incorporated by reference in this prospectus or by any other method as may then be permitted under applicable law, rules or regulations. The registration statement, including the exhibits to the registration statement and any post-effective amendment thereto, can be obtained from the SEC, as described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, the related prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, any free writing prospectus or any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date on the cover page of the specific document or that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference.

Except as otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this prospectus to Nucor, the Company, we, us, our and similar terms refer to Nucor Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risks. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the discussion of risks and uncertainties under the heading **Risk Factors** contained in any applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and under similar headings in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K (together with any material changes thereto contained in subsequently filed Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q) and those contained in our other filings with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial could materially affect our business, results of operations or financial position and cause the value of our securities to decline.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus may include forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). When used in this prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference, statements containing words such as expects, plans, strategy, projects, believes, opportunity, anticipates, desires, and similar expressions are intended to highlight or indicate forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements reflect our best judgment based on current information, and although we base these statements on circumstances that we believe to be reasonable when made, there can be no assurance that future events will not affect the accuracy of such forward-looking information. As such, the forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results may vary materially from the projected results and expectations discussed. Factors that might cause our actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, (i) the sensitivity of the results of our operations to prevailing steel prices and changes in the supply and cost of raw materials, including pig iron, iron ore and scrap steel; (ii) availability and cost of electricity and natural gas which could negatively affect our cost of steel production or could result in a delay or cancelation of existing or future drilling within our natural gas working interest drilling programs; (iii) critical equipment failures and business interruptions; (iv) market demand for steel products, which, in the case of many of our products, is driven by the level of nonresidential construction activity in the U.S.; (v) competitive pressure on sales and pricing, including pressure from imports and substitute materials; (vi) impairment in the recorded value of inventory, equity investments, fixed assets, goodwill or other long-lived assets; (vii) uncertainties surrounding the global economy, including the severe economic downturn in construction markets and excess world capacity for steel production; (viii) fluctuations in currency conversion rates; (ix) U.S. and foreign trade policies affecting steel imports or exports; (x) significant changes in laws or government regulations affecting environmental compliance, including legislation and regulations that result in greater regulation of greenhouse gas emissions that could increase our energy costs and our capital expenditures and operating costs or cause one or more of our permits to be revoked or make it more difficult to obtain permit modifications; (xi) the cyclical nature of the steel industry; (xii) capital investments and their impact on our performance; and (xiii) our safety performance. Additional information regarding the risks and uncertainties which may affect our business operations and financial performance can be found in our filings with the SEC. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law.

Table of Contents

OUR COMPANY

Nucor manufactures steel and steel products. Nucor also produces direct reduced iron (DRI) for use in the Company's steel mills. Through The David J. Joseph Company and its affiliates, which Nucor acquired in 2008, Nucor also processes ferrous and nonferrous metals and brokers ferrous and nonferrous metals, pig iron, hot briquetted iron and DRI. Most of the Company's operating facilities and customers are located in North America, but increasingly, Nucor is doing business outside of North America as well. The Company's operations include several international trading companies that buy and sell steel and steel products manufactured by the Company and others.

Nucor is North America's largest recycler, using scrap steel as the primary raw material in producing steel and steel products.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities offered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement for general corporate purposes, which may include, but are not limited to, working capital, capital expenditures, advances for or investments in our subsidiaries or acquisitions, redemption and repayment of outstanding indebtedness, and purchases of our common stock.

We may temporarily invest any net proceeds prior to their use for the above purposes in U.S. government or agency obligations, commercial paper, money market funds, taxable and tax-exempt notes and bonds, variable-rate demand obligations, short-term investment grade securities, bank certificates of deposit or repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. government or agency obligations. We may also deposit the net proceeds with banks.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

Nucor's historical ratio of earnings to fixed charges is shown in the table below. The ratio of earnings to fixed charges is computed by dividing earnings by fixed charges. For this purpose, earnings consists of pre-tax earnings/losses before adjustment for noncontrolling interests, plus earnings/losses from equity investments, plus fixed charges, amortization of capitalized interest and distributed income of equity investees, less interest capitalized and pre-tax earnings in noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries that have not incurred fixed charges. Fixed charges consists of interest cost and amortization of bond issuance costs and settled swaps and estimated interest on rent expense.

| | Year Ended December 31, | | | | | Six Months | Six Months |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | Ended July 5, 2014 | Ended June 29, 2013 |
| Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges | * | 2.42 | 7.44 | 5.38 | 5.17 | 5.55 | 4.49 |

* Earnings for the year ended December 31, 2009 were inadequate to cover fixed charges. The coverage deficiency was \$397,557.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR DEBT SECURITIES

The following description sets forth general terms and provisions of the debt securities that we may offer under this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement. We will provide additional or different terms of the debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We will issue debt securities under an indenture, dated as of August 19, 2014, between Nucor and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee. We refer to this indenture as the Indenture.

The following description summarizes some of the provisions of the Indenture. However, we have not described every aspect of the debt securities. In the summary below, we have included references for section numbers of the Indenture so that you can easily locate the applicable provisions. You should refer to the Indenture for a complete description of its provisions, because the Indenture, and not this description, will define your rights as a holder of the debt securities. Whenever we refer to particular sections or defined terms of the Indenture in this prospectus or in any applicable prospectus supplement, we are incorporating by reference those sections or defined terms into this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement.

The Indenture is an exhibit to the registration statement. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) for information on how to obtain a copy of the Indenture and any supplements thereto.

General Terms of Our Debt Securities

The Indenture does not limit the aggregate principal amount of debt securities that we may issue under the Indenture and provides that we may issue debt securities from time to time in one or more series. (Section 2.01). In addition, neither the Indenture nor the debt securities will limit or otherwise restrict the amount of senior indebtedness that we or our subsidiaries may incur.

Previously, we entered into an indenture, dated as of January 12, 1999, with The Bank of New York Mellon (the 1999 Indenture). As of July 5, 2014, under the 1999 Indenture, we had outstanding approximately:

\$600,000,000 of 5.750% Notes due 2017;

\$500,000,000 of 5.850% Notes due 2018;

\$600,000,000 of 4.125% Notes due 2022;

\$500,000,000 of 4.000% Notes due 2023;

\$650,000,000 of 6.400% Notes due 2037; and

\$500,000,000 of 5.200% Notes due 2043.

The debt securities will be our unsecured obligations and will rank equally and ratably with all of our other existing and future unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness, including the notes outstanding under the 1999 Indenture. The debt securities will be subordinated to our existing and future secured indebtedness and that of our subsidiaries and to any existing and future unsecured, unsubordinated indebtedness of our subsidiaries. In other words, if we should default on our debt, we will not make payments on the debt securities until we have fully paid off our secured indebtedness and that of our subsidiaries and any unsecured, unsubordinated indebtedness of our subsidiaries.

The particular terms of each issue of debt securities, as well as any modifications or additions to the general terms of the Indenture applicable to the issue of debt securities, will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

This description will contain all or some of the following as applicable:

the title of the series of debt securities;

the aggregate principal amount and denominations;

the maturity or maturities;

the offering price and the amount we will receive from the sale of the debt securities;

the interest rate or rates, or their method of calculation, for the debt securities, which rate or rates may vary from time to time;

the date or dates on which principal and premium, if any, of the debt securities is payable;

the date or dates from which interest on the debt securities will accrue and the record date or dates for payments of interest or the methods by which any such dates will be determined;

the place or places where principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities is payable;

the terms of any sinking fund and analogous provisions with respect to the debt securities;

the respective redemption and repayment rights, if any, of Nucor and of the holders of the debt securities and the related redemption and repayment prices and any limitations on the redemption or repayment rights;

the conversion price and other terms of any debt securities that a holder may convert into or exchange for our other securities before our redemption, repayment or repurchase of those convertible debt securities;

any addition to or change in the covenants or events of default relating to any of the debt securities;

any trustee or fiscal or authenticating or payment agent, issuing and paying agent, calculation agent, transfer agent or registrar or any other person or entity to act in connection with the debt securities for or on behalf of the holders thereof or the Company or an affiliate;

whether the debt securities are to be issuable initially in temporary global form and whether any such debt securities are to be issuable in permanent global form and, if so, whether beneficial owners of interests in any such permanent global security may exchange the interests for debt securities of like tenor of any authorized form and denomination and the circumstances under which any such exchanges may occur;

the listing of the debt securities on any securities exchange or inclusion in any other market or quotation or trading system; and

any other specific terms, conditions and provisions of the debt securities. (Section 2.02).

Unless the applicable prospectus supplement provides differently, the trustee will register the transfer of any debt securities at its offices. (Section 2.05).

Unless the applicable prospectus supplement provides differently, we will issue the debt securities in fully registered form without coupons and in denominations of \$1,000 or any integral multiple of \$1,000. (Section 2.03). There will be no service charge for any exchange or registration or transfer of the debt securities, although we may require that purchasers of the debt securities pay any tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in connection therewith. (Section 2.05).

We may issue debt securities as original issue discount securities, to be sold at a substantial discount below their principal amount. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe any special federal income tax and other considerations applicable to these securities.

Table of Contents

Restrictive Covenants

We will describe any restrictive covenants for any series of debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets

Without the consent of the holders of any of the outstanding debt securities, we may consolidate with or merge into any other corporation, or convey or transfer our properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any person, as long as:

the successor is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America or any State or the District of Columbia;

the successor corporation assumes our obligations on the debt securities and under the Indenture;

immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no event of default, and no event that, after notice or lapse of time, or both, would become an event of default, has occurred and is continuing; and

other conditions described in the Indenture are met. (Section 12.01).

Accordingly, the holders of debt securities may not have protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction, reorganization, restructuring, merger or similar transaction involving us that may adversely affect the holders. The existing protective covenants applicable to the debt securities would continue to apply to us in the event of a leveraged buyout initiated or supported by us, our management, or any of our affiliates or their management, but may not prevent such a transaction from taking place.

Events of Default

The following are events of default with respect to debt securities of any series, unless it is either inapplicable to a particular series or is specifically deleted or modified in any supplemental indenture or other document under which such series is issued:

default in the payment of any interest installment with respect to any of the debt securities of that series, as and when the same shall become due and payable, and continuance of such default for a period of ten (10) days after receipt by us of written notice of the default from any holder of debt securities or the trustee;

default in the payment of principal of or premium, if any, on any of the debt securities of that series, as and when the same shall become due and payable either at maturity, upon redemption, by declaration or otherwise, and continuance of such default for a period of ten (10) days after receipt by us of written notice of the default from any holder of debt securities or the trustee;

default in the making of any payment for a sinking, purchase or analogous fund provided for in respect of any of the debt securities of that series, as and when the same shall become due and payable, and continuance of such default for a period of ten (10) days after receipt by us of written notice of such default from any holder of debt securities or the trustee;

failure by us to observe or perform any other covenant or agreement in respect of debt securities of that series, or in the Indenture with respect to that series, for a period of ninety (90) days after the trustee gives us written notice, or holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series give us and the trustee written notice of default; and

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency and reorganization as more fully described in the Indenture. (Section 7.01).

Table of Contents

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe any additional events of default that may be added to the Indenture for a particular series of debt securities. (Section 7.01). No event of default with respect to a particular series of debt securities issued under the Indenture necessarily constitutes an event of default with respect to any other series of debt securities issued under the Indenture.

The Indenture provides that the trustee will, within ninety (90) days after the occurrence of a default with respect to the debt securities of any series, mail to the holders of those debt securities notice of all uncured defaults known to it; provided, that except in the case of default in payment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest, if any, on any of the debt securities of that series, the trustee may withhold the notice if and so long as it in good faith determines that withholding the notice is in the interests of the holders of the debt securities of that series. The term "default" for the purpose of this provision means any event that is, or after notice or lapse of time or both would be, an event of default with respect to the debt securities of such series. (Section 7.08).

If an event of default with respect to debt securities of any series at the time outstanding occurs and is continuing, unless the principal of all of the debt securities of that series has already become due and payable, either the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series, by notice in writing to us, may declare the principal amount (or, the portion of the principal amount as may be specified in the terms of the series) of all the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately. (Section 7.01). Prior to any declaration accelerating the maturity of any series of debt securities, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may, on behalf of the holders of all debt securities of that series, waive any past default or event of default under the Indenture with respect to the debt securities of that series and its consequences except a default (i) in the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest, if any, on any debt securities of that series or (ii) in respect of a covenant or provision under the Indenture applicable to that series that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security of that series. (Section 7.07). At any time after making a declaration of acceleration with respect to debt securities of any series, but before obtaining or entering of a judgment or decree for the payment of money, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of outstanding debt securities of the series may, in some circumstances, rescind and annul the acceleration. (Section 7.01).

The Indenture provides that, except for the duty of the trustee in the case of an event of default to act with the required standard of care, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of the rights or powers vested in it by the Indenture at the request, order or direction of any of the holders, unless the holders have offered to the trustee reasonable security or indemnity. (Sections 8.01 and 8.02).

The Indenture provides that the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee in respect of the debt securities of that series, except for cases in which the trustee being advised by counsel in writing determines that the action or proceeding may not lawfully be taken or would be in conflict with the terms of the Indenture or if the determination is made that the action or proceeding would involve the trustee in personal liability or would be unduly prejudicial to the holders of the debt securities of that series not joining in the direction. (Section 7.07). Otherwise, a holder of debt securities of a series may not pursue any remedy with respect to the Indenture or any debt securities of that series unless:

such holder of debt securities of that series gives us and the trustee written notice of a continuing default;

the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of that series then outstanding make a written request to the trustee, with a copy to us, to pursue the remedy;

the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of that series then outstanding offer the trustee reasonable security or indemnity satisfactory to the trustee against any costs, expenses and liabilities incurred in connection therewith;

Table of Contents

the trustee does not institute any action, suit or proceeding within sixty (60) days after receipt of the notice, request and offer of indemnity; and

during such sixty (60)-day period, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of that series then outstanding do not give the trustee a direction that is inconsistent with such written request.

However, these limitations do not apply to the right of any holder of any debt securities to receive payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest, if any, on the debt securities of a series or to bring suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or after the due date expressed in the debt securities, which right shall not be impaired or affected without the consent of the holder. (Section 7.04).

We are required to furnish annually to the trustee a statement as to our performance and observance of and compliance with the terms, provisions, covenants and conditions of the Indenture and as to any default in our performance, observance or compliance. (Section 5.06).

Global Securities

We may issue the debt securities of a series as one or more fully registered global securities. We will deposit the global securities with, or on behalf of, a depository identified in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to the series. We will register the global securities in the name of the depository or its nominee. In such case, one or more global securities will be issued in a denomination or aggregate denominations equal to the aggregate principal amount of outstanding debt securities of the series represented by the global security or securities. Until any global security is exchanged, in whole or in part, for debt securities in definitive certificated form, the depository or its nominee may not transfer the global certificate except as a whole to each other, another nominee or to their successors and except as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. (Section 2.11).

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of the depository arrangement with respect to a series of debt securities that a global security will represent.

Modification of the Indenture

The Indenture provides that we and the trustee may, without the consent of any holders of debt securities, enter into supplemental indentures for the purposes, among other things, of:

adding further events of default or other covenants, restrictions or conditions for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities;

establishing the form or terms of any series of debt securities; or

clarifying or curing ambiguities or inconsistencies in the Indenture or making other provisions in regard to matters or questions arising under the Indenture or any supplemental indenture or debt securities of a series, which will not adversely affect the interests of the holders of any affected series of debt securities in any material respect. (Section 11.01).

We and the trustee, with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each series to be affected, may execute supplemental indentures for the purpose of adding any provisions to or changing in any manner or eliminating any of the provisions of the Indenture or of any supplemental indenture or debt security of a series or of modifying in any manner the rights of the holders of the debt securities of that series to be affected, except that no such supplemental indenture may, without the consent of the holders of all debt securities of that series then outstanding:

change the fixed maturity (which term for these purposes does not include payments due pursuant to any sinking, purchase or analogous fund) of any debt securities, reduce the principal amount thereof,

Table of Contents

reduce the rate or extend the time of payment of interest thereon, reduce any premium payable upon the redemption thereof, or impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or after the maturity thereof (or, in the case of redemption on or after the redemption date, without the consent of the holder of each debt security so affected); or

reduce the percentage of debt securities of a series required to approve any such supplemental indenture. (Section 11.02).

The Effect of Our Corporate Structure on Our Payment of the Debt Securities

The debt securities are the obligations of Nucor exclusively. Because our operations are currently conducted in significant part through subsidiaries, the cash flow and our consequent ability to service our debt, including the debt securities, are dependent, in part, upon the earnings of our subsidiaries and the distribution of those earnings to us or upon loans or other payments of funds by those subsidiaries to us. Our subsidiaries are separate and distinct legal entities. They have no obligation, contingent or otherwise, to pay any amounts due on the debt securities or to make any funds available for our payment of any amounts due on the debt securities, whether by dividends, loans or other payments. In addition, our subsidiaries' payments of dividends and making of loans and advances to us may be subject to statutory or contractual restrictions and are contingent upon the earnings of those subsidiaries and various business considerations.

The debt securities will be effectively subordinated to all indebtedness and other liabilities, including current liabilities and commitments under leases, if any, of our subsidiaries. Any right of ours to receive assets of any of our subsidiaries upon liquidation or reorganization of the subsidiary (and the consequent right of the holders of the debt securities to participate in those assets) will be effectively subordinated to the claims of that subsidiary's creditors (including trade creditors), except to the extent that we are recognized as a creditor of the subsidiary, in which case our claims would still be subordinated to any security interests in the subsidiary's assets and any of the subsidiary's indebtedness senior to that which we hold.

No Restriction on Sale or Issuance of Stock of Subsidiaries

The Indenture contains no covenant that we will not sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of any shares of, or securities convertible into, or options, warrants or rights to subscribe for or purchase shares of, voting stock of any of our subsidiaries. It also does not prohibit any subsidiary of Nucor from issuing any shares of, securities convertible into, or options, warrants or rights to subscribe for or purchase shares of, such subsidiary's voting stock.

No Personal Liability of Incorporators, Stockholders, Officers, Directors or Employees

No recourse for the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest, if any, on any debt securities issued under the Indenture, or for any claim based thereon or otherwise in respect thereof, and no recourse under or upon any of our obligations, covenants or agreements in the Indenture or in a supplemental indenture or in any debt securities issued under the Indenture, or because of the creation of any indebtedness represented thereby, will be had against any of our incorporators, stockholders, officers, directors or employees or of any successor person thereof. Each holder, by accepting debt securities issued under the Indenture, waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for the issuance of the debt securities. This waiver may not be effective to waive liabilities under the federal securities laws. (Section 14.01).

Reports to Holders and SEC Reports

We will, so long as any debt securities of any series are outstanding, file with the trustee and the SEC, and transmit to holders of debt securities, the information, documents and other reports, and such summaries thereof, as may be required pursuant to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, at the times and in the manner provided in that Act; provided, that any such information, documents or reports required to be filed with the SEC

Table of Contents

pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act will be filed with the trustee within thirty (30) days after the information, documents or reports are required to be filed with the SEC. All such required information, documents and other reports will be deemed filed with the trustee and transmitted to holders of debt securities at the time such information, documents or other reports are publicly filed with the SEC via the SEC's EDGAR filing system (or any successor system); provided, however, that the trustee will have no responsibility to determine whether or not such filing has taken place. (Section 6.04).

Regarding the Trustee

U.S. Bank National Association is the trustee under the Indenture. Notice to the trustee should be directed to:

U.S. Bank National Association

214 N. Tryon Street, 27th Floor

Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Attention: Global Corporate Trust Services

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR COMMON STOCK

The following description of certain terms of our common stock does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to our Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "Restated Certificate of Incorporation"), our Amended and Restated Bylaws (the "Bylaws") and the applicable provisions of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "DGCL"). We encourage you to review complete copies of the Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws, which we have previously filed with the SEC. See "Where You Can Find More Information."

General

Our authorized capital stock consists of 800,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.40 per share, and 250,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$4.00 per share, 200,000 shares of which have been designated as Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock. As of July 5, 2014, 318,843,007 shares of our common stock were issued and outstanding (not including treasury shares) and no shares of our preferred stock were issued and outstanding.

The holders of our common stock are entitled to have dividends declared in cash, property or other securities out of any of our net profits or net assets legally available therefor as and when declared by our board of directors. This dividend right is subject to any preferential dividend rights we may grant to the persons who hold preferred stock, if any. In the event of the liquidation or dissolution of our business, the holders of common stock will be entitled to receive ratably the balance of net assets available for distribution after satisfaction of creditors and the payment of any liquidation or distribution preference payable with respect to any then outstanding shares of our preferred stock. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote with respect to all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, except for the election of any directors with respect to which stockholders have cumulative voting rights.

The issued and outstanding shares of our common stock are, and any shares of common stock offered by a prospectus supplement upon issuance and payment therefor will be, fully paid and nonassessable. Holders of our common stock do not have any preemptive or conversion rights, and we may not make further calls or assessments on our common stock. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to our common stock.

Our common stock is listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "NUE."

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC, 59 Maiden Lane, New York, New York 10038.

Anti-Takeover Effects of Delaware Law, the Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws

Certain provisions of the DGCL, the Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws may have the effect of delaying, deferring or discouraging another person from acquiring control of the Company, including takeover attempts that might result in a premium over the market price for the shares of common stock.

Delaware Law

We are subject to the provisions of Section 203 of the DGCL regulating corporate takeovers. In general, Section 203 prohibits a publicly-held Delaware corporation from engaging in a business combination with an interested stockholder for a period of three years following the time that the person became an interested stockholder, unless:

before the person became an interested stockholder, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the transaction that would result in a business combination or the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder ;

Table of Contents

upon consummation of the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation that was outstanding at the time the transaction commenced. For purposes of determining the number of shares outstanding, shares owned by directors who are also officers of the corporation and shares owned by employee stock plans, in specified instances, are excluded; or

at or after the time the person became an interested stockholder, the business combination is approved by the board of directors of the corporation and authorized at an annual or special meeting of the stockholders by the affirmative vote of at least 66 2/3% of the outstanding voting stock which is not owned by the interested stockholder.

A business combination is defined generally to include mergers or consolidations between a Delaware corporation and an interested stockholder, transactions with an interested stockholder involving the assets or stock of the corporation or any majority-owned subsidiary, transactions which increase an interested stockholder's percentage ownership of stock of the corporation or any majority-owned subsidiary, and receipt by the interested stockholder of various financial benefits provided by or through the corporation or any majority-owned subsidiary. In general, an interested stockholder is defined as any person or entity that is the beneficial owner of at least 15% of a corporation's outstanding voting stock or is an affiliate or associate of the corporation and was the beneficial owner of 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation at any time within the three-year period immediately prior to the date of determination if such person is an interested stockholder.

A Delaware corporation may opt out of this provision with an express provision in its original certificate of incorporation or an express provision in its certificate of incorporation or bylaws resulting from a stockholders' amendment approved by at least a majority of the outstanding voting shares. However, we have not opted out of this provision. The statute could prohibit or delay mergers or other takeover or change-in-control attempts and, accordingly, may discourage attempts to acquire us.

Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

The Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws contain the following provisions that could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of the Company:

Fixing and Changing Number of Directors. The Bylaws allow our board of directors to fix the number of directors within a specified range, preventing a potential acquirer from increasing the size of the board and nominating its slate of candidates to fill the newly-created directorships.

Removal of Directors. Under the Restated Certificate of Incorporation, our stockholders are prohibited from calling a special meeting of stockholders or acting by written consent in lieu of a meeting to remove directors without cause. Thus, a potential acquirer would not be able to remove existing directors except at an annual meeting of stockholders.

Enhanced Voting Requirements for Transaction with Interested Party. The Restated Certificate of Incorporation contains enhanced voting requirements for certain business combinations and transactions involving greater than 10% stockholders.

Amendment to the Restated Certificate of Incorporation. The Restated Certificate of Incorporation contains enhanced voting requirements to amend certain provisions of the Restated Certificate of Incorporation.

Amendment to the Bylaws. The Bylaws provide limitations on the ability of stockholders to amend, alter or repeal the Bylaws.

Advance Notification. The Bylaws contain advance notice requirements for stockholder proposals and director nominations.

Table of Contents

Issuance of Preferred Stock. The Restated Certificate of Incorporation gives our board of directors the authority to issue, without stockholder approval, preferred stock with designations and rights that the board may determine.

Limitations of Liability and Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Section 145 of the DGCL provides that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, other than an action by or in the right of the corporation, by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent or another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe such person's conduct was unlawful, except that, in the case of an action by or in the right of the corporation, no indemnification may be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person is adjudged to be liable to the corporation, unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought determines upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court deems proper. The Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that we will indemnify and advance expenses to our directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Section 102(b)(7) of the DGCL permits a corporation to include a provision in its certificate of incorporation eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, provided that such provision shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders; (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) for unlawful payment of dividends or purchase or redemption of shares; or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. Neither the Certificate of Incorporation nor the Bylaws contain such a provision.

Section 145 of the DGCL also permits a corporation to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation. We maintain directors' and officers' liability insurance for our directors and officers.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF OUR PREFERRED STOCK

The following is a description of general terms and provisions of the preferred stock. The particular terms of any series of preferred stock will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

All of the terms of the preferred stock are, or will be, contained in our Restated Certificate of Incorporation or any resolutions which may be adopted by our board of directors relating to any series of the preferred stock, which will be filed with the SEC at or before the time we issue a series of the preferred stock.

The Restated Certificate of Incorporation authorizes us to issue 250,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$4.00 per share, 200,000 shares of which have been designated as Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock. We may amend the Restated Certificate of Incorporation from time to time to increase the number of authorized shares of preferred stock. Such an amendment would require the approval of the holders of the voting capital stock entitled to vote on such an amendment in accordance with the terms of the Restated Certificate of Incorporation. As of the date of this prospectus, we had no shares of preferred stock outstanding.

Our board of directors is authorized to designate the following with respect to each new series of preferred stock:

the title and stated value of the series;

the number of shares in each series;

the dividend rates and dates of payment and whether dividends will be cumulative and, if cumulative, the date from which dividends will accumulate;

voluntary and involuntary liquidation preferences and the liquidation price and liquidation premium, if any, applicable to the series;

redemption prices, if redeemable, and the terms and conditions of such redemption;

the rights, if any, and the terms and conditions on which shares can be converted into shares of any other series or class;

the voting rights, if any; and

any other applicable terms.

The terms of any series of preferred stock will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The preferred stock, when issued in exchange for full consideration, will be fully paid and nonassessable. We will pay dividends and make distributions in the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up first to holders of our preferred stock and then to holders of our common stock.

Although it has no present intention to do so, our board of directors, without stockholder approval, may issue preferred stock with voting and conversion rights, which could adversely affect the voting power of the holders of common stock. If we issue preferred stock, it may have the effect of discouraging, delaying, or preventing a change in control.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities being offered hereby in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

to or through underwriters or dealers;

through agents; or

directly to purchasers.

The prospectus supplement with respect to each offering of securities will set forth the specific plan of distribution and the terms of the offering, including:

the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents;

the purchase price or initial public offering price of the securities;

the net proceeds from the sale of the securities;

the use of the net proceeds;

any delayed delivery arrangements;

any underwriting discounts, commissions and other items constituting underwriters' compensation;

any discounts or concessions allowed or reallowed or paid to dealers; and

any commissions paid to agents.

We may designate agents to solicit purchases for the period of their appointment and to sell securities on a continuing basis, including pursuant to at the market offerings.

We may offer these securities to the public through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters or through underwriters without a syndicate. If underwriters are used, we will enter into an underwriting agreement with the underwriters at the time of the sale of the securities and the securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to customary conditions precedent and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the offered securities if any of the securities are purchased. Underwriters may sell securities to or through dealers, and the dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent. Any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

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Underwriters and agents may from time to time purchase and sell the securities described in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement in the secondary market, but are not obligated to do so. No assurance can be given that there will be a secondary market for the securities or liquidity in the secondary market if one develops. From time to time, underwriters and agents may make a market in the securities.

In order to facilitate the offering of the securities, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of these securities or any other securities the prices of which may be used to determine payments on these securities. Specifically, the underwriters may over-allot in connection with the offering, creating a short position in the debt securities for their own accounts. In addition, to cover over-allotments or to stabilize the price of the securities or of any other securities, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, the securities or any other securities in the open market. Finally, in any offering of the securities through a syndicate of underwriters, the underwriting syndicate may reclaim selling concessions allowed to an underwriter or a dealer for distributing the securities in the offering, if the syndicate repurchases previously

Table of Contents

distributed securities in transactions to cover syndicate short positions, in stabilization transactions or otherwise. Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities above independent market levels. The underwriters are not required to engage in these activities, and may suspend or terminate any of these activities at any time.

Underwriters named in an applicable prospectus supplement are, and dealers and agents named in an applicable prospectus supplement may be, deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with the securities offered thereby, and any discounts or commissions they receive from us and any profit on their resale of the securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. We may have agreements with the underwriters, dealers or agents to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute with respect to payments they may be required to make. Underwriters, dealers or agents and their respective affiliates may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for us or our subsidiaries and affiliates in the ordinary course of business.

If indicated in an applicable prospectus supplement, we may authorize dealers acting as our agents to solicit offers from some institutions to purchase our securities at the public offering price given in that supplement under Delayed Delivery Contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in such supplement. Each contract will be for an amount not less than, and the aggregate principal amount of securities sold under the contracts will not be less nor more than, the respective amounts stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Institutions with whom contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and other institutions, but will in all cases be subject to our approval. Contracts will not be subject to any conditions except that:

the purchase by an institution of the securities covered by its contracts will not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of any jurisdiction in the United States to which such institution is subject, and

if the securities are being sold to underwriters, we will have sold to the underwriters the total principal amount of the securities less the principal amount covered by contracts.

One or more firms, referred to as remarketing firms, may also offer or sell the securities, if the applicable prospectus supplement so indicates, in connection with a remarketing arrangement upon their purchase. Remarketing firms will act as principals for their own accounts or as agents for us. These remarketing firms will offer or sell the securities in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to the terms of the securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will identify any remarketing firm and the terms of its agreement, if any, with us and will describe the remarketing firm's compensation. Remarketing firms may be deemed to be underwriters in connection with the securities they remarket. Remarketing firms may be entitled under agreements that may be entered into with us to indemnification by us against and contribution toward certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act and may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us or our subsidiaries and affiliates in the ordinary course of business.

Unless indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we do not expect to apply to list any series of debt securities on a securities exchange.

Under Rule 15c6-1 of the Exchange Act, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in three business days, unless the parties to any such trade expressly agree otherwise. The applicable prospectus supplement may provide that the original issue date for your securities may be more or less than three scheduled business days after the trade date for your securities.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities offered by this prospectus will be passed upon for us by Moore & Van Allen PLLC, Charlotte, North Carolina. Some attorneys with Moore & Van Allen PLLC own shares of our common stock.

If legal matters in connection with offerings made pursuant to this prospectus are passed upon by counsel for underwriters, dealers or agents, if any, such counsel will be named in the prospectus supplement relating to such offering.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 have been so incorporated in reliance on the reports of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 relating to the securities covered by this prospectus. This prospectus is a part of the registration statement and does not contain all the information in the registration statement. Any statement made by us in this prospectus concerning a contract, agreement or other document of ours is not necessarily complete, and you should read the documents that are filed as exhibits to the registration statement and the documents that we reference below under the caption "Information Incorporated by Reference" for a more complete understanding of the contract, agreement or other document. Each such statement is qualified in all respects by reference to the contract, agreement or other document to which it refers.

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file at the SEC's Public Reference Room located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. Our SEC filings are also available to the public on the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov> and at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange located at 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

We make available free of charge through our web site at <http://www.nucor.com> copies of the reports, proxy statements and other information we file with the SEC as soon as reasonably practicable after we file such documents electronically with the SEC. The information on our web site is not a part of this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below that we previously filed with the SEC and any future filings we will make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the termination of the offering of the securities described in this prospectus (other than, in each case, documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed with the SEC):

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended April 5, 2014 and July 5, 2014;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on February 19, 2014, March 31, 2014, May 13, 2014 and August 1, 2014; and

the description of our common stock contained in Exhibit 99.1 to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 14, 2010, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

Any statement contained herein or in any document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus or any prospectus supplement to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or in any subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus modifies or supersedes such earlier statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

We will provide without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a copy of this prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request of any such person, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in this prospectus but not delivered with the prospectus, excluding exhibits to a document unless an exhibit has been specifically incorporated by reference in that document. Such requests should be directed to the attention of our Corporate Secretary at the following address and telephone number:

Nucor Corporation

1915 Rexford Road

Charlotte, North Carolina 28211

Telephone: (704) 366-7000

Table of Contents**PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution**

The following statement sets forth the estimated expenses (other than underwriting discounts and commissions) to be incurred by the registrant in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities registered under this registration statement:

| | | |
|---|----|----|
| Securities and Exchange Commission registration fee | \$ | * |
| Legal fees and expenses | \$ | ** |
| Accounting fees and expenses | \$ | ** |
| Printing fees | \$ | ** |
| Rating agency fees | \$ | ** |
| Trustee's fees and expenses | \$ | ** |
| Miscellaneous | \$ | ** |
| Total | \$ | ** |

* Deferred in accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933.

** Estimated amounts are not presently known. The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth the estimated aggregate amount of expenses payable with respect to any offering of securities.

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Set forth below is a description of certain provisions of the registrant's Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "DGCL"), as such provisions relate to the indemnification of the directors and officers of the registrant. This description is intended only as a summary and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the registrant's Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the DGCL.

Section 145 of the DGCL provides that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, other than an action by or in the right of the corporation, by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe such person's conduct was unlawful, except that, in the case of an action by or in the right of the corporation, no indemnification may be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person is adjudged to be liable to the corporation, unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought determines upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court deems proper. The registrant's Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that the registrant will indemnify and advance expenses to its directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Section 102(b)(7) of the DGCL permits a corporation to include a provision in its certificate of incorporation eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duties as a director, provided that such provision shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders; (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing

Table of Contents

violation of law; (iii) for unlawful payment of dividends or purchase or redemption of shares; or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. Neither the registrant's Restated Certificate of Incorporation nor its Bylaws contains such a provision.

Section 145 of the DGCL also permits a corporation to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation. The registrant maintains directors' and officers' liability insurance for its directors and officers.

The underwriting, distribution or similar agreements filed or to be filed as exhibits to this registration statement will contain provisions regarding indemnification of the registrant's directors and officers against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933.

Item 16. Exhibits

See the Exhibit Index, which follows the signature pages to this registration statement and is herein incorporated by reference.

Item 17. Undertakings

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

Table of Contents

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5) or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii) or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof. *Provided, however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

(6) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any

Table of Contents

action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

II-4

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Charlotte, State of North Carolina, on this 20th day of August, 2014.

NUCOR CORPORATION

By: /s/ James D. Frias
 James D. Frias
 Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and
 Executive Vice President

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Each of the undersigned directors and officers of the above named registrant, by his or her execution hereof, hereby constitutes and appoints John J. Ferriola, James D. Frias and A. Rae Eagle, and each of them, as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, to do any and all acts and things for him or her, and in his or her name, place and stead, to execute any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) and supplements to such registration statement and any additional registration statement pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, and to file the same, together with all exhibits and schedules thereto and all other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission and with such state securities authorities as may be appropriate, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite, necessary or advisable to be done in and about the premises, as fully and to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do in person, and hereby ratifying and confirming all the acts of said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, or their substitutes, which they may lawfully do in the premises or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on this 20th day of August, 2014:

| Signature | Title |
|-----------------------|---|
| /s/ John J. Ferriola | Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President |
| John J. Ferriola | (Principal Executive Officer) |
| /s/ James D. Frias | Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and |
| James D. Frias | Executive Vice President |
| | (Principal Financial Officer) |
| /s/ Michael D. Keller | Vice President and Corporate Controller |
| Michael D. Keller | (Principal Accounting Officer) |
| /s/ Peter C. Browning | Director |
| Peter C. Browning | |
| /s/ Harvey B. Gantt | Director |

Harvey B. Gantt

Table of Contents

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>/s/ Gregory J. Hayes</i> | Director |
| Gregory J. Hayes | |
| <i>/s/ Victoria F. Haynes</i> | Director |
| Victoria F. Haynes | |
| <i>/s/ Bernard L. Kasriel</i> | Director |
| Bernard L. Kasriel | |
| <i>/s/ Christopher J. Kearney</i> | Director |
| Christopher J. Kearney | |
| <i>/s/ Raymond J. Milchovich</i> | Lead Director |
| Raymond J. Milchovich | |
| <i>/s/ John H. Walker</i> | Director |
| John H. Walker | |

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|--------------------|---|
| 1.1* | Form of Underwriting Agreement |
| 4.1 | Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Nucor Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed September 14, 2010) |
| 4.2 | Bylaws of Nucor Corporation, as amended and restated September 11, 2012 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed September 13, 2012) |
| 4.3** | Indenture, dated as of August 19, 2014, between Nucor Corporation and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee |
| 4.4* | Form of Debt Securities |
| 5.1** | Opinion of Moore & Van Allen PLLC |
| 12.1 | Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 12 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 5, 2014) |
| 23.1** | Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP |
| 23.2** | Consent of Moore & Van Allen PLLC (included in Exhibit 5.1) |
| 24.1** | Power of Attorney (included in signature pages) |
| 25.1** | Statement of Eligibility on Form T-1 under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, of U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee, with respect to the Debt Securities |

* To be filed, if necessary, by amendment or as an exhibit to a Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated by reference herein.

** Filed herewith.