

Ferrellgas Partners Reports Solid Start To Fiscal Year

December 6, 2013

OVERLAND PARK, Kan., Dec. 6, 2013 /PRNewswire/ -- Ferrellgas Partners, L.P. (NYSE: FGP), one of the nation's largest distributors of propane, today reported results for the fiscal 2014 first quarter ended October 31.

The partnership reported Adjusted EBITDA of \$26.4 million and Distributable Cash Flow of \$3.0 million producing trailing 12 month distributable cash flow coverage of 1.08x on cash distributions paid to unitholders. Revenues grew to \$415.0 million, up 14% from \$362.9 million in the prior-year quarter, reflecting both an increase in wholesale propane costs and sales volumes.

Gross profit rose 2% to a near record \$142.9 million from \$140.1 million a year earlier on increased sales volumes partially offset by lower retail margins adversely affected by the higher wholesale cost of propane that rose 20% over the year before.

President and Chief Executive Officer Steve Wambold commented, "Fiscal 2014 is off to a solid start with nationwide winter temperatures forecasted near normal levels this coming season. Based on these weather forecasts, our first-quarter results and the strength of our underlying fundamentals, we project Adjusted EBITDA between \$265 million and \$275 million for fiscal 2014."

Propane sales grew 6% to 191.0 million gallons based upon increased wholesale and agricultural demand in the quarter. Correspondingly, operating expense increased to \$103.0 million, from \$96.4 million the year before, each representing \$0.54 per gallon sold. General and administrative expense was \$9.5 million, compared to \$8.1 million in the year prior, each excluding nonrecurring litigation reserve and related legal fees that totaled \$1.3 million and \$0.7 million, respectively. The partnership also expensed \$0.3 million in the quarter associated with corporate development activities that ultimately did not result in a transaction. The seasonal first-quarter loss was \$25.1 million, or \$0.31 per unit, compared to \$17.8 million, or \$0.22 per unit

Wambold commented further, "We were very active in our acquisition efforts this quarter bidding on several growth opportunities; successfully acquiring KanGas Corporation, located in Basehor, KS during November. We will continue to aggressively seek operations that strategically enhance our business operations, while maintaining our strict acquisition criteria." Wambold concluded, "We further positioned ourselves for growth with the successful offering of \$325 million 6.75% senior notes due 2022, which were used to refinance our existing \$300 million 9.125% senior notes due 2017, and refinancing of our credit facility. These transactions immediately increased our borrowing capacity more than \$100 million while at the same time materially reducing interest expense going forward; we expect to save approximately \$3.0 million in fiscal 2014 and approximately \$5.0 million annually thereafter as a result of these transactions."

Ferrellgas Partners, L.P., through its operating partnership Ferrellgas L.P., serves customers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Ferrellgas employees indirectly own more than 21 million common units of the partnership through an employee stock ownership plan. More information about the partnership can be found online at www.ferrellgas.com.

Statements in this release concerning expectations for the future are forward-looking statements. A variety of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could cause results, performance and expectations to differ materially from anticipated results, performance and expectations. These risks, uncertainties and other factors are discussed in the Form 10-K of Ferrellgas Partners, L.P., Ferrellgas Partners Finance Corp., Ferrellgas, L.P., and Ferrellgas Finance Corp. for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2013, and other documents filed from time to time by these entities with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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FERRELLGAS PARTNERS, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (in thousands, except unit data) (unaudited)

ASSETS		ber 31, 2013	July 31, 2013	
Current Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	8,435	\$	6,464
Accounts and notes receivable, net (including \$167,645 and \$130,025 of accounts receivable				
pledged as collateral at October 31, 2013 and July 31, 2013, respectively)		178,549		131,791
Inventories		140,795		117,116
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		42,647		25,608
Total Current Assets		370,426		280,979
Property, plant and equipment, net		587,065		589,727
Goodwill		253,362		253,362

Intangible assets, net Other assets, net	184,296 46,125	189,516 42,444
Total Assets	\$ 1,441,274	\$ 1,356,028
LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' DEFICIT		
Current Liabilities: Accounts payable	\$ 87,014	\$ 49,128
Short-term borrowings Collateralized note payable Other current liabilities	115,083 97,000 126,943	50,054 82,000 121,102
Total Current Liabilities	426,040	 302,284
Long-term debt (a) Other liabilities Contingencies and commitments	1,116,150 33,977	1,106,940 33,431
Partners' Deficit: Common unitholders (79,081,819 and 79,072,819 units outstanding at October 31, 2013 and July 31, 2013, respectively) General partner unitholder (798,806 and 798,715 units outstanding at October 31, 2013 and July 31,	(85,633)	(28,931)
2013, respectively) Accumulated other comprehensive income Total Ferrellgas Partners, L.P. Partners' Deficit Noncontrolling Interest	 (60,934) 11,155 (135,412) 519	 (60,362) 1,697 (87,596) 969
Total Partners' Deficit Total Liabilities and Partners' Deficit	\$ (134,893) 1,441,274	\$ (86,627) 1,356,028

(a) The principal difference between the Ferrellgas Partners, L.P. balance sheet and that of Ferrellgas, L.P., is \$182 million of 8.625% notes which are liabilities of Ferrellgas Partners, L.P. and not of Ferrellgas, L.P.

FERRELLGAS PARTNERS, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS FOR THE THREE AND TWELVE MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2013 AND 2012 (in thousands, except per unit data) (unaudited)

	Three months ended October 31			Twelve months ended October 31				
	2013			2012		2013		2012
Revenues:								
Propane and other gas liquids sales	\$	382,223	\$	335,281	\$	1,786,209	\$	1,982,007
Other		32,807		27,628		241,379		181,568
Total revenues		415,030		362,909		2,027,588		2,163,575
Cost of product sold:								
Propane and other gas liquids sales		258,754		213,657		1,137,358		1,412,421
Other		13,346		9,197		148,605		97,894
Gross profit		142,930		140,055		741,625		653,260
Operating expense (including \$626 of severance costs for the twelve								
month period ended October 31, 2012)		102,966		96,434		416,591		396,003
Depreciation and amortization expense		20,215		20,875		82,684		84,042
General and administrative expense (including \$429 of severance								
costs for the twelve month period ended October 31, 2012)		10,781		8,774		44,034		36,526
Equipment lease expense		4,066		3,923		16,126		15,042
Non-cash employee stock ownership plan compensation charge		3,043		2,402		16,410		9,263
Non-cash stock and unit-based compensation charge (b)		4,431		3,092		14,884		9,018
Loss on disposal of assets		357		271		10,507		5,997
Operating income (loss)		(2,929)		4,284		140,389		97,369
Interest expense		(22,093)		(22,435)		(88,803)		(92,302)
Loss on extinguishment of debt		(301)		-		(301)		0
Other income, net		216		91		690		630
Earnings (loss) before income taxes		(25,107)		(18,060)		51,975		5,697

Income tax expense (benefit)	 (50)	 (264)	 2,069	 1,494
Net earnings (loss)	(25,057)	(17,796)	49,906	4,203
Net earnings (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest (a)	 (214)	 (138)	 665	 209
Net earnings (loss) attributable to Ferrellgas Partners, L.P.	(24,843)	(17,658)	49,241	3,994
Less: General partner's interest in net earnings (loss)	 (248)	 (177)	 492	 40
Common unitholders' interest in net earnings (loss)	\$ (24,595)	\$ (17,481)	\$ 48,749	\$ 3,954
Earnings (loss) Per Unit Basic and diluted net earnings (loss) per common unitholders' interest	\$ (0.31)	\$ (0.22)	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.05
Weighted average common units outstanding	79,075.8	79,013.3	79,054.4	78,338.3

Supplemental Data and Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Items:

Three months ended October 31								
	2013		2012	2013			2012	
\$	(24,843)	\$	(17,658)	\$	49,241	\$	3,994	
	(50)		(264)		2,069		1,494	
	22,093		22,435		88,803		92,302	
	20,215		20,875		82,684		84,042	
	17,415		25,388		222,797		181,832	
	301		-		301		-	
	3,043		2,402		16,410		9,263	
	4,431		3,092		14,884		9,018	
	357		271		10,507		5,997	
	(216)		(91)		(690)		(630)	
	=		-		-		1,055	
	1,325		688		2,205		1,580	
	(214)		(138)		665		209	
	26,442		31,612		267,079		208,324	
	(20,586)		(21,075)		(83,006)		(86,644)	
	(4,137)		(4,275)		(14,932)		(14,992)	
	=		(18)		(532)		(779)	
	1,317		4,771		6,526		9,150	
\$	3,036	\$	11,015	\$	175,135	\$	115,059	
	125,252		124,883		638,292		611,353	
	65,779		54,555		274,671		249,946	
	191,031		179,438		912,963		861,299	
	\$	\$ (24,843) (50) 22,093 20,215 17,415 301 3,043 4,431 357 (216) - 1,325 (214) 26,442 (20,586) (4,137) - 1,317 \$ 3,036	\$ (24,843) \$ (50) 22,093 20,215 17,415 301 3,043 4,431 357 (216) - 1,325 (214) 26,442 (20,586) (4,137) - 1,317 \$ 3,036 \$	October 31 2013 2012 \$ (24,843) \$ (17,658) (50) (264) 22,093 22,435 20,215 20,875 17,415 25,388 301 - 3,043 2,402 4,431 3,092 357 271 (216) (91) - - 1,325 688 (214) (138) 26,442 31,612 (20,586) (21,075) (4,137) (4,275) - (18) 1,317 4,771 \$ 3,036 \$ 11,015 125,252 124,883 65,779 54,555	October 31 2012 \$ (24,843) \$ (17,658) \$ (50) (264) \$ (22,093) 22,435 20,215 20,875 20,875 17,415 25,388 301 - 3,043 2,402 4,431 3,092 357 271 (216) (91) - - 1,325 688 (214) (138) 26,442 31,612 (20,586) (21,075) (4,137) (4,275) - - (18) 1,317 4,771 \$ 3,036 \$ 11,015 \$ 125,252 124,883 65,779 54,555	October 31 October 32 2013 2012 \$ (24,843) \$ (17,658) \$ 49,241 (50) (264) 2,069 22,093 22,435 88,803 20,215 20,875 82,684 17,415 25,388 222,797 301 - 301 3,043 2,402 16,410 4,431 3,092 14,884 357 271 10,507 (216) (91) (690) - - - 1,325 688 2,205 (214) (138) 665 26,442 31,612 267,079 (20,586) (21,075) (83,006) (4,137) (4,275) (14,932) - (18) (532) 1,317 4,771 6,526 \$ 3,036 \$ 11,015 \$ 175,135 125,252 124,883 638,292 65,779 54,555 274,671	October 31 October 31 2013 2012 \$ (24,843) \$ (17,658) \$ 49,241 \$ (50) \$ (25,093) 22,435 88,803 88,803 \$ 20,215 20,875 82,684 \$ 17,415 25,388 222,797 \$ 301 - 301 \$ 3,043 2,402 16,410 \$ 4,431 3,092 14,884 \$ 357 271 10,507 \$ (216) (91) (690) \$ (214) (138) 665 \$ (214) (138) 665 \$ (20,586) (21,075) (83,006) \$ (4,137) (4,275) (14,932) \$ (4,137) (4,275) (14,932) \$ (18) (532) \$ (3,036) \$ 11,015 \$ 175,135 \$ (25,252) 124,883 638,292 65,779 54,555 274,671	

- (a) Amounts allocated to the general partner for its 1.0101% interest in the operating partnership, Ferrellgas, L.P.
- (b) Non-cash stock and unit-based compensation charges consist of the following:

		Three months ended October 31				Twelve months ended October 31			
	2	2013		2012		2013		2012	
Operating expense	\$	798	\$	711	\$	2,478	\$	2,291	
General and administrative expense		3,633		2,381		12,406		6,727	
Total	\$	4,431	\$	3,092	\$	14,884	\$	9,018	

(c) Adjusted EBITDA is calculated as earnings (loss) before income tax expense (benefit), interest expense, depreciation and amortization expense, loss on extinguishment of debt, non-cash employee stock ownership plan compensation charge, non-cash stock and unit-based compensation charge, loss on disposal of assets, other income (expense), net, serverance costs, nonrecurring litigation reserve and related legal fees and net earnings (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest. Management believes the presentation of this measure is relevant and useful because it allows investors to view the partnership's performance in a manner similar to the method management uses, adjusted for items management believes makes it easier to compare its results with other companies that have different financing and capital structures. This method of calculating Adjusted EBITDA may not be consistent with that of other companies and should be viewed in conjunction with measurements that are computed inaccordance with GAAP.

- (d) Net cash interest expense is the sum of interest expense less non-cash interest expense and other income (expense), net. This amount includes interest expense related to the accounts receivable securitization facility.
- (e) Maintenance capital expenditures include capitalized expenditures for betterment and replacement of property, plant and equipment.
- (f) Management considers Distributable cash flow to equity investors a meaningful non-GAAP measure of the partnership's ability to declare and pay quarterly distributions to common unitholders. Distributable cash flow to equity investors, as management defines it, may not be comparable to distributable cash flow or similarly titled measures used by other corporations and partnerships.

SOURCE Ferrellgas Partners, L.P.