

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This management's discussion and analysis ("MD&A") is ARC management's analysis of its financial performance and significant trends or external factors that may affect future performance. The MD&A is dated February 8, 2010 and should be read in conjunction with the audited Consolidated Financial Statements as at and for the year ended December 31 2009, the MD&A and the audited Consolidated Financial Statements as at and for the year ended December 31, 2008, the MD&A and the unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements for the periods ended March 31, 2009, June 30, 2009 and September 30, 2009 as well as ARC's Annual Information Form that is filed on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

The MD&A contains Non-GAAP measures and forward-looking statements; and readers are cautioned that the MD&A should be read in conjunction with ARC's disclosure under "Non-GAAP Measures" and "Forward-Looking Statements" included at the end of this MD&A.

### Executive Overview

ARC Energy Trust ("ARC") or ("the Trust") is an actively managed oil and natural gas entity formed to provide investors with indirect ownership in cash generating energy assets, that currently consist of oil and natural gas assets. The major operating activities of ARC are the development, production and sale of crude oil, natural gas liquids and natural gas.

ARC's main objective is value creation through the development of large oil and natural gas pools. The business strategy and activities that support this objective are:

#### Resource Plays

- Acquisition and development of land and producing properties with large volumes of oil and gas in place, such as the Montney development in Dawson in northeastern British Columbia, Ante Creek in northern Alberta and the Cardium formation at Pembina in central Alberta.

#### Conventional Oil & Gas Production

- Maximizing production while controlling operating costs on oil and gas wells located within ARC's seven core producing areas all of which are located in western Canada. ARC's total production in 2009 was almost evenly split between commodities with 51 per cent of production from natural gas and 49 per cent from oil and gas liquids. Conventional oil and gas properties continue to be developed to increase the recoverable reserves through development drilling, optimization and waterflood programs. Within ARC's core areas many properties would be considered "resource plays" due to the substantial reserves still in place and the advancement of proved horizontal drilling and multi-stage fracture stimulation technology to develop these reserves.
- The periodic acquisition of strategic producing and undeveloped properties to enhance current production or provide the potential for future drilling locations and if successful, additional production and reserves.

#### Enhanced Oil Recovery ("EOR")

- Evaluation and implementation of enhanced oil recovery programs to increase ARC's recoverable reserves in existing oil pools. ARC has a non-operated interest in the Weyburn and Midale units in Saskatchewan. Operators of both these units have implemented CO<sub>2</sub> injection programs to increase recoverable oil reserves. In 2008 ARC advanced this strategy of enhanced oil recovery with the initiation of a CO<sub>2</sub> pilot program at Redwater.

ARC's goal is to provide superior long-term returns to unitholders. ARC's structure provides returns to unitholders through both the receipt of monthly cash distributions and the potential for capital appreciation.

Currently, ARC distributes \$0.10 per unit per month. The remainder of the cash flow is used to fund reclamation costs, and a portion of capital expenditures. In 2009 cash flow and proceeds from the DRIP program funded \$194.3 million of capital expenditures and a net contribution of \$4.6 million to the reclamation funds. Since ARC's inception in July 1996 to December 31, 2009, ARC has distributed \$3.5 billion or \$24.98 per unit.

Capital appreciation for ARC's unitholders would be associated with increased market values for ARC's production and reserves. ARC's management strives to replace or grow both production and reserves through drilling new wells and associated oil and natural gas development activities. The vast majority of the annual capital budget is being deployed on a balanced drilling program of low and moderate risk wells, well tie-ins and other related costs, and the acquisition of undeveloped land. ARC continues to focus on major properties with significant upside, with the objective to replace production declines through internal development opportunities. ARC's normalized reserves per unit have increased by 10 per cent to 1.57 per unit from 1.42 per unit in 2008 while production per thousand trust

units decreased slightly from 0.29 to 0.27. Since year-end 2007, ARC has increased normalized reserves per unit by 16 per cent, and normalized production per thousand trust units has declined by 10 per cent while ARC has made distributions of \$3.95 per unit or \$868.5 million. Details of the calculations for normalized production and reserves per unit are provided in Table 1.

**Table 1**

<b>Per Trust Unit</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Normalized production per unit <sup>(1) (2)</sup>	<b>0.27</b>	0.29	0.30
Normalized reserves per unit <sup>(1) (3)</sup>	<b>1.57</b>	1.42	1.35
Distributions per unit	<b>\$1.28</b>	\$2.67	\$2.40

- (1) Normalized indicates that all years as presented have been adjusted to reflect a net debt to capitalization of 15 per cent. It is assumed that additional trust units were issued (or repurchased) at a period end price for the reserves per unit calculation and at an annual average price for the production per unit calculation in order to achieve a net debt balance of 15 per cent of total capitalization each year. The normalized amounts are presented to enable comparability of per unit values.
- (2) Production per unit represents daily average production (boe) per thousand trust units and is calculated based on daily average production divided by the normalized weighted average trust units outstanding including trust units issuable for exchangeable shares.
- (3) Reserves per unit are calculated based on proved plus probable reserves (boe), as determined by ARC's independent reserve evaluator at period end, divided by period end trust units outstanding including trust units issuable for exchangeable shares.

ARC's business plan has resulted in significant operational success as seen in Table 2 where ARC's trailing five year annualized return per unit was 12.4 per cent.

**Table 2**

<b>Total Returns <sup>(1)</sup></b> (\$ per unit except for per cent)	<b>Trailing One Year</b>	<b>Trailing Three Year</b>	<b>Trailing Five Year</b>
Distributions per unit	<b>1.28</b>	6.35	10.74
Capital (depreciation) appreciation per unit	<b>(0.16)</b>	(2.36)	2.04
Total return per unit	<b>6.9%</b>	20.0%	79.5%
Annualized total return per unit	<b>6.9%</b>	6.3%	12.4%
S&P/TSX Capped Energy Trust Index	<b>43.5%</b>	2.5%	9.1%

- (1) Calculated as at December 31, 2009.

## Financial Highlights for the year-ended December 31, 2009

**Table 3**

<b>(Cdn \$ millions, except per unit and volume data)</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Cash flow from operating activities	<b>497.4</b>	944.4	(47)
Cash flow from operating activities per unit <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>2.11</b>	4.37	(52)
Net income	<b>222.8</b>	533.0	(58)
Net income per unit <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>0.96</b>	2.50	(62)
Distributions per unit <sup>(3)</sup>	<b>1.28</b>	2.67	(52)
Distributions as a per cent of cash flow from operating activities	<b>60</b>	60	-
Average daily production (boe/d) <sup>(4)</sup>	<b>63,538</b>	65,126	(2)

- (1) Per unit amounts are based on weighted average trust units outstanding plus trust units issuable for exchangeable shares at year-end.
- (2) Based on net income after non-controlling interest divided by weighted average trust units outstanding excluding trust units issuable for exchangeable shares.
- (3) Based on number of trust units outstanding at each distribution record date.
- (4) Reported production amount is based on company interest before royalty burdens. Where applicable in this MD&A natural gas has been converted to barrels of oil equivalent ("boe") based on 6 mcf: 1 bbl. The boe rate is based on an energy equivalent conversion method primarily applicable at the burner tip and does not represent a value equivalent at the well head. Use of boe in isolation may be misleading.

## 2009 Guidance and Financial Highlights

Table 4 is a summary of ARC's 2009 and 2010 Guidance and a review of 2009 actual results compared to guidance.

**Table 4**

	2009 Guidance	2009 Actual	% Variance	2010 Guidance
Production (boe/d)	63,000- 64,000	63,538	-	<b>70,500- 72,500</b>
Expenses (\$/boe):				
Operating costs	10.50	10.19	(3)	<b>10.30</b>
Transportation	0.90	0.89	(1)	<b>1.00</b>
G&A expenses (cash & non-cash) <sup>(1)</sup>	2.10	2.26	8	<b>2.85</b>
Interest	1.30	1.11	(15)	<b>1.40</b>
Capital expenditures (\$ millions)	365	360	(1)	<b>610</b>
Annual weighted average trust units and trust units issuable (millions) <sup>(2)</sup>	238	235	(1)	<b>254</b>

- (1) 2009 G&A guidance amount of \$2.10 per boe included \$1.75 per boe for cash G&A costs, \$0.55 per boe for cash Whole Unit Plan costs and a recovery of \$0.20 per boe for the non-cash portion of the Whole Unit Plan. 2010 G&A guidance amount of \$2.85 per boe includes \$2 per boe for cash G&A costs, \$0.90 per boe for cash Whole Unit Plan costs and a recovery of \$0.05 per boe for the non-cash portion of the Whole Unit Plan.
- (2) 2010 Annual weighted average trust units has been revised to reflect the increase in the equity offering that closed in January 2010 from 10.1 million to 13 million units.

Actual results for 2009 are in-line with guidance amounts with the exception of the following:

G&A expenses – total cash G&A costs were \$0.04 per boe below guidance however actual non-cash Whole Unit Plan costs were nil for the year whereas the guidance amount was estimating a recovery of \$0.20 per boe. The difference is due to ARC's December 31, 2009 closing trust unit price that was higher than the amount estimated when calculating the original guidance amount.

Interest expense – was below guidance for the full year of 2009 due to ARC's ability to cash fund more capital expenditures in the last half of 2009 with the uplift in commodity prices, therefore drawing less funds from debt and saving on interest expense.

The 2010 Guidance provides unitholders with information on management's expectations for results of operations, excluding any acquisitions or dispositions for 2010. Readers are cautioned that the 2010 Guidance may not be appropriate for other purposes.

### Cash Flow from Operating Activities

Cash flow from operating activities decreased by 47 per cent in 2009 to \$497.4 million from \$944.4 million in 2008. Decreases in crown royalties and a cash gain on risk management contracts were more than offset by the 41 per cent (\$29.18 per boe) decrease in commodity prices relative to the full year of 2008 as well as a two per cent decrease in volumes during the period. The decrease in 2009 cash flow from operating activities is detailed in Table 5.

**Table 5**

	(\$ millions)	(\$ per trust unit)	(% Change)
<b>2008 Cash flow from Operating Activities</b>	<b>944.4</b>	<b>4.37</b>	-
Volume variance	(46.2)	(0.21)	(5)
Price variance	(682.0)	(3.15)	(72)
Cash (losses) and gains on risk management contracts	95.1	0.44	10
Royalties	159.9	0.74	17
Expenses:			
Transportation	(1.6)	(0.01)	(0.2)
Operating <sup>(1)</sup>	6.1	0.03	0.6
Cash G&A	7.7	0.04	0.8
Interest	7.2	0.03	0.8
Taxes	(0.3)	-	-
Realized foreign exchange loss	1.9	0.01	0.2
Weighted average trust units	-	(0.22)	-
Non-cash and other items <sup>(2)</sup>	5.2	0.02	-
<b>2009 Cash flow from Operating Activities</b>	<b>497.4</b>	<b>2.09</b>	-

(1) Excludes non-cash portion of Whole Unit Plan expense recorded in operating costs.

(2) Includes the changes in non-cash working capital and expenditures on site restoration and reclamation.

### 2010 Cash Flow from Operating Activities Sensitivity

Table 6 illustrates sensitivities to pre-hedged operating income items with operational changes and changes to the business environment and the resulting impact on cash flows from operating activities in total and per trust unit:

**Table 6**

<b>Business Environment</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Assumption	Impact on Annual Cash flow from operating activities <sup>(4)</sup>	
		Change	\$/Unit
Oil price (US\$WTI/bbl) <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	\$ 75.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 0.04
Natural gas price (Cdn\$AECO/mcf) <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	\$ 5.50	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.03
Cdn\$/US\$ exchange rate <sup>(2)(3)(5)</sup>	1.05	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.03
Interest rate on debt <sup>(2)</sup>	% 4.00	% 1.0	\$ 0.01
<b>Operational</b>			
Liquids production volume (bbl/d)	31,500	% 1.0	\$ 0.03
Gas production volumes (mmcf/d)	240.0	% 1.0	\$ 0.01
Operating expenses per boe	\$ 10.30	% 1.0	\$ 0.01
Cash G&A and LTIP expenses per boe	\$ 2.85	% 10.0	\$ 0.03

(1) Calculations are performed independently and may not be indicative of actual results that would occur when multiple variables change at the same time.

(2) Prices and rates are indicative of published forward prices and rates at the time of this MD&A. The calculated impact on annual cash flow from operating activities would only be applicable within a limited range of these amounts.

(3) Analysis does not include the effect of hedging contracts.

(4) Assumes constant working capital.

(5) Includes impact of foreign exchange on crude oil prices that are presented in U.S. dollars. This amount does not include a foreign exchange impact relating to natural gas prices as they are presented in Canadian dollars in this sensitivity.

### Net Income

Net income in 2009 was \$222.8 million (\$0.96 per unit), a decrease of \$310.2 million from \$533 million (\$2.50 per unit) in 2008. Net income for 2009 reflects the lower commodity price environment in the current year and includes certain non-cash items that served to increase net income in the current year.

In 2009, ARC recorded a \$69 million non-cash foreign exchange gain on U.S. denominated debt (\$60.4 million net of future income taxes) as compared to a non-cash loss of \$88.5 million (\$77.4 million net of future income taxes) recorded for the same period in 2008.

In 2009, ARC recorded a \$1.7 million net cash recovery for non-recoverable accounts receivable (\$1.3 million net of future income taxes) as compared to a \$32 million (\$24 million net of future income taxes) non-cash expense for non-recoverable amounts recorded in 2008.

The above amounts were offset by a \$7.7 million (\$5.8 million net of future income taxes) non-cash loss on unrealized risk management contracts recorded in 2009 as compared to a \$68 million (\$51 million net of future income taxes) non-cash unrealized gain recorded for the same period in 2008.

## Production

Production volumes averaged 63,538 boe per day in 2009 compared to 65,126 boe per day in 2008 as detailed in Table 7. The decrease in 2009 production is a result of the reduction of the capital expenditure program.

**Table 7**

<b>Production</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Light & medium crude oil (bbl/d)	<b>26,423</b>	27,239	(3)
Heavy oil (bbl/d)	<b>1,086</b>	1,274	(15)
Natural gas (mmcf/d)	<b>194.0</b>	196.5	(1)
NGL (bbl/d)	<b>3,689</b>	3,861	(4)
Total production (boe/d) <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>63,538</b>	65,126	(2)
% Natural gas production	<b>51</b>	50	2
% Crude oil and liquids production	<b>49</b>	50	(2)

(1) Reported production for a period may include minor adjustments from previous production periods.

Light and medium crude oil production decreased to 26,423 boe per day compared to 27,239 boe per day in 2008, while heavy oil production declined by 188 boe per day. Compared to 2008, the total crude oil production is down approximately 1,000 barrels per day. Natural gas production was 194 mmcf per day in 2009, a decrease of one per cent from the 196.5 mmcf per day produced in 2008. This slight decline was primarily due to plant turnarounds completed at third party facilities that shut-in gas production.

ARC's objective is to maintain annual production through the drilling of wells and other development activities to the full extent possible, while giving consideration to capital spending constraints and the economics of developing ARC's resources. In fulfilling this objective, there may be fluctuations in production depending on the timing of new wells coming on-stream. During 2009, ARC drilled 145 gross wells (120 net wells) on operated properties; 37 gross oil wells, and 108 gross natural gas wells with a 99 per cent success rate.

ARC expects that 2010 full year production will average approximately 70,500 to 72,500 boe per day and that a total of 211 gross wells (195 net) will be drilled by ARC on operated properties with participation in an additional 91 gross wells (18 net) to be drilled on ARC's non-operated properties. ARC estimates that the 2010 drilling program and the start-up of a new gas plant in the Dawson area will increase production in 2010 by 11 per cent to 14 per cent over 2009 production levels. The planned capital expenditures for 2010 have been increased to approximately \$610 million from actual expenditures of \$360 million in 2009, which were scaled back from an original 2009 planned budget of \$585 million due to the significant decline in commodity prices.

Table 8 summarizes ARC's production by core area:

**Table 8**

<b>Production Core Area <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>2009</b>				<b>2008</b>			
	<b>Total (boe/d)</b>	<b>Oil (bbl/d)</b>	<b>Gas (mmcf/d)</b>	<b>NGL (bbl/d)</b>	<b>Total (boe/d)</b>	<b>Oil (bbl/d)</b>	<b>Gas (mmcf/d)</b>	<b>NGL (bbl/d)</b>
Central AB	<b>6,984</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>1,083</b>	7,495	1,406	29.2	1,218
N.E. BC & N.W. AB	<b>13,794</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>74.4</b>	<b>672</b>	12,678	802	67.6	613
Northern AB	<b>9,004</b>	<b>4,096</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>821</b>	9,791	4,516	26.1	921
Pembina & Redwater	<b>13,560</b>	<b>9,412</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>978</b>	13,707	9,495	19.7	936
S.E. AB & S.W. Sask.	<b>8,841</b>	<b>1,027</b>	<b>46.9</b>	<b>13</b>	9,701	985	52.2	11
S.E. Sask. & MB	<b>11,357</b>	<b>10,980</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>122</b>	11,754	11,309	1.7	162
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,538</b>	<b>27,509</b>	<b>194.0</b>	<b>3,689</b>	65,126	28,513	196.5	3,861

(1) Provincial references: AB is Alberta, BC is British Columbia, Sask. is Saskatchewan, MB is Manitoba, N.E. is northeast, N.W. is northwest, S.E. is southeast and S.W. is southwest.

## Revenue

Revenue decreased to \$978.2 million in 2009, \$728.2 million lower than 2008 revenues of \$1.7 billion. The decrease in realized oil prices accounted for \$333.5 million of the \$358.1 million decline in oil revenue with only \$24.6 million of the decrease attributable to lower oil volumes. Natural gas revenue decreased by \$320.8 million of which \$316.5 million was attributable to decreased realized prices with the balance of \$4.3 million attributed to lower natural gas volumes in 2009.

A breakdown of revenue is outlined in Table 9:

**Table 9**

<b>Revenue</b> (\$ millions)	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Oil revenue	<b>625.0</b>	983.1	(36)
Natural gas revenue	<b>296.0</b>	616.8	(52)
NGL revenue	<b>54.8</b>	98.5	(44)
Total commodity revenue	<b>975.8</b>	1,698.4	(43)
Other revenue	<b>2.4</b>	8.0	(70)
Total revenue	<b>978.2</b>	1,706.4	(43)

### Commodity Prices Prior to Hedging

**Table 10**

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Average Benchmark Prices</b>			
AECO gas (\$/mcf) <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>4.13</b>	8.13	(49)
WTI oil (US\$/bbl) <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>61.93</b>	99.66	(38)
Cdn\$ / US\$ foreign exchange rate	<b>1.13</b>	1.05	8
WTI oil (Cdn\$/bbl)	<b>69.70</b>	104.30	(33)
<b>ARC Realized Prices Prior to Hedging</b>			
Oil (\$/bbl)	<b>62.24</b>	94.20	(34)
Natural gas (\$/mcf)	<b>4.18</b>	8.58	(51)
NGL (\$/bbl)	<b>40.67</b>	69.71	(42)
Total commodity revenue before hedging (\$/boe)	<b>42.07</b>	71.25	(41)
Other revenue (\$/boe)	<b>0.11</b>	0.34	(68)
Total revenue before hedging (\$/boe)	<b>42.18</b>	71.59	(41)

(1) Represents the AECO monthly posting.

(2) WTI represents posting price of West Texas Intermediate oil.

Oil prices continued to recover in the second half of 2009 with US\$WTI prices averaging \$76.17 per bbl in the fourth quarter, and \$68.29 per bbl in the third quarter compared to \$51.46 per bbl for the first half of 2009. Despite this recovery, prices for oil on average in 2009 were down 38 per cent compared to 2008 as detailed in Table 10. ARC's oil production consists predominantly of light and medium crude oil while heavy oil accounts for less than five per cent of ARC's crude oil production. The realized price for ARC's oil, before hedging, was \$62.24 per bbl, a 34 per cent reduction over the 2008 realized price of \$94.20 per bbl.

Natural gas prices softened throughout 2009 with a strengthening in the fourth quarter. Alberta AECO Hub natural gas prices, which are commonly used as an industry reference, averaged \$4.13 per mcf in 2009 compared to \$8.13 per mcf in 2008. ARC's realized gas price, before hedging, decreased by 51 per cent to \$4.18 per mcf compared to \$8.58 per mcf throughout 2008. ARC's realized gas price is based on prices received at the various markets in which ARC sells its natural gas. ARC's natural gas sales portfolio consists of gas sales priced at the AECO monthly index, the AECO daily spot market, eastern and mid-west United States markets and a portion to aggregators. Natural gas prices started to recover in the fourth quarter of 2009 with posted prices in the month of December registering over \$5 per mcf. In addition, the forward curve for natural gas prices has strengthened to reflect 2010 prices of approximately \$6 per mcf. Management is pursuing strategic initiatives to capitalize on strengthening forward prices, where possible in order to protect the economics of the 2010 capital program.

Prior to hedging activities, ARC's total realized commodity price was \$42.17 per boe in 2009, a 41 per cent decrease from the \$71.59 per boe in 2008.

### Risk Management and Hedging Activities

ARC maintains an ongoing risk management program to reduce the volatility of revenues in order to increase the certainty of cash flows, and to protect acquisition and capital expenditures economics.

Gain or loss on risk management contracts comprise realized and unrealized gains or losses on contracts that do not meet the accounting definition requirements of an effective hedge, even though ARC considers all risk management contracts to be effective economic hedges. Accordingly, gains and losses on such contracts are shown as a separate category in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Deficit.

Lower natural gas prices in 2009 resulted in realized cash gains of \$28.5 million on natural gas risk management contracts as ARC's contracted prices were higher than market prices during the year. Realized cash losses of \$14.8 million were recorded on ARC's crude oil risk management contracts as a result of premiums paid during 2009, and small losses recorded on ARC's fixed price swap contracts where the market oil price rose above the contracted price. In addition, ARC realized a \$4.8 million cash gain on interest rate risk management contracts.

ARC's 2009 results include an unrealized total mark-to-market loss of \$7.7 million with a net unrealized mark-to-market loss position of \$4.8 million as at December 31, 2009. The mark-to-market values represent the market price to buy-out ARC's contracts as of December 31, 2009 and may differ from what will eventually be realized.

Table 11 summarizes the total gain (loss) on risk management contracts for the year-over-year change as of the 2009 year-end:

**Table 11**

<b>Risk Management Contracts</b> (\$ millions)	<b>Crude Oil &amp; Liquids</b>	<b>Natural Gas</b>	<b>Foreign Currency</b>	<b>Power<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>2009 Total</b>	<b>2008 Total</b>
Realized cash (loss) gain on contracts <sup>(1)</sup>	(14.8)	28.5	2.0	(1.1)	4.8	<b>19.4</b>	(75.7)
Unrealized gain (loss) on contracts <sup>(2)</sup>	5.0	(2.5)	-	(4.8)	(5.4)	<b>(7.7)</b>	68.0
<b>Total (loss) gain on risk management contracts</b>	<b>(9.8)</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>(5.9)</b>	<b>(0.6)</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>(7.7)</b>

- (1) Realized cash gains and losses represent actual cash settlements or receipts under the respective contracts.
- (2) The unrealized gain (loss) on contracts represents the change in fair value of the contracts during the period.
- (3) Amounts presented in Table 11 exclude a \$1.5 million realized loss and an unrealized loss of \$3.8 million for ARC's power contracts that have been designated as effective hedges for accounting purposes. Realized gains and losses on these contracts are recorded in operating costs and unrealized gains and losses are recorded in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income.

ARC currently limits the amount of forecast production that can be hedged to a maximum 50 per cent with the balance of production being sold at market prices. In addition, project specific hedges may be entered into from time to time to protect the economics of certain capital expenditures. Table 12 is an indicative summary of ARC's positions for crude oil and natural gas as at December 31, 2009.

**Table 12**

<b>Hedge Positions</b>									
As at December 31, 2009 <sup>(1)(2)</sup>									
<b>Q1 2010</b>			<b>Q2 2010</b>		<b>Q3 2010<sup>(3)</sup></b>		<b>Q4 2010</b>		
<b>Crude Oil</b>	US\$/bbl	bbl/day	US\$/bbl	bbl/day	US\$/bbl	bbl/day	US\$/bbl	bbl/day	
Sold Call	95.36	9,000	96.81	8,000	96.81	8,000	96.81	8,000	
<b>Bought Put</b>	<b>76.17</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>77.19</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>77.19</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>77.19</b>	<b>8,000</b>	
Sold Put	62.80	2,000	62.80	2,000	62.80	2,000	62.80	2,000	
<b>Natural Gas</b>	Cdn\$/mcf	mcf/day	Cdn\$/mcf	mcf/day	Cdn\$/mcf	mcf/day	Cdn\$/mcf	mcf/day	
Sold Call	5.92	75,825	5.77	95,825	5.77	95,825	5.92	75,825	
<b>Bought Put</b>	<b>5.92</b>	<b>75,825</b>	<b>5.77</b>	<b>95,825</b>	<b>5.77</b>	<b>95,825</b>	<b>5.92</b>	<b>75,825</b>	
Sold Put	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

- (1) The prices and volumes noted above represent averages for several contracts and the average price for the portfolio of options listed above does not have the same payoff profile as the individual option contracts. Viewing the average price of a group of options is purely for indicative purposes. The natural gas price shown translates all NYMEX positions to an AECO equivalent price.
- (2) In addition to positions shown here, ARC has entered into additional basis positions until October 2012. Please refer to note 13 in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for full details of ARC's risk management positions as of December 31, 2009.
- (3) During the last half of 2009, ARC took advantage of favorable forward curve pricing for natural gas and entered into a long-term contract for a small portion of future forecast production. In addition to contracts listed above, ARC has entered into fixed price swaps starting in 2011 and ending in December 2013 at an average price of \$6.40 per mcf for 42,654 mcf per day.

Table 12 should be interpreted as follows using the first quarter 2010 crude oil hedges as an example. To accurately analyze ARC's hedge position, contracts need to be modeled separately as using average prices and volumes may be misleading.

- If the market price is below \$62.80, ARC will receive \$76.17 less the difference between \$62.80 and the market price on 2,000 bbl per day. For example, if the market price is \$62.75, ARC will receive \$76.12 on 2,000 bbl per day.

- If the market price is between \$62.80 and \$76.17, ARC will receive \$76.17 on 9,000 bbl per day.
- If the market price is between \$76.17 and \$95.36, ARC will receive the market price on 9,000 bbl per day.
- If the market price exceeds \$95.36, ARC will receive \$95.36 on 9,000 bbl per day.

### Operating Netbacks

ARC's operating netback, before realized hedging gains and losses, decreased 48 per cent to \$24.72 per boe in 2009 compared to \$47.75 per boe in 2008. The decrease in netbacks is due mainly to reduced commodity prices partially offset by the corresponding reduction in royalties in the period.

ARC's 2009 netback, after realized hedging gains and losses, was \$25.26 per boe, a 43 per cent decrease from 2008. The 2009 netback includes net gains recorded on ARC's crude oil and natural gas risk management contracts during 2009 of \$0.54 per boe compared to a net loss of \$3.17 per boe recorded for the same period in 2008.

The components of operating netbacks are summarized in Table 13:

**Table 13**

<b>Netbacks</b> (\$ per boe)	Crude Oil (\$/bbl)	Heavy Oil (\$/bbl)	Gas (\$/mcf)	NGL (\$/bbl)	<b>2009 Total</b> (\$/boe)	2008 Total (\$/boe)
Weighted average sales price	62.51	55.74	4.18	40.67	<b>42.07</b>	71.25
Other revenue	-	-	-	-	<b>0.10</b>	0.34
Total revenue	62.51	55.74	4.18	40.67	<b>42.17</b>	71.59
Royalties	(9.63)	(5.34)	(0.50)	(13.03)	<b>(6.37)</b>	(12.91)
Transportation	(0.18)	(1.15)	(0.26)	-	<b>(0.89)</b>	(0.80)
Operating costs <sup>(1)</sup>	(12.88)	(12.46)	(1.33)	(7.85)	<b>(10.19)</b>	(10.13)
Netback prior to hedging	39.82	36.79	2.09	19.79	<b>24.72</b>	47.75
Realized (loss) gain on risk management contracts <sup>(2)</sup>	(1.65)	-	0.40	-	<b>0.54</b>	(3.17)
Netback after hedging	38.17	36.79	2.49	19.79	<b>25.26</b>	44.58

- (1) Operating expenses are composed of direct costs incurred to operate oil and gas wells. A number of assumptions have been made in allocating these costs between oil, heavy oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids production.
- (2) Realized loss on risk management contracts include the settlement amounts for crude oil and natural gas and power contracts. Foreign exchange and interest contracts are excluded from the net back calculation.

Royalties as a percentage of pre-hedged commodity revenue net of transportation decreased to 15.4 per cent (\$6.37 per boe) in 2009 compared to 18.2 per cent (\$12.91 per boe) in 2008.

The Alberta Government's Alberta Royalty Framework ("Framework" or "ARF") took effect January 1, 2009 and provides for sliding scale crown royalty rates, whereby rates increase in high commodity price environments and decrease in low commodity price environments. The 2009 royalty rate is in line with management's expectations due to the low natural gas price environment. The recovery of crude oil prices in the second half of 2009 has resulted in higher oil crown royalty payments as compared to the first half of 2009, while natural gas crown royalty payments were low until December of 2009 when prices started to increase more significantly.

Royalty rates in the other western provinces vary due to production levels and price but to a lesser extent than Alberta royalty rates. Table 14 estimates the royalties applicable to production from ARC's properties at various price levels.

**Table 14**

<b>Provincial Royalty Rates - Forecast for 2010</b>			
Edmonton posted oil (Cdn\$/bbl) <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$80</b>	<b>\$100</b>
AECO natural gas (Cdn\$/mcf) <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>\$4.00</b>	<b>\$5.50</b>	<b>\$6.50</b>
Alberta royalty rate	12.6%	18.1%	22.6%
Saskatchewan royalty rate <sup>(2)</sup>	17.9%	17.9%	17.9%
British Columbia royalty rate <sup>(2)</sup>	17.0%	17.0%	17.0%
Manitoba royalty rate <sup>(2)</sup>	13.0%	13.0%	13.0%
<b>Total Corporate Royalty Rate</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>17.8%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>

- (1) Canadian dollar denominated prices before quality differentials.
- (2) Royalty rate includes Crown, Freehold and Gross Override royalties for all jurisdictions in which ARC operates.

Following the implementation of the ARF, the Alberta Government introduced certain transitional rates and incentive programs to provide royalty relief to producers and in turn encourage continued drilling activity in the province. ARC is eligible for the Alberta programs assuming the necessary criteria are met and required elections are filed. The



drilling credit program applies to new wells drilled between April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2011. At year-end, ARC has accrued credits of \$8.1 million and estimates it will generate a maximum \$16.5 million credit over the life of the program based on forward looking prices. ARC is automatically eligible for the reduced royalty rate incentive on new production for wells coming on production between April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2011. These wells will receive a crown royalty rate of five per cent subject to certain production limits.

During 2009, the British Columbia government announced a new stimulus package designed to attract investment and produce immediate economic benefits for the province. The stimulus package included royalty incentives in the form of reduced royalty rates for wells drilled in the province between September 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010, and modifications to the existing deep well drilling program to increase available credits and expand depth criteria whereby additional wells may qualify for the program. ARC estimates that the deep well drilling credits could save approximately \$1 million per horizontal well drilled. These credits will be recorded as a reduction to royalty expense to the extent that royalties are incurred on the well drilled. The royalty reduction program will result in a two per cent maximum royalty rate for a period of 12 months. Management estimates that for wells that do not qualify for the drilling credit program, the reduced royalty incentive could generate savings of \$1 million per well at natural gas prices of \$3 per mcf to \$2.5 million per well at natural gas prices of \$7 per mcf. Wells that qualify for the drilling credit program must draw down the drilling credit before qualifying for the reduced royalty program. Management plans to drill 20 wells in British Columbia on operated properties during the incentive period in order to maximize the total benefit to ARC and its unitholders. New wells drilled that will qualify for the two per cent royalty incentive are expected to come on production in the third and fourth quarters of 2010.

Operating costs remained flat at \$10.19 per boe compared to \$10.13 per boe in 2008 with the costs associated with operating new wells brought on stream offset by lower electricity costs and cost savings and efficiency programs achieved by the operations team.

Looking ahead to 2010, ARC expects to incur full year operating costs of \$10.30 per boe or approximately \$270 million based on annual production of between 70,500 and 72,500 boe per day.

#### General and Administrative Expenses (“G&A”) and Trust Unit Incentive Compensation

G&A, prior to long-term incentive payments under the Whole Unit Plan and net of overhead recoveries on operated properties, increased 4.9 per cent to \$40.7 million in 2009 from \$38.8 million in 2008. The modest increase in G&A expenses was primarily due to a decrease in operating recoveries of \$1.4 million resulting from lower levels of capital spending during 2009.

Cash G&A in 2010 is expected to increase by approximately \$10.6 million with increases in compensation and additional staff hires required to exploit our growth opportunities including the Montney, Ante Creek and Pembina assets as well as additional rent costs for the Calgary office relocation. ARC’s Calgary office lease on its existing space terminates in May of 2010 and ARC has secured new space at a competitive rate on a 14 year term. ARC has committed to additional space in the new premises to accommodate future growth and expansion that will result in higher year-over-year cash G&A costs. ARC has hired an agent to sublet near-term excess space to partially offset this additional cost.

ARC paid out \$16.6 million under the Whole Unit Plan in 2009 compared to \$28.2 million in 2008 (\$11.7 million and \$21.3 million of the payouts were allocated to G&A in 2009 and 2008, respectively, and the remainder to operating costs and property, plant and equipment). The reduced payments in 2009 are a result of the decline in ARC’s unit price observed throughout 2009 and specifically in March and September when cash payments were made. The next cash payment under the Whole Unit Plan is scheduled to occur in March 2010.

Table 15 is a breakdown of G&A and trust unit incentive compensation expense under the Whole Unit Plan:

**Table 15**

<b>G&amp;A and Trust Unit Incentive Compensation Expense</b> (\$ millions except per boe)	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
G&A expenses	<b>56.1</b>	55.6	1
Operating recoveries	<b>(15.4)</b>	(16.8)	(8)
Cash G&A expenses before Whole Unit Plan	<b>40.7</b>	38.8	5
Cash Expense – Whole Unit Plan	<b>11.7</b>	21.3	(45)
Cash G&A expenses including Whole Unit Plan	<b>52.4</b>	60.1	(13)
Accrued compensation - Whole Unit Plan	<b>(0.1)</b>	1.1	(109)
Total G&A and trust unit incentive compensation expense	<b>52.3</b>	61.2	(15)
Total G&A and trust unit incentive compensation expense per boe	<b>2.26</b>	2.57	(12)

A non-cash Whole Unit Plan recovery (“non-cash compensation recovery”) of \$0.1 million (\$nil per boe) was recorded in 2009 compared to an expense of \$1.1 million (\$0.05 per boe) in 2008. The recovery in 2009 relates to the estimated costs of the plan to December 31, 2009, offset by a reversal of the accrual for the cash payments made

during the year.

### Whole Unit Plan

The Whole Unit Plan is designed to offer each employee, officer and director (the “plan participants”) cash compensation in relation to the value of a specified number of underlying trust units. The Whole Unit Plan consists of Restricted Trust Units (“RTUs”) for which the number of units is fixed and will vest over a period of three years and Performance Trust Units (“PTUs”) for which the number of units is variable and will vest at the end of three years.

Upon vesting, the plan participant is entitled to receive a cash payment based on the fair value of the underlying trust units plus accrued distributions. The cash compensation issued upon vesting of the PTUs is dependent upon the total return performance of ARC compared to its peers. Total return is calculated as the sum of the change in the market price of the trust units in the period plus the amount of distributions in the period. A performance multiplier is applied to the PTUs based on the percentile rank of ARC’s total unitholder return compared to its peers. The performance multiplier ranges from zero, if ARC’s performance ranks in the bottom quartile, to two for top quartile performance.

Table 16 shows the changes to the Whole Unit Plan during the year of RTUs and PTUs outstanding:

**Table 16**

<b>Whole Unit Plan</b> (units in thousands and \$ millions except per unit)	Number of RTUs	Number of PTUs	Total RTUs and PTUs
Balance, beginning of year	756	959	1,715
Granted in the year	703	635	1,338
Vested in the year	(355)	(261)	(616)
Forfeited in the year	(52)	(28)	(80)
Balance, end of year <sup>(1)</sup>	1,052	1,305	2,357
Estimated distributions to vesting date <sup>(2)</sup>	183	318	501
Estimated units upon vesting after distributions	1,235	1,623	2,858
Performance multiplier <sup>(3)</sup>	-	1.2	-
Estimated total units upon vesting	1,235	1,996	3,231
Trust unit price at December 31, 2009	19.94	19.94	19.94
Estimated total value upon vesting	24.6	39.8	64.4

(1) Based on underlying units before performance multiplier and accrued distributions.

(2) Represents estimated additional units to be issued equivalent to estimated distributions accruing to vesting date.

(3) The performance multiplier only applies to PTUs and was estimated to be 1.2 at December 31, 2009 based on an average calculation of all outstanding grants. The performance multiplier is assessed each period end based on actual results of ARC relative to its peers except during the first year of each grant where a performance multiplier of 1.0 is used.

The value associated with the RTUs and PTUs is expensed in the statement of income over the vesting period with the expense amount being determined by the trust unit price, the number of PTUs to be issued on vesting, and distributions. In periods where substantial trust unit price fluctuation occurs, ARC’s G&A expense is subject to significant volatility.

Table 17 is a summary of the range of future expected payments under the Whole Unit Plan based on variability of the performance multiplier and units outstanding as at December 31, 2009:

**Table 17**

<b>Value of Whole Unit Plan as at December 31, 2009</b> (units thousands and \$ millions except per unit)	Performance multiplier		
	-	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Estimated trust units to vest			
RTUs	1,235	1,235	1,235
PTUs	-	1,623	3,246
<b>Total units <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>1,235</b>	<b>2,858</b>	<b>4,482</b>
Trust unit price <sup>(2)</sup>	19.94	19.94	19.94
Trust unit distributions per month <sup>(2)</sup>	0.10	0.10	0.10
<b>Value of Whole Unit Plan upon vesting <sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>89.4</b>
2010	11.0	19.7	28.4
2011	8.2	16.8	25.3
2012	5.4	20.5	35.7

(1) Includes additional estimated units to be issued for accrued distributions to vesting date.

(2) Values will fluctuate over the vesting period based on the volatility of the underlying trust unit price and distribution levels. Assumes a future trust unit price of \$19.94 and \$0.10 per trust unit distributions based on the unit price and distribution levels in place at December 31, 2009.

(3) Upon vesting, a cash payment is made equivalent to the value of the underlying trust units. The payment is made on vesting dates in March and September of each year and at that time is reflected as a reduction of cash flow from operating activities.

Due to the variability in the future payments under the plan, ARC estimates that between \$24.6 million and \$89.4 million will be paid out from 2010 through 2012 based on the current trust unit price, distribution levels and ARC's market performance relative to its peers.

#### **Provision for Non-recoverable Accounts Receivable**

For the year ended December 31, 2009, ARC recorded a recovery of \$1.7 million for amounts received on balances previously included in ARC's allowance for doubtful accounts. The recovery includes \$1.2 million for settlement of oil revenues that were previously due from SemCanada Crude ("SemCanada"), a counterparty that marketed a portion of ARC's production, and had filed for protection under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act in 2008. The remaining \$0.5 million is composed of \$0.6 million recovered from one counterparty and \$0.1 million written off for balances deemed uncollectable from various counterparties.

#### **Interest and Financing Charges**

Interest and financing charges decreased to \$25.7 million in 2009 from \$32.9 million in 2008 due to a decrease in short-term interest rates as well as a reduction in debt outstanding. As at December 31, 2009, ARC had \$846.1 million of long-term debt outstanding, of which \$340.9 million was fixed at a weighted average rate of 5.9 per cent and \$505.2 million, including the working capital facility, was floating at current market rates plus a credit spread of 60 to 65 basis points. Forty-six per cent (US\$369.1 million) of ARC's debt outstanding is denominated in U.S. dollars. ARC's credit facility is a three year facility maturing in April 2011. Management's current expectation is that the current credit spread would increase upon renewal by 150 to 250 basis points.

#### **Foreign Exchange Gains and Losses**

ARC recorded a gain of \$70 million in 2009 on foreign exchange transactions compared to a loss of \$89.4 million in 2008. These amounts include both realized and unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses.

Realized foreign exchange gains or losses arise from U.S. denominated transactions such as interest payments, debt repayments and hedging settlements. There was a \$1 million cash realized foreign exchange gain during the year, as well as a net non-cash realized gain of \$2.7 million was recorded relating to debt repayments of \$17.2 million made during the year. These debt repayments were financed with ARC's credit facility and therefore are considered to be non-cash transactions.

Unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses are due to revaluation of U.S. denominated debt balances. The volatility of the Canadian dollar during the reporting period has a direct impact on the unrealized component of the foreign exchange gain or loss. The unrealized gain or loss impacts net income but does not impact cash flow from operating activities as it is a non-cash amount. From December 31, 2008 to December 31, 2009, the Cdn\$/US\$ exchange rate decreased from 1.22 to 1.05 resulting in an unrealized gain of \$66.3 million on U.S. dollar denominated debt.

## Taxes

In 2009, a future income tax recovery of \$32.8 million was included in income compared to a recovery of \$4.5 million in 2008. The current year recovery primarily relates to property, plant and equipment, and is a result of the depletion deduction claimed for accounting purposes exceeding the tax pools claimed for income tax purposes. The current year recovery attributable to property, plant and equipment is partially offset by a future income tax liability relating to the unrealized foreign exchange gain on long-term debt. In 2009, ARC's expected future corporate income tax rate decreased marginally from 25.3 per cent to 25.1 per cent.

The corporate income tax rate applicable to 2009 is 29 per cent; however, ARC and its subsidiaries did not pay any cash income taxes for fiscal 2009. Due to ARC's structure, currently, both income tax and future tax liabilities are passed on to the unitholders by means of royalty payments made between ARC Resources and ARC.

Management continues to work on the plan for converting ARC Energy Trust to a corporation on January 1, 2011. After the conversion, the corporation would expect to allocate its cash flow among funding a portion of capital expenditures, periodic debt repayments, site reclamation expenditures, and cash payments to shareholders in the form of dividends. Current taxes payable by ARC after converting to a corporation will be subject to normal corporate tax rates. Taxable income as a corporation will vary depending on total income and expenses and vary with changes to commodity prices, costs and claims for both accumulated tax pools and tax pools associated with current year expenditures. As ARC has accumulated \$2.2 billion of income tax pools, ARC expects that taxable income will be reduced or potentially eliminated for the initial period post conversion. The \$2.2 billion of income tax pools (detailed in Table 18) are deductible at various rates and annual deductions associated with the initial tax pools will decline over time.

**Table 18**

<b>Income Tax Pool type</b>	<b>Cdn \$ millions at December, 2009</b>	<b>Annual deductibility</b>
Canadian Oil and Gas Property Expense	951.6	10% declining balance
Canadian Development Expense	391.1	30% declining balance
Canadian Exploration Expense	105.6	100%
Undepreciated Capital Cost	432.2	Primarily 25% declining balance
Non-Capital Losses	181.9	100%
Research and Experimental Expenditures	0.8	100%
Other	15.2	Various rates, 7% declining balance to 20%
<b>Total Federal Tax Pools</b>	<b>2,078.4</b>	
Additional Alberta Tax Pools	155.5	Various rates, 25% declining balance to 100%
<b>Total Federal and Provincial Pools</b>	<b>2,233.9</b>	

Returns to shareholders post conversion will be impacted by the reduction of cash flow required to pay current income taxes, if any. Over the long-term, we would expect Canadian investors who hold their trust units in a taxable account to be relatively indifferent on an after tax basis as to whether ARC is structured as a corporation or as a trust in 2011. However, Canadian tax deferred investors (those holding their trust units in a tax deferred vehicle such as an RRSP, RRIF or pension plan) and foreign investors will realize a lower after tax return on distributions in taxable years after 2011 due to the introduction of the SIFT Tax should ARC stay as a trust, and their inability to claim the dividend tax credit if ARC converts to a corporation.

If a conversion from the trust structure to a corporation is approved by the unitholders, ARC expects there will be an opportunity to convert trust units to shares of the new corporation in a non-taxable manner; however, unitholders should consult their own tax advisor for details on the direct impact to themselves.

## Depletion, Depreciation and Accretion of Asset Retirement Obligation

The depletion, depreciation and accretion ("DD&A") rate increased to \$16.66 per boe in 2009 from \$15.93 per boe in 2008. ARC posted a large increase in proved reserves at year-end 2009; however, these reserves were offset by a significant increase in the future development costs required to convert proven undeveloped reserves to proven producing reserves.

A breakdown of the DD&A rate is summarized in Table 19:

**Table 19**

<b>DD&amp;A Rate</b> (\$ millions except per boe amounts)	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Depletion of oil & gas assets <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>377.1</b>	370.3	2
Accretion of asset retirement obligation <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>9.3</b>	9.3	-
Total DD&A	<b>386.4</b>	379.6	2
DD&A rate per boe	<b>16.66</b>	15.93	5

(1) Includes depletion of the capitalized portion of the asset retirement obligation that was capitalized to the property, plant and equipment balance and is being depleted over the life of the reserves.

(2) Represents the accretion expense on the asset retirement obligation during the year.

### **Goodwill**

The goodwill balance of \$157.6 million arose as a result of the acquisition of Star Oil and Gas in 2003. The goodwill balance was determined based on the excess of total consideration paid plus the future income tax liability less the fair value of the assets, for accounting purposes, acquired in the transaction.

Accounting standards require that the goodwill balance be assessed for impairment at least annually or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the balance might be impaired. If such impairment exists, it would be charged to income in the period in which the impairment occurs. ARC has determined that there was no goodwill impairment as of December 31, 2009.

### **Capital Expenditures and Net Acquisitions**

Capital expenditures, excluding acquisitions and dispositions, totaled \$359.6 million in 2009, compared to \$548.6 million in 2008. This amount was incurred on drilling and completions, geological, geophysical, facilities expenditures and corporate office costs.

Of the total amount spent in 2009, \$204.8 million was spent in ARC's resource plays, including \$188.9 million for the Montney resource play in Northeast British Columbia. A total of \$120.3 million was spent on ARC's conventional oil & gas properties, \$22.9 million was spent on ARC's enhanced oil recovery initiatives, and the balance of \$11.6 million was spent on leasehold improvements for ARC's new office space in downtown Calgary.

Included in the above capital expenditures is \$8.1 million of Alberta Government royalty drilling credits recorded for the full year of 2009, as well as \$3.1 million for British Columbia summer drilling credits relating to 2007 and 2008 drilling programs. Without these credits, capital expenditures would have been \$370.8 million.

In addition to the total capital expenditures during the year, ARC completed a corporate acquisition to purchase directly and indirectly all of the units of a general partnership formed to hold oil and gas assets in Ante Creek and other areas of northern Alberta ("Ante Creek") for \$180 million in cash prior to normal closing adjustments. The acquisition consisted of producing wells with production of approximately 2,000 boe per day and undeveloped land holdings. This acquisition closed on December 21, 2009, and therefore financial results from the properties have been included in consolidated financial statements from that date.

ARC completed net property dispositions of both producing property and undeveloped land of \$20.5 million that included a previously disclosed disposition of non-core assets in southeast Saskatchewan for proceeds of \$33.5 million.

A breakdown of capital expenditures and net acquisitions is shown in Table 20:

**Table 20**

<b>Capital Expenditures</b> (\$ millions)	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Geological and geophysical	<b>13.7</b>	27.1	(49)
Drilling and completions	<b>214.3</b>	305.4	(30)
Plant and facilities	<b>110.0</b>	90.4	22
Undeveloped land	<b>7.0</b>	122.4	(94)
Other capital	<b>14.6</b>	3.3	342
<b>Total capital expenditures</b>	<b>359.6</b>	548.6	(34)
Producing property acquisitions <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>8.2</b>	1.4	100
Undeveloped land property acquisitions	<b>14.5</b>	53.5	(73)
Producing property dispositions <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>(37.3)</b>	(0.2)	(100)
Undeveloped land property dispositions	<b>(5.9)</b>	(3.7)	59
Corporate acquisition <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>178.9</b>	-	100
<b>Total capital expenditures and net acquisitions</b>	<b>518.0</b>	599.6	(14)

(1) Value is net of post-closing adjustments.

(2) Represents total consideration for the transactions, including fees but is prior to the related future income tax liability and asset retirement cost obligation.

Approximately 73 per cent of the \$359.6 million capital program in 2009 was financed with cash flow from operating activities and proceeds from the distribution re-investment plan ("DRIP") compared to 91 per cent in 2008. Including proceeds from the net dispositions, capital expenditures were 51 per cent funded internally with the remaining 49 per cent funded through debt and working capital.

**Table 21**

**Source of Funding of Capital Expenditures and Net Acquisitions**

(\$ millions)	<b>2009</b>			<b>2008</b>		
	<b>Capital Expenditures</b>	<b>Net Acquisitions</b>	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	Capital Expenditures	Net Acquisitions	Total Expenditures
Expenditures	<b>359.6</b>	<b>158.4</b>	<b>518.0</b>	548.6	51.0	599.6
<b>Per cent funded by:</b>						
Cash flow from operating activities	<b>54%</b>	-	<b>38%</b>	68%	-	62%
Proceeds from Distribution re-investment plan ("DRIP")	<b>19%</b>	-	<b>13%</b>	23%	-	21%
Debt	<b>27%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>49%</b>	9%	100%	17%
	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	100%	100%	100%

**Asset Retirement Obligation and Reclamation Fund**

At December 31, 2009, ARC recorded an Asset Retirement Obligation ("ARO") of \$149.9 million (\$141.5 million at December 31, 2008) for future abandonment and reclamation of ARC's properties. The estimated ARO includes assumptions in respect of actual costs to abandon wells or reclaim the property as well as annual inflation factors in order to calculate the undiscounted total future liability. A significant portion of the costs are projected to be incurred in years 2050 to 2060. The future liability is then discounted at a weighted average risk adjusted credit rate of 6.5 per cent to reflect ARC's cost of borrowing for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Included in the December 31, 2009 ARO balance was a \$4 million increase relating to the acquisition of the Ante Creek assets, a \$3.8 million increase related to development activities and changes in estimates, \$9.3 million for accretion expense in the year and a reduction of \$8.7 million for actual abandonment expenditures incurred during 2009.

ARC has established two reclamation funds to finance future asset retirement obligations; one fund has been restricted to finance obligations specifically associated with the Redwater property, with the main fund financing all other obligations. Future contributions for the two funds will vary over time in order to provide for the total estimated future abandonment and reclamation costs that are to be incurred upon abandonment of ARC's properties. Minimum contributions to the Redwater fund over the next 46 years will be approximately \$86 million. The main fund has no minimum contribution requirement, however, the Board of Directors has approved voluntary contributions that currently result in annual contributions of \$6 million.

ARC's reclamation funds totaled \$33.2 million as at December 31, 2009, compared to \$28.2 million as at December 31, 2008. Under the terms of ARC's investment policy, reclamation fund investments and excess cash can only be invested in Canadian or U.S. Government securities, investment grade corporate bonds, or investment grade short-term money market securities.

### Capitalization, Financial Resources and Liquidity

A breakdown of ARC's capital structure is outlined in Table 22, as at December 31, 2009 and 2008:

**Table 22**

<b>Capital Structure and Liquidity</b> (\$ millions except per cent and ratio amounts)	<b>December 31, 2009</b>	December 31, 2008
Long-term debt	<b>846.1</b>	901.8
Working capital deficit <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>56.3</b>	60.1
Net debt obligations <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>902.4</b>	961.9
Market value of trust units and exchangeable shares <sup>(3)</sup>	<b>4,765.7</b>	4,405.9
Total capitalization <sup>(4)</sup>	<b>5,668.1</b>	5,367.8
Net debt as a percentage of total capitalization	<b>15.9%</b>	17.9%
Net debt to cash flow from operating activities	<b>1.8</b>	1.0

(1) Working capital is calculated as current liabilities less the current assets as they appear on the Consolidated Balance Sheets, and excludes current unrealized amounts pertaining to risk management contracts and the current portion of future income taxes.

(2) Net debt is a non-GAAP measure and therefore it may not be comparable with the calculation of similar measures for other entities.

(3) Calculated using the total trust units outstanding at December 31 including the total number of trust units issuable for exchangeable shares at December 31, multiplied by the closing trust unit price of \$19.94 and \$20.10 for 2009 and 2008, respectively.

(4) Total capitalization as presented does not have any standardized meaning prescribed by Canadian GAAP, and therefore, it may not be comparable with the calculation of similar measures for other entities. Total capitalization is not intended to represent the total funds from equity and debt received by ARC.

At December 31, 2009, ARC had total credit facilities of \$1.3 billion with \$846.1 million currently outstanding resulting in unused credit available of \$470.5 million. On January 5, 2010 ARC closed on an equity offering of 13 million units that raised net proceeds of approximately \$240 million that were used to reduce ARC's outstanding debt. As a result, ARC's credit available as at January 5, 2010 increased to approximately \$710 million.

The credit facility syndicate includes 11 domestic and international banks. ARC's debt agreements contain a number of covenants all of which were met as at December 31, 2009. These agreements are available at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). The major financial covenants are described below:

- Long-term debt and letters of credit not to exceed three times annualized net income before non-cash items and interest expense;
- Long-term debt, letters of credit, and subordinated debt not to exceed four times annualized net income before non-cash items and interest expense; and
- Long-term debt and letters of credit not to exceed 50 per cent of the book value of unitholders' equity and long-term debt, letters of credit and subordinated debt.

ARC's long-term strategy is to keep debt at less than 2.0 times cash flow from operating activities and under 20 per cent of total capitalization. This strategy resulted in manageable debt to cash flow levels in 2009. Debt to trailing cash flow from operating activities of 1.0 times at December 31, 2008 increased to 1.8 times with the significant decline in commodity prices and cash flow in 2009, but were well below the debt covenant levels of 3.0 times. In 2010, with closing of the equity offering the debt to cash flow from operating activities, ratio declined to 1.2 times. The expectation is increasing production volumes and commodity prices will result in further declines in this ratio during the course of the year.

The weak global economic situation in 2008 and 2009 impacted ARC along with all other oil and gas entities by restricting access to capital and increasing borrowing costs. The credit situation improved dramatically during the third and fourth quarters of 2009 in the three markets that ARC typically uses to raise capital; equity, bank debt and long-term notes.

ARC entered into a bought deal equity offering with a group of underwriters on December 14, 2009, with the intent of issuing 10.3 million units and raising approximately \$189 million of net proceeds. Due to the excess demand by both institutional and retailer investors, ARC agreed to increase the size of the offering to 13 million units and raised approximately \$240 million of net proceeds. The pricing, discount and fees paid for this equity offering, were similar to those for offerings prior to the 2008/2009 recession period.

Credit conditions in the debt markets have improved dramatically in the last six months. Based on discussions with the 11 banks in ARC's revolving credit syndicate, management believes that ARC could expect to renew the \$800 million credit facility on or before its maturity on April 1, 2011, at the same or larger dollar amount for a three year term. Costs of borrowing under our bank credit facilities comprise two items: first, the underlying interest rate on Bankers' Acceptances (CDN dollar loans) or LIBOR rates (U.S. denominated borrowings) and second, the credit spread to ARC. The credit spread to ARC in 2008 and 2009 ranged between 60 and 65 basis points. Upon renewal of our credit facilities, management would expect to pay a credit spread of approximately 1.5 per cent to 2.5 per cent. When added to the current three month BA rate, this would put the cost of borrowing under the revolving credit facility below three per cent, keeping bank debt ARC's lowest cost of capital. In addition to paying interest on the outstanding debt under the revolving syndicated credit facility all borrowers including ARC are charged a standby fee for the amount of the undrawn facility currently equal to 13.5 basis points. It is management's expectation that this fee will also increase upon renewal. Due to the increase of this fee, ARC will prudently establish excess credit lines to facilitate future operations and minor acquisitions with the view of increasing credit capacity when required to facilitate larger acquisitions. Bankers' Acceptance rates and LIBOR rates are at all time lows and it is expected these rates will increase as the economy recovers and central banks raise interest rates in an effort to stem inflation.

ARC also accesses long-term debt from large institutional investors by issuing long-term notes with an average term normally of five to 10 years. The cost of this debt is based upon two factors: first, the current rate of long-term government bonds and second, ARC's credit spread. Similar to bank credit spreads, these spreads increased significantly in 2008 and early 2009 but are now declining. ARC's average interest rate on its outstanding long-term notes is 5.9 per cent with the last series of notes issued in 2009 at a blended rate of 7.5 per cent. Based upon recent issues by ARC's peers, management believes ARC could access additional funds by issuing long-term notes at a rate similar to or lower than our historical average of 5.9 per cent.

ARC expects to finance its 2010 capital program with cash flow from operating activities, proceeds from the DRIP and existing credit capacity. If ARC undertook any major acquisitions, management would finance the transactions with a combination of debt and equity in a cost effective manner.

#### **Unitholders' Equity**

At December 31, 2009, there were 239 million trust units issued and issuable for exchangeable shares, an increase of 19.8 million trust units from December 31, 2008 due mostly to the issuance of 15.5 million trust units as part of an equity offering in February 2009 for net proceeds of \$240 million.

Unitholders electing to reinvest distributions or make optional cash payments to acquire trust units from treasury under the DRIP may do so at a five per cent discount to the prevailing market price with no additional fees or commissions. During 2009, ARC raised proceeds of \$67 million and issued 4.1 million trust units pursuant to the DRIP at an average price of \$16.21 per unit.

On December 14, 2009 ARC entered into an agreement to sell 13 million trust units at \$19.40 per trust unit to raise gross proceeds of approximately \$252 million and net proceeds of approximately \$240 million on a bought deal basis. This equity offering was made concurrent with ARC agreeing to purchase properties for \$180 million at Ante Creek. The net proceeds of the offering were not received until January 5, 2010 at which time they reduced the outstanding indebtedness of ARC by \$240 million.

#### **Distributions**

ARC declared distributions of \$298.5 million (\$1.28 per unit), representing 60 per cent of 2009 cash flow from operating activities compared to distributions of \$570 million (\$2.67 per unit) representing 60 per cent of cash flow from operating activities in 2008.

The following items may be deducted from cash flow from operating activities to arrive at distributions to unitholders:

- a portion of capital expenditures;
- annual contribution to the reclamation funds;
- debt principal repayments;
- income taxes if any; and
- certain obligations for future payments relative to the long-term incentive compensation under the Whole Unit Plan.



Cash flow from operating activities and distributions in total and per unit are summarized in Table 23:

**Table 23**

<b>Cash flow from operating activities and distributions</b>	<b>2009</b>			<b>2008</b>		
	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
	<b>(\$ millions)</b>			<b>(\$ per unit)</b>		
Cash flow from operating activities	<b>497.4</b>	944.4	(47)	<b>2.11</b>	4.37	(52)
Net reclamation fund contributions (1)	<b>(4.6)</b>	(2.2)	100	<b>(0.01)</b>	(0.01)	-
Capital expenditures funded with cash flow from operating activities	<b>(194.3)</b>	(372.2)	(48)	<b>(0.83)</b>	(1.72)	(52)
Other (2)	-	-	-	<b>0.01</b>	0.03	(67)
<b>Distributions</b>	<b>298.5</b>	570.0	(48)	<b>1.28</b>	2.67	(52)

(1) Includes interest income earned on the reclamation fund balances that is retained in the reclamation funds.

(2) Other represents the difference due to distributions paid being based on actual trust units outstanding at each distribution date whereas per unit cash flow from operating activities, reclamation fund contributions and capital expenditures funded with cash flow from operated activities, are based on weighted average outstanding trust units in the period.

ARC continually assesses distribution levels, in light of commodity prices, capital expenditure programs and production volumes, to ensure that distributions are in line with the long-term strategy and objectives of ARC as per the following guidelines:

- To maintain a level of distributions that, in normal times, in the opinion of management and the Board of Directors, is sustainable for a minimum period of six months after factoring in the impact of current commodity prices on cash flows. ARC's objective is to normalize the effect of volatility of commodity prices rather than to pass on that volatility to unitholders in the form of fluctuating monthly distributions.
- To ensure that ARC's financial flexibility is maintained by a review of ARC's debt to equity and debt to cash flow from operating activities levels. The use of cash flow from operating activities and proceeds from equity offerings to fund capital development activities, reduces the requirements of ARC to use debt to finance these expenditures. In 2009, ARC funded 54 per cent of capital development activities with a portion of cash flow from operating activities. Distributions and the actual amount of cash flows withheld to fund ARC's capital expenditure program is dependent on the commodity price environment and is subject to the approval and discretion of the Board of Directors.

A measure of sustainability is the comparison of net income to distributions. Net income incorporates all costs including depletion expense and other non-cash expenses, whereas cash flow from operating activities measures the cash generated in a given period before the cost of acquiring or replacing the associated reserves produced. Therefore, net income may be more representative of the profitability of the entity and thus a relevant measure against which to measure distributions to illustrate sustainability. As net income is sensitive to fluctuations in commodity prices and the impact of risk management contracts, currency fluctuations and other non-cash items, it is expected that there will be deviations between annual net income and distributions.

Table 24 illustrates the comparison of distributions to net income as a measure of long-term sustainability. With the decline in commodity prices in 2009 relative to 2008, distributions were reduced from \$0.15 per unit per month in December 2008, to \$0.12 per unit per month in January 2009, and subsequently to the current rate of \$0.10 per unit per month in May 2009.

**Table 24**

<b>Net income and Distributions</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>(\$ millions except per cent)</b>			
Net income	222.8	533.0	495.3
Distributions	298.5	570.0	498.0
Excess (Shortfall)	(75.7)	(37.0)	(2.7)
Excess (Shortfall) as per cent of net income	(34%)	(7%)	(1%)
Cash flow from operating activities	497.4	944.4	704.9
Distributions as a per cent of cash flow from operating activities	60%	60%	71%
Average distribution per unit per month	\$0.11	\$0.22	\$0.20

The actual amount of future monthly distributions is proposed by Management and is subject to the approval and discretion of the Board of Directors. The Board reviews future distributions in conjunction with their review of quarterly financial and operating results.

**Table 25**

Calendar Year	Distributions	Taxable Portion	Return of Capital
2010 YTD <sup>(2)</sup>	0.10	0.10	-
2009	1.28	1.24	0.04
2008	2.67	2.62	0.05
2007	2.40	2.32	0.08
2006 <sup>(1)</sup>	2.60	2.55	0.05
2005	1.94	1.90	0.04
2004	1.80	1.69	0.11
2003	1.78	1.51	0.27
2002	1.58	1.07	0.51
2001	2.41	1.64	0.77
2000	1.86	0.84	1.02
1999	1.25	0.26	0.99
1998	1.20	0.12	1.08
1997	1.40	0.31	1.09
1996	0.81	-	0.81
<b>Cumulative</b>	<b>\$ 25.08</b>	<b>\$ 18.17</b>	<b>\$ 6.91</b>

(1) Based on distributions paid and payable in 2006.

(2) Based on distributions declared at January 31, 2010 and estimated taxable portion of 2010 distributions of 97 per cent.

Please refer to the Trust's website at [www.arcresources.com](http://www.arcresources.com) for details of the monthly distribution amounts and distribution dates for 2010.

#### **Taxation of Distributions**

Distributions comprise a return of capital portion (tax deferred) and a return on capital portion (taxable). The return of capital component reduces the cost basis of the trust units held. For 2009, distributions declared in the calendar year will be 97 per cent return on capital or \$1.24 per unit for the year (taxable) and three per cent return of capital or \$0.04 per unit for the year (tax deferred). For a more detailed breakdown, please visit our website at [www.arcresources.com](http://www.arcresources.com).

#### **Environmental Initiatives Impacting ARC**

There are no new material environmental initiatives impacting ARC at this time.

#### **Contractual Obligations and Commitments**

ARC has contractual obligations in the normal course of operations including purchase of assets and services, operating agreements, transportation commitments, sales commitments, royalty obligations, lease rental obligations and employee agreements. These obligations are of a recurring, consistent nature and impact ARC's cash flows in an ongoing manner. ARC also has contractual obligations and commitments that are of a less routine nature as disclosed in Table 26.

**Table 26**

	Payments due by period				Total
	1 year	2-3 Years	4-5 years	Beyond 5 years	
Debt repayments <sup>(1)</sup>	34.8	571.7	107.4	132.2	846.1
Interest payments <sup>(2)</sup>	20.1	35.5	24.2	20.8	100.6
Reclamation fund contributions <sup>(3)</sup>	4.9	8.9	7.7	64.2	85.7
Purchase commitments	41.2	37.1	15.9	14.9	109.1
Transportation commitments <sup>(4)</sup>	4.8	26.6	24.2	7.1	62.7
Operating leases	4.0	13.0	14.9	74.4	106.3
Risk management contract premiums <sup>(5)</sup>	1.6	-	-	-	1.6
<b>Total contractual obligations</b>	<b>111.4</b>	<b>692.8</b>	<b>194.3</b>	<b>313.6</b>	<b>1,312.1</b>

(1) Long-term and short-term debt, excluding interest.

(2) Fixed interest payments on senior secured notes.

(3) Contribution commitments to a restricted reclamation fund associated with the Redwater property.

(4) Fixed payments for transporting production from the Dawson gas plant, expected to be operational in early second quarter of 2010.

(5) Fixed premiums to be paid in future periods on certain commodity risk management contracts.

The above noted risk management contract premiums are part of ARC's commitments related to its risk management program and have been recorded at fair market value at December 31, 2009 on the balance sheet as part of risk management contracts. In addition to the premiums, ARC has commitments related to its risk management program.

ARC enters into commitments for capital expenditures in advance of the expenditures being made. At any given point in time, it is estimated that ARC has committed to capital expenditures equal to approximately one quarter of its capital budget by means of giving the necessary authorizations to incur the capital in a future period. ARC's 2010 capital budget has been approved by the Board at \$610 million. This commitment has not been disclosed in the commitment table (Table 26) as it is of a routine nature and is part of normal course of operations for active oil and gas companies and trusts.

The 2010 capital budget of \$610 million includes \$20 million for leasehold development costs related to ARC's new office space in downtown Calgary. These costs will be incurred throughout the first half of 2010. The operating lease commitments for the new space begin in the first quarter of 2010 and are included in Table 26.

ARC is involved in litigation and claims arising in the normal course of operations. Management is of the opinion that pending litigation will not have a material adverse impact on ARC's financial position or results of operations and therefore the commitment table (Table 26) does not include any commitments for outstanding litigation and claims.

ARC has certain sales contracts with aggregators whereby the price received by ARC is dependent upon the contracts entered into by the aggregator. This commitment has not been disclosed in the commitment table (Table 26) as it is of a routine nature and is part of normal course of operations.

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

ARC has certain lease agreements, all of which are reflected in the Contractual Obligations and Commitments table (Table 26), which were entered into in the normal course of operations. All leases have been treated as operating leases whereby the lease payments are included in operating expenses or G&A expenses depending on the nature of the lease. No asset or liability value has been assigned to these leases in the balance sheet as of December 31, 2009.

#### **Fourth Quarter Financial and Operational Results**

- During the fourth quarter, ARC completed an acquisition for \$180 million in cash consideration prior to normal closing adjustments of a partnership owning properties in the Ante Creek area. The acquisition consisted of producing wells with production of approximately 2,000 boe per day and undeveloped land holdings. This acquisition closed on December 21, 2009 and therefore financial results from the properties have been included in the Consolidated Financial Statements from that date.
- Announced concurrent with the Ante Creek acquisition was a bought deal financing where ARC entered into an agreement to sell 13 million trust units at \$19.40 per trust unit to raise gross proceeds of approximately \$252 million and net proceeds of approximately \$240 million. The net proceeds of the offering were received on January 5, 2010 at which time they reduced the outstanding indebtedness of ARC by \$240 million.

- ARC's fourth quarter production was 62,520 boe per day, a decrease of 2,793 boe per day from the fourth quarter of 2008 production of 65,313. The decrease in production is attributable, in large part, to the natural declines on ARC's properties as a result of the reduced capital spending throughout 2009.
- ARC spent \$117.3 million on capital expenditures before net acquisitions in the fourth quarter compared to \$169.4 million in 2008. ARC had an active fourth quarter drilling 39 gross wells (38 net wells) on operated properties with a 100 per cent success rate. Included in ARC's fourth quarter capital expenditures is \$20.8 million incurred on the Dawson phase 1 60 mmcf per day gas plant scheduled to be commissioned early in the second quarter of 2010.
- The fourth quarter netback before hedging decreased slightly to \$29.65 per boe as compared to \$29.97 for the same period of 2008. While ARC's realized crude oil price was 29 per cent higher in the fourth quarter of 2009 than the same period in 2008, the realized natural gas price was 39 per cent lower than in the fourth quarter of 2008.
- Cash G&A expenses before payments made under the Whole Unit Plan in the fourth quarter decreased to \$1.73 per boe as compared to \$1.78 for the same period in 2008. The decrease in 2009 is attributable to a decreased bonus accrual in 2009 reflecting the lower overall commodity price environment observed throughout 2009.

**Table 27**

<b>Fourth Quarter Financial and Operational Highlights</b>			
(Cdn\$ millions except per unit and per cent)	<b>Q4 2009</b>	<b>Q4 2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Production (boe/d)	<b>62,520</b>	65,313	(4)
Cash flow from operating activities	<b>143.2</b>	209.4	(32)
Per unit	<b>\$ 0.61</b>	\$ 0.96	(36)
Distributions	<b>70.9</b>	127.2	(44)
Per unit	<b>\$ 0.30</b>	\$ 0.58	(48)
Per cent of cash flow from operating activities	<b>50</b>	61	(18)
Net income	<b>65.5</b>	82.7	(21)
Per unit	<b>\$ 0.28</b>	\$ 0.38	(26)
<b>Prices</b>			
WTI (US\$/bbl)	<b>76.17</b>	58.75	30
Cdn\$/US\$ exchange rate	<b>1.06</b>	1.21	(12)
Realized oil price (Cdn \$/bbl)	<b>72.61</b>	56.26	29
AECO gas monthly index (Cdn \$/mcf)	<b>4.23</b>	6.79	(38)
Realized gas price (Cdn \$/mcf)	<b>4.58</b>	7.48	(39)
<b>Operating netback (\$/boe)</b>			
Revenue, before hedging	<b>48.42</b>	50.06	(3)
Royalties	<b>(7.94)</b>	(9.14)	(13)
Transportation	<b>(0.92)</b>	(0.86)	7
Operating costs	<b>(9.91)</b>	(10.09)	(2)
Netback (before hedging)	<b>29.65</b>	29.97	(1)
Cash hedging gain (loss)	<b>(0.47)</b>	2.38	(120)
Netback (after hedging)	<b>29.18</b>	32.35	(10)
Capital expenditures	<b>117.3</b>	169.4	(31)
Net acquisitions and dispositions <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>180.0</b>	27.6	552
Capital funded with cash flow from operating activities (per cent)	<b>73</b>	65	12

(1) Represents total consideration for the transactions, including fees but is prior to the related future income tax liability and asset retirement cost obligation.

### **Critical Accounting Estimates**

ARC has continuously evolved and documented its management and internal reporting systems to provide assurance that accurate, timely, internal and external information is gathered and disseminated.

ARC's financial and operating results incorporate certain estimates including:

- estimated revenues, royalties and operating costs on production as at a specific reporting date but for which actual revenues and costs have not yet been received;
- estimated capital expenditures on projects that are in progress;
- estimated depletion, depreciation and accretion that are based on estimates of oil and gas reserves that

ARC expects to recover in the future;

- estimated fair values of derivative contracts that are subject to fluctuation depending upon the underlying commodity prices and foreign exchange rates;
- estimated value of asset retirement obligations that are dependent upon estimates of future costs and timing of expenditures; and
- estimated future recoverable value of property, plant and equipment and goodwill.

ARC has hired individuals and consultants who have the skills required to make such estimates and ensures that individuals or departments with the most knowledge of the activity are responsible for the estimates. Further, past estimates are reviewed and compared to actual results, and actual results are compared to budgets in order to make more informed decisions on future estimates.

The ARC leadership team's mandate includes ongoing development of procedures, standards and systems to allow ARC staff to make the best decisions possible and ensuring those decisions are in compliance with ARC's environmental, health and safety policies.

### **Assessment of Business Risks**

The ARC management team is focused on long-term strategic planning and has identified the key risks, uncertainties and opportunities associated with the Trust's business that can impact the financial results as follows:

#### **VOLATILITY OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS PRICES**

ARC's operational results and financial condition, and therefore the amount of distributions paid to the unitholders and the amount of capital expenditures will be dependent on the prices received for oil and natural gas production. With the decline in commodity prices in 2009 relative to 2008, distributions were reduced from \$0.15 per unit per month in December 2008, to \$0.12 per unit per month in January 2009, and subsequently to the current rate of \$0.10 per unit per month in May 2009 when oil prices were below US\$50 per barrel for West Texas intermediate and under \$4.00 per mcf for NYMEX gas contracts. Further declines in oil and natural gas prices will result in further declines in, or elimination of, such distributions. Oil and natural gas prices are determined by economic and in some circumstances political factors. Supply and demand factors, including weather and general economic conditions as well as conditions in other oil and natural gas regions impact prices. Any movement in oil and natural gas prices will also have an effect on ARC's financial condition and its ability to continue with its capital expenditure program. ARC may manage the risk associated with changes in commodity prices by entering into oil or natural gas price derivative contracts. If ARC engages in activities to manage its commodity price exposure, it may forego the benefits it would otherwise experience if commodity prices were to increase. In addition, commodity derivative contracts activities could expose ARC to losses. To the extent that ARC engages in risk management activities related to commodity prices, it will be subject to credit risks associated with counterparties with which it contracts.

#### **REFINANCING AND DEBT SERVICE**

ARC currently has an \$800 million syndicated credit facility with eleven banks, with approximately 257 million drawn as of January 5, 2010 after receipt of the \$240 million proceeds from the announced December 14 and 15, 2009 equity offering. At the request of ARC, the lenders will review the credit facility each year and determine if they will extend for another year. In the event that the facility is not extended before April 11, 2011, indebtedness under the facility will become repayable at that date. There is also a risk that the credit facility will not be renewed for the same amount or on the same terms. Any of these events could affect ARC's ability to fund ongoing operations.

ARC currently has US\$298 million of U.S. denominated long-term debt outstanding which requires principal repayments starting in April 2010 and continuing until April 2021. ARC intends to fund these debt maturities with existing credit facilities. In the event ARC is unable to refinance its debt obligations it may impact ARC's ability to fund its ongoing operations and distribute cash.

ARC is required to comply with covenants under the credit facility. In the event that ARC does not comply with covenants under the credit facility, ARC's access to capital could be restricted or repayment could be required. ARC routinely reviews the covenants based on actual and forecast results and has the ability to make changes to its development plans and/or distribution policy to comply with covenants under the credit facility. The lenders have security interests over substantially all of the assets of ARC. If ARC becomes unable to pay its debt service charges or otherwise commits an event of default such as bankruptcy, the lender may foreclose on such assets of ARC or sell the working interests.

#### **COUNTERPARTY RISK**

ARC assumes customer credit risk associated with oil and gas sales, financial hedging transactions and joint venture participants. In the event that ARC's counterparties default on payments to ARC, cash flows will be impacted and distributions paid to unitholders may be impacted. ARC has established credit policies and controls designed to mitigate the risk of default or non-payment with respect to oil and gas sales, financial hedging transactions and joint

venture participants. A diversified sales customer base is maintained and exposure to individual entities is reviewed on a regular basis.

#### VARIATIONS IN INTEREST RATES AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Variations in interest rates could result in an increase in the amount ARC pays to service debt. World oil prices are quoted in U.S. dollars and the price received by Canadian producers is therefore affected by the Canadian/U.S. dollar exchange rate that may fluctuate over time. A material increase in the value of the Canadian dollar may negatively impact ARC's net production revenue. Over the last two years, the Canadian dollar has experienced significant volatility, impacting the amount of Canadian dollars received by ARC for its production. Continued volatility in interest rates and the Canadian dollar may affect future cash flow from operations and reduce funds available for both distributions and capital expenditures. ARC may initiate certain derivative contracts to attempt to mitigate these risks. To the extent that ARC engages in risk management activities related to foreign exchange rates, it will be subject to credit risk associated with counterparties with which it contracts. The increase in the exchange rate for the Canadian dollar and future Canadian/U.S. exchange rates may impact future distributions to the unitholders and the future value of ARC's reserves as determined by independent evaluators.

#### RESERVES ESTIMATES

The reserves and recovery information contained in ARC's independent reserves evaluation is only an estimate. The actual production and ultimate reserves from the properties may be greater or less than the estimates prepared by the independent reserves evaluator. The reserves report was prepared using certain commodity price assumptions. If lower prices for crude oil, natural gas liquids and natural gas are realized by ARC and substituted for the price assumptions utilized in those reserves reports, the present value of estimated future net cash flows for the Trust's reserves as well as the amount of ARC's reserves would be reduced and the reduction could be significant.

#### CHANGES IN INCOME TAX LEGISLATION

Income tax laws, or other laws, may in the future be changed or interpreted in a manner that adversely affects ARC or its unitholders. Tax authorities having jurisdiction over ARC or unitholders may disagree with how ARC calculates its income for tax purposes or payment of crown royalties or could change administrative practices to the detriment of ARC and its unitholders.

On June 22, 2007, the federal legislation (Bill C-52) implementing the tax on publicly traded income trusts and limited partnerships (the "SIFT Rules") received Royal Assent. The SIFT Rules are not expected to effect the Trust until 2011 as the Trust does not expect to exceed the normal growth guidelines announced by the Department of Finance. Under the SIFT Rules, the SIFT tax rate will be the federal general corporate income tax rate and the applicable provincial corporate rate. The federal general corporate income tax rate will be 16.5 per cent in 2011 and 15 per cent after 2011 and the provincial component will approximate 10 per cent.

Management and the Board of Directors continue to review the impact of this tax on our business strategy and we are of the opinion that the conversion from a trust to a corporation may be the most logical and tax efficient alternative for ARC unitholders. A unitholder meeting in December 2010 is planned to have unitholders vote on the conversion of the trust to a corporation. It is ARC's interpretation of Canadian tax legislation that Canadian investors who hold their units in a taxable account will be relatively indifferent on an after tax basis as to whether ARC is structured as a corporation or as a Trust in 2011. However, Canadian tax deferred investors (those holding their Trust Units in a tax deferred vehicle such as an RRSP, RRIF or pension plan) and foreign investors will realize a lower return on distributions in 2011 due to the introduction of the SIFT Tax should ARC stay as a Trust. Tax deferred investors and foreign investors will not have the ability to claim the dividend tax credit if ARC converts to a corporation.

#### CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT ROYALTY LEGISLATION

Provincial Programs related to the oil and natural gas industry may change in a manner that adversely impacts unitholders. ARC currently operates in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, all of which have different royalty programs that could be revised at any time. The Alberta Government revised its royalty program in 2009 and issued several amendments to the program throughout the year which have been favorable to ARC, however, there is a risk that future amendments to the program could have a non-favorable impact on ARC.

#### ACQUISITIONS

The price paid for acquisitions is based on engineering and economic estimates of the potential reserves made by independent engineers modified to reflect the technical views of management. These assessments include a number

of material assumptions regarding such factors as recoverability and marketability of oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids and sulphur, future prices of oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids and sulphur and operating costs, future capital expenditures and royalties and other government levies that will be imposed over the producing life of the reserves. Many of these factors are subject to change and are beyond the control of the operators of the working interests, management and ARC. In particular, changes in the prices of and markets for oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids and sulphur from those anticipated at the time of making such assessments will affect the amount of future distributions and as such the value of the units. In addition, all such estimates involve a measure of geological and engineering uncertainty that could result in lower production and reserves than attributed to the working interests. Actual reserves could vary materially from these estimates. Consequently, the reserves acquired may be less than expected, which could adversely impact cash flows and distributions to unitholders.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS AND IMPACT ON ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY PROJECTS

The oil and natural gas industry is subject to environmental regulation pursuant to local, provincial and federal legislation. A breach of such legislation may result in the imposition of fines or issuance of clean up orders in respect of ARC or its working interests. Such legislation may be changed to impose higher standards and potentially more costly obligations on ARC. Furthermore, management believes the federal political parties, appear to favor new programs for environmental laws and regulation, particularly in relation to the reduction of emissions, and there is no assurance that any such programs, laws or regulations, if proposed and enacted, will not contain emission reduction targets which ARC cannot meet, and financial penalties or charges could be incurred as a result of the failure to meet such targets. In particular there is uncertainty regarding the Federal Government's Regulatory Framework for Air Emissions ("Framework"), as issued under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act.

Additionally, the potential impact on ARC's operations and business of the Framework, with respect to instituting reductions of greenhouse gases, is not possible to quantify at this time as specific measures for meeting Canada's commitments have not been developed. Currently, companies are permitted to emit CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere with no requirement to capture and re-inject the emissions. In order for ARC to carry out its enhanced oil recovery program it is necessary to obtain CO<sub>2</sub> at a cost effective rate. Given that companies are not forced to capture their emissions, the infrastructure has not been put in place to facilitate this process. Without any additional provisions from the government, the economic parameters of ARC's enhanced oil recovery programs would be limited.

Although ARC has established a reclamation fund for the purpose of funding its future environmental and reclamation obligations based on current estimates, there can be no assurance that ARC will be able to satisfy its actual future environmental and reclamation obligations with the balance of the fund and therefore future cash flows may be required to fund future reclamation spending which may reduce the amount of distributions paid to unitholders.

## OPERATIONAL MATTERS

The operation of oil and gas wells involves a number of operating and natural hazards that may result in blowouts, environmental damage and other unexpected or dangerous conditions resulting in damage to operating subsidiaries of ARC and possible liability to third parties. ARC maintains liability insurance, where available, in amounts consistent with industry standards. Business interruption insurance may also be purchased for selected facilities, to the extent that such insurance is available. ARC may become liable for damages arising from such events against which it cannot insure or against which it may elect not to insure because of high premium costs or other reasons. Costs incurred to repair such damage or pay such liabilities will reduce distributable cash.

Continuing production from a property, and to some extent the marketing of production there from, are largely dependent upon the ability of the operator of the property. Approximately 23 per cent of ARC's production is operated by third parties. ARC has limited ability to influence costs on partner operated properties. Operating costs on most properties have increased steadily over recent years. To the extent the operator fails to perform these functions properly, ARC's revenue from such property may be reduced. Payments from production generally flow through the operator and there is a risk of non-payment delay and additional expense in receiving such revenues if the operator becomes insolvent. Although satisfactory title reviews are generally conducted in accordance with industry standards, such reviews do not guarantee or certify that a defect in the chain of title may not arise to defeat the claim of ARC to certain properties. A reduction of the distributions could result in such circumstances.

## DEPLETION OF RESERVES AND MAINTENANCE OF DISTRIBUTION

ARC's future oil and natural gas reserves and production, and therefore its cash flows, will be highly dependent on ARC's success in exploiting its reserves base and acquiring additional reserves. Without reserves additions through acquisition or development activities, ARC's reserves and production will decline over time as the oil and natural gas reserves are produced out. There can be no assurance that ARC will make sufficient capital expenditures to maintain production at current levels; nor as a consequence, that the amount of distributions by ARC to unitholders can be maintained at current levels. There can be no assurance that ARC will be successful in developing or acquiring

additional reserves on terms that meet ARC's investment objectives.

## PROJECT RISKS

ARC manages a variety of small and large projects in the conduct of our business and plans to spend \$610 million on capital projects throughout 2010. Project delays may impact expected revenues from operations. Significant project cost over-runs could make a project uneconomic. Our ability to execute projects and market oil and natural gas depends upon numerous factors beyond our control, including:

- availability of processing capacity;
- availability and proximity of pipeline capacity;
- availability of storage capacity;
- supply of and demand for oil and natural gas;
- availability of alternative fuel sources;
- effects of inclement weather;
- availability of drilling and related equipment;
- unexpected cost increases;
- accidental events;
- changes in regulations;
- availability and productivity of skilled labour; and
- regulation of the oil and natural gas industry by various levels of government and governmental agencies.

Because of these factors, ARC could be unable to execute projects on time, on budget or at all, and may not be able to effectively market the oil and natural gas that ARC produces.

### Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of December 31, 2009, an internal evaluation was carried out of the effectiveness of ARC's disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rule 13a-15 under the US Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and as defined in Canada by National Instrument 52-109, Certification of Disclosure in Issuers' Annual and Interim Filings. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and the Senior Vice President Finance and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that the information required to be disclosed in the reports that ARC files or submits under the Exchange Act or under Canadian Securities legislation is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the rules and forms therein. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that the information required to be disclosed by ARC in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act or under Canadian Securities Legislation is accumulated and communicated to ARC's management, including the senior executive and financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding the required disclosure.

### Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance that all assets are safeguarded, transactions are appropriately authorized and to facilitate the preparation of relevant, reliable and timely information. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Management has assessed the effectiveness of ARC's internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rule 13a-15 under the US Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and as defined in Canada by National Instrument 52-109, Certification of Disclosure in Issuers' Annual and Interim Filings. The assessment was based on the framework in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Management concluded that ARC's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2009. The effectiveness of ARC's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2009 has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, as reflected in their report for 2009. No changes were made to the Trust's internal control over financial reporting during the year ending December 31, 2009, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the internal controls over financial reporting.

### Financial Reporting Update

#### Current Year Accounting Changes

Effective January 1, 2009, ARC adopted Section 3064, "Goodwill and Intangible Assets" issued by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants ("CICA"). Section 3064 establishes standards for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of goodwill and intangible assets subsequent to its initial recognition. This new section has no current impact on ARC or its Consolidated Financial Statements. This standard was adopted prospectively.

Effective December 31, 2009, ARC adopted CICA issued amendments to Handbook Section 3862, "Financial Instruments – Disclosures". The amendments include enhanced disclosures relating to the fair value of financial



instruments and the liquidity risk associated with financial instruments. Section 3862 now requires that all financial instruments measured at fair value be categorized into one of three hierarchy levels. Refer to Note 13 Financial Instruments and Risk Management for enhanced fair value disclosures and Note 9 Financial Liabilities and Liquidity Risk for liquidity risk disclosures. The amendments are consistent with recent amendments to financial instrument disclosure standards in IFRS.

#### Future Accounting Changes

##### *Business Combinations*

The CICA issued Handbook Section 1582 “Business Combinations” that replaces the previous business combinations standard. Under this guidance, the purchase price used in a business combination is based on the fair value of shares exchanged at the market price at acquisition date. Under the current standard, the purchase price used is based on the market price of shares for a reasonable period before and after the date the acquisition is agreed upon and announced. In addition, the guidance generally requires all acquisition costs to be expensed. Current standards allow for the capitalization of these costs as part of the purchase price. This new Section also addresses contingent liabilities, which will be required to be recognized at fair value on acquisition, and subsequently remeasured at each reporting period until settled. Currently, standards require only contingent liabilities that are payable to be recognized. The new guidance requires negative goodwill to be recognized in earnings rather than the current standard of deducting from non-current assets in the purchase price allocation. This standard applies prospectively to business combinations on or after January 1, 2011 with earlier application permitted. ARC is currently assessing the impact of the standard.

##### *Consolidated Financial Statements and Non-controlling Interest*

The CICA issued Handbook Sections 1601 “Consolidated Financial Statements”, and 1602 “Non-controlling Interests”, which replaces existing guidance under Section 1600 “Consolidated Financial Statements”. Section 1601 establishes standards for the preparation of Consolidated Financial Statements. Section 1602 provides guidance on accounting for a non-controlling interest in a subsidiary in Consolidated Financial Statements subsequent to a business combination. These standards will be effective for ARC for business combinations occurring on or after January 1, 2011, with early application permitted. ARC is currently assessing the impact of the standard.

##### *International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”)*

In October 2009, the Accounting Standards Board (“AcSB”) issued a third and final IFRS Omnibus Exposure Draft confirming that publicly accounting enterprises will be required to apply IFRS, in full and without modification, for financial periods beginning on January 1, 2011. The adoption date of January 1, 2011 will require the restatement, for comparative purposes, of amounts reported by ARC for the year ended December 31, 2010, including the opening balance sheet as at January 1, 2010.

ARC has commenced the process to transition from current Canadian GAAP to IFRS. Internal staff has been appointed to lead the conversion project along with sponsorship from the leadership team. Resource requirements have been identified and all IFRS requirements will be met with internal employees supplemented with consultants as required. Regular progress reporting to the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors on the status of the IFRS conversion has been implemented along with scheduled training sessions throughout 2010. At this time, ARC has begun the process of training key personnel within the accounting and finance functions as well as the management team. This has occurred through external IFRS oil and gas training and workshops that have been attended by key members of the accounting and finance team in 2009 and early 2010. A training session has been scheduled for the Audit Committee in June, 2010.

ARC’s project consists of three key phases:

- Scoping and diagnostic phase – this phase involves performing a high level impact analysis to identify areas that may be affected by the transition to IFRS. The results of this analysis are priority ranked according to complexity and the amount of time required to assess the impact of changes in transitioning to IFRS.
- Impact analysis and evaluation phase – during this phase, items identified in the diagnostic are addressed according to the priority levels assigned to them. This phase involves analysis of policy choices allowed under IFRS and their impact on the financial statements. In addition, certain potential differences are further investigated to assess whether there may be a broader impact to ARC’s debt agreements, compensation arrangements or management reporting systems. The conclusion of the impact analysis and evaluation phase will require the audit committee of the Board of Directors to review and approve all accounting policy choices as proposed by management.
- Implementation phase – involves implementation of all changes approved in the impact analysis phase and will include changes to information systems, business processes, modification of agreements and training of all staff who are impacted by the conversion.

ARC has completed the scoping and diagnostic phase and has prepared draft analysis for the impact analysis and evaluation phase. Management has not yet finalized its accounting policies and as such is unable to quantify the impact of adopting IFRS on the financial statements. In addition, due to anticipated changes to IFRS and International Accounting Standards prior to ARC's adoption of IFRS, management's plan is subject to change based on new facts and circumstances that arise after the date of this MD&A.

#### First-Time Adoption of IFRS

IFRS 1, "First-Time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards" ("IFRS 1"), provides entities adopting IFRS for the first time with a number of optional exemptions and mandatory exceptions in certain areas to the general requirement for full retrospective application of IFRS. Management is analyzing the various accounting policy choices available and will implement those determined to be the most appropriate for ARC which at this time are summarized as follows:

- Business Combinations – IFRS 1 would allow ARC to use the IFRS rules for business combinations on a prospective basis rather than re-stating all business combinations. The IFRS business combination rules converge with the new CICA Handbook section 1582 that is also effective for ARC on January 1, 2011, however, early adoption is permitted.
- Property, Plant and Equipment ("PP&E") – IFRS 1 provides the option to value the PP&E assets at their deemed cost being the Canadian GAAP net book value assigned to these assets as at the date of transition, January 1, 2010. This amendment is permissible for entities, such as ARC, who currently follow the full cost accounting guideline under Canadian GAAP that accumulates all oil and gas assets into one cost centre. Under IFRS, ARC's PP&E assets must be divided into smaller cost centers. The net book value of the assets on the date of transition will be allocated to the new cost centers on the basis of ARC's reserve volumes or values at that point in time.
- Share-Based Payments – IFRS 1 allows ARC an exemption on IFRS 2, "Share-Based Payments" to equity instruments granted on or before November 2, 2002 or which vested before ARC's transition date to IFRS.

The transition from Canadian GAAP to IFRS is a significant undertaking that may materially affect our reported financial position and results of operations. At this time, ARC has identified key differences that will impact the financial statements as follows:

- Re-classification of Exploration and Evaluation ("E&E") expenditures from PP&E – Upon transition to IFRS, ARC will re-classify all E&E expenditures that are currently included in the PP&E balance on the Consolidated Balance Sheet. This will consist of the book value for ARC's undeveloped land that relates to exploration properties. E&E assets will not be depleted and must be assessed for impairment when indicators suggest the possibility of impairment.
- Calculation of depletion expense for PP&E assets – Upon transition to IFRS, ARC has the option to calculate depletion using a reserve base of proved reserves or both proved and probable reserves, as compared to the Canadian GAAP method of calculating depletion using only proved reserves. ARC has not concluded at this time which method for calculating depletion will be used.
- Impairment of PP&E assets – Under IFRS, impairment of PP&E must be calculated at a more granular level than what is currently required under Canadian GAAP. Impairment calculations will be performed at the cash generating unit level using either total proved or proved plus probable reserves.
- Due to the recent withdrawal of the exposure draft on IAS 12 Income Taxes in November 2009 and the issuance of the exposure draft on IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets in January 2010, Management is still determining the impact of these revised standards on its IFRS transition and expects to have all additional potential material impact areas identified during the first quarter of 2010 and approved by the audit committee during the second quarter of 2010.

In addition to accounting policy differences, ARC's transition to IFRS will impact the internal controls over financial reporting, the disclosure controls and procedures, ARC's business activities and IT systems as follows:

- Internal controls over financial reporting ("ICFR") – As the review of ARC's accounting policies is completed, an assessment will be made to determine changes required for ICFR. As an example, additional controls will be implemented for the IFRS 1 changes such as the allocation of ARC's PP&E as well as the process for re-classifying ARC's E&E expenditures from PP&E. This will be an ongoing process through 2010 to ensure

that all changes in accounting policies include the appropriate additional controls and procedures for future IFRS reporting requirements.

- Disclosure controls and procedures – Throughout the transition process, ARC will be assessing stakeholders' information requirements and will ensure that adequate and timely information is provided so that all stakeholders are kept apprised. Management anticipates to deliver investor presentations during the fourth quarter of 2011 to explain the differences between the historical Canadian GAAP statements and the IFRS statements.
- Business activities – Management has been cognizant of the upcoming transition to IFRS and as such has worked with our counterparties and lenders to ensure that agreement references to Canadian GAAP statements are modified to allow for IFRS statements. Based on the expected changes to ARC's accounting policies at this time, there are no foreseen issues with the existing wording of debts covenants and related agreements as a result of the conversion to IFRS. During the 2010 quarterly meetings held with ARC's lenders there will be an update on IFRS as it relates to ARC and management will continue to monitor these areas closely as final policy choices are made.
- IT systems – ARC has completed most of the system updates required in order to ready the company for IFRS reporting. The modifications were not significant, however, deemed critical in order to allow for reporting of both Canadian GAAP and IFRS statements in 2010 as well as the modifications required to track PP&E costs and E&E costs with a more granular level of detail for IFRS reporting. Additional system modifications may be required based on final policy choices.

#### **Non-GAAP Measures**

Management uses certain key performance indicators ("KPIs") and industry benchmarks such as distributions as a per cent of cash flow from operating activities, operating netbacks ("netbacks"), total capitalization, finding, development and acquisition costs, recycle ratio, reserve life index, reserves per unit and production per unit, net asset value and total returns to analyze financial and operating performance. Management feels that these KPIs and benchmarks are key measures of profitability and overall sustainability for ARC. These KPIs and benchmarks as presented do not have any standardized meaning prescribed by Canadian GAAP and therefore may not be comparable with the calculation of similar measures for other entities.

#### **Forward-looking Information and Statements**

This MD&A contains certain forward-looking information and statements within the meaning of applicable securities laws. The use of any of the words "expect", "anticipate", "continue", "estimate", "objective", "ongoing", "may", "will", "project", "should", "believe", "plans", "intends", "strategy" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking information or statements. In particular, but without limiting the foregoing, this MD&A contains forward-looking information and statements pertaining to the following: all of the matters under the heading "2009 Guidance and Financial Highlights" which contains guidance for 2010, the future expenditure plans for 2010 and expected production under the heading "Production", the expected benefits from various incentive plans instituted in the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia and future operating costs under the heading "Operating Netbacks", the expected increase in cash G&A in 2010 and the expected payments in 2010 under the Whole Unit Plan under the heading "General and Administrative Expenses ("G&A") and Trust Unit Incentive Compensation", the increase in interest rates in 2010 as a result of the renewal of our credit facility under the heading "Interest and Financing Charges" and the costs and opportunity for renewal of the bank facility and other information relating to financing the 2010 capital expenditures under the heading: "Capitalization, Financial Resources and Liquidity", the payment of income taxes in the future by ARC and the availability of a non-taxable conversion of trust unit to shares on the conversion of the trust structure to a corporation under the heading "Taxes", and a number of other matters, including the amount of future asset retirement; the amount of future asset retirement obligations; future liquidity and financial capacity; future results from operations and operating metrics; future costs, expenses and royalty rates; future interest costs; future development, exploration, acquisition and development activities (including drilling plans) and related capital expenditures, future tax treatment of income trusts and future taxes payable by ARC; ARC's income tax pools and the future impact of the implementation of IFRS on ARC's financial statements.

The forward-looking information and statements contained in this MD&A reflect several material factors and expectations and assumptions of ARC including, without limitation: that ARC will continue to conduct its operations in a manner consistent with past operations; the general continuance of current industry conditions; the continuance of existing (and in certain circumstances, the implementation of proposed) tax, royalty and regulatory regimes; the accuracy of the estimates of ARC's reserves and resource volumes; certain commodity price and other cost assumptions; and the continued availability of adequate debt and equity financing and cash flow to fund its planned expenditures; ARC believes the material factors, expectations and assumptions reflected in the forward-looking information and statements are reasonable but no assurance can be given that these factors, expectations and assumptions will prove to be correct.

The forward-looking information and statements included in this MD&A are not guarantees of future performance and should not be unduly relied upon. Such information and statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results or events to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking information or statements including, without limitation: changes in commodity prices; changes in the demand for or supply of ARC's products; unanticipated operating results or production declines; changes in tax or environmental laws, royalty rates or other regulatory matters; changes in development plans of ARC or by third party operators of ARC's properties, increased debt levels or debt service requirements; inaccurate estimation of ARC's oil and gas reserve and resource volumes; limited, unfavorable or a lack of access to capital markets; increased costs; a lack of adequate insurance coverage; the impact of competitors; and certain other risks detailed from time to time in ARC's public disclosure documents (including, without limitation, those risks identified in this MD&A and in ARC's Annual Information Form).

The forward-looking information and statements contained in this MD&A speak only as of the date of this MD&A, and none of ARC or its subsidiaries assumes any obligation to publicly update or revise them to reflect new events or circumstances, except as may be required pursuant to applicable laws.

**Additional Information**

Additional information relating to ARC can be found on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

## ANNUAL HISTORICAL REVIEW

For the year ended December 31 (Cdn \$ millions, except per unit amounts)					
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
<b>FINANCIAL</b>					
Revenue before royalties	978.2	1,706.4	1,251.6	1,230.5	1,165.2
Per unit <sup>(1)</sup>	4.16	7.90	5.95	6.02	6.10
Cash flow from operating activities <sup>(2)</sup>	497.4	944.4	704.9	734.0	616.7
Per unit – basic <sup>(1)</sup>	2.11	4.37	3.35	3.59	3.23
Per unit – diluted	2.11	4.37	3.35	3.58	3.20
Net income	222.8	533.0	495.3	460.1	356.9
Per unit – basic <sup>(3)</sup>	0.96	2.50	2.39	2.28	1.90
Per unit – diluted	0.96	2.50	2.39	2.27	1.88
Distributions	298.5	570.0	498.0	484.2	376.6
Per unit <sup>(4)</sup>	1.28	2.67	2.40	2.40	1.99
Total assets	3,914.5	3,766.7	3,533.0	3,479.0	3,251.2
Total liabilities	1,540.1	1,624.6	1,491.3	1,550.6	1,415.5
Net debt outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>	902.4	961.9	752.7	739.1	578.1
Weighted average trust units (millions) <sup>(6)</sup>	235.4	216.0	210.2	204.4	191.2
Trust units outstanding and issuable at year-end (millions) <sup>(6)</sup>	239.0	219.2	213.2	207.2	202.0
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>					
Geological and geophysical	13.7	27.1	14.9	11.4	9.2
Land	7.0	122.4	77.5	32.4	9.1
Drilling and completions	214.3	305.4	229.5	240.5	191.8
Plant and facilities	110.0	90.4	72.1	77.6	55.0
Other capital	14.6	3.3	3.2	2.6	3.7
Total capital expenditures	359.6	548.6	397.2	364.5	268.8
Property acquisitions (dispositions), net	(20.5)	51.0	42.5	115.2	91.3
Corporate acquisitions <sup>(7)</sup>	178.9	-	-	16.6	505.0
Total capital expenditures and net acquisitions	518.0	599.6	439.7	496.3	865.1
<b>OPERATING</b>					
Production					
Crude oil (bbl/d)	27,509	28,513	28,682	29,042	23,282
Natural gas (mmcf/d)	194.0	196.5	180.1	179.1	173.8
Natural gas liquids (bbl/d)	3,689	3,861	4,027	4,170	4,005
Total (boe per day 6:1)	63,538	65,126	62,723	63,056	56,254
Average prices					
Crude oil (\$/bbl)	62.24	94.20	69.24	65.26	61.11
Natural gas (\$/mcf)	4.18	8.58	6.75	6.97	8.96
Natural gas liquids (\$/bbl)	40.67	69.71	54.79	52.63	49.92
Oil equivalent (\$/boe)	42.07	71.25	54.54	53.33	56.54
<b>RESERVES</b>					
(company interest) <sup>(8)</sup>					
Proved plus probable reserves					
Crude oil and NGL (mmbbl)	153,413	153,020	158,341	162,193	163,385
Natural gas (bcf)	1,353.2	1,012.2	768.2	743.6	741.7
Total (mboe)	378,953	321,723	286,370	286,125	286,997
<b>TRUST UNIT TRADING</b>					
(based on intra-day trading)					
Unit prices					
High	21.89	33.95	23.86	30.74	27.58
Low	11.73	15.01	18.90	19.20	16.55
Close	19.94	20.10	20.40	22.30	26.49
Average daily volume (thousands)	1,057	975	597	706	656

- (1) Per unit amounts (with the exception of per unit distributions) are based on weighted average trust units outstanding plus trust units issuable for exchangeable shares.
- (2) This is a GAAP measure and a change from the non-GAAP measure reported in prior quarters. Refer to non-GAAP section.
- (3) Net income per unit is based on net income after non-controlling interest divided by weighted average trust units outstanding (excluding trust units issuable for exchangeable shares).
- (4) Based on number of trust units outstanding at each distribution date.
- (5) Net debt excludes the current unrealized risk management contracts asset and liability and the current portion of future income taxes.
- (6) Includes trust units issuable for outstanding exchangeable shares based on the period end exchange ratio.
- (7) Represents total consideration for the corporate acquisition including fees but prior to working capital, asset retirement obligation and future income tax liability assumed on acquisition.
- (8) Company interest reserves are the gross interest reserves plus the royalty interest prior to the deduction of royalty burdens.

## QUARTERLY HISTORICAL REVIEW

(Cdn \$ millions, except per unit amounts)								
	2009				2008			
FINANCIAL	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Revenue before royalties	<b>278.6</b>	239.2	235.2	225.2	300.8	485.7	512.0	407.9
Per unit <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>1.17</b>	1.01	0.99	0.98	1.38	2.24	2.38	1.91
Cash flow from operating activities <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>143.2</b>	125.6	104.3	124.3	209.4	251.4	273.4	209.9
Per unit – basic <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>0.60</b>	0.53	0.44	0.54	0.96	1.16	1.27	0.98
Per unit – diluted	<b>0.60</b>	0.53	0.44	0.54	0.96	1.16	1.27	0.98
Net income	<b>65.5</b>	68.9	66.1	22.3	82.7	311.7	57.3	81.3
Per unit – basic <sup>(3)</sup>	<b>0.28</b>	0.29	0.28	0.10	0.38	1.46	0.27	0.39
Per unit – diluted	<b>0.28</b>	0.29	0.28	0.10	0.38	1.46	0.27	0.38
Distributions	<b>70.9</b>	70.6	75.0	82.0	127.2	171.3	144.7	126.8
Per unit <sup>(4)</sup>	<b>0.30</b>	0.30	0.32	0.36	0.59	0.80	0.68	0.60
Total assets	<b>3,914.5</b>	3,642.9	3,672.5	3,733.1	3,766.7	3,687.5	3,664.3	3,592.6
Total liabilities	<b>1,540.1</b>	1,278.4	1,323.1	1,392.1	1,624.6	1,530.8	1,689.6	1,560.4
Net debt outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>	<b>902.4</b>	705.4	737.6	781.5	961.9	773.2	756.1	770.1
Weighted average trust units <sup>(6)</sup>	<b>238.5</b>	237.7	236.6	228.9	218.3	216.6	215.2	213.8
Trust units outstanding and issuable <sup>(6)</sup>	<b>239.0</b>	238.1	237.1	236.0	219.2	217.4	215.8	214.7
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
Geological and geophysical	<b>2.9</b>	3.0	5.0	2.8	3.7	1.3	16.4	5.5
Land	<b>2.0</b>	4.5	0.2	0.2	17.1	18.6	57.8	28.8
Drilling and completions	<b>66.1</b>	61.0	18.6	68.5	117.1	91.4	32.6	64.4
Plant and facilities	<b>35.3</b>	26.1	23.6	25.1	30.5	24.2	24.1	11.6
Other capital	<b>11.0</b>	1.6	1.5	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.4	1.0
Total capital expenditures	<b>117.3</b>	96.2	48.9	97.2	169.4	136.4	131.3	111.3
Property acquisitions (dispositions) net	<b>1.1</b>	(30.1)	2.3	6.2	27.6	13.1	0.3	10.1
Corporate acquisitions <sup>(7)</sup>	<b>178.9</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total capital expenditures and net acquisitions	<b>297.3</b>	66.1	51.2	103.4	197.0	149.5	131.6	121.4
<b>OPERATING</b>								
Production								
Crude oil (bbl/d)	<b>27,415</b>	26,921	26,917	28,806	28,935	28,509	27,541	29,064
Natural gas (mmcf/d)	<b>189.0</b>	193.1	200.2	193.8	195.1	192.0	194.7	204.3
Natural gas liquids (bbl/d)	<b>3,597</b>	3,717	3,679	3,764	3,858	3,822	3,906	3,856
Total (boe per day 6:1)	<b>62,520</b>	62,824	63,969	64,872	65,313	64,325	63,896	66,976
Average prices								
Crude oil (\$/bbl)	<b>72.61</b>	67.74	62.74	46.44	56.26	114.20	118.32	89.72
Natural gas (\$/mcf)	<b>4.58</b>	3.25	3.73	5.20	7.48	8.68	10.41	7.80
Natural gas liquids (\$/bbl)	<b>46.12</b>	38.92	38.89	38.86	45.22	82.87	82.29	68.54
Oil equivalent (\$/boe)	<b>48.35</b>	41.31	40.32	38.40	49.93	81.42	87.73	66.67
<b>TRUST UNIT TRADING</b>								
(based on intra-day trading)								
Unit prices								
High	<b>21.89</b>	20.20	19.25	20.90	22.55	33.30	33.95	27.06
Low	<b>19.06</b>	15.48	14.12	11.73	15.01	22.33	25.19	20.00
Close	<b>19.94</b>	20.20	17.81	14.15	20.10	23.10	33.95	26.38
Average daily volume (thousands)	<b>963</b>	1,038	988	1,240	1,523	841	659	863

- (1) Per unit amounts (with the exception of per unit distributions) are based on weighted average trust units outstanding plus trust units issuable for exchangeable shares.
- (2) This is a GAAP measure and a change from the non-GAAP measure reported in prior quarters. Refer to non-GAAP section.
- (3) Net income per unit is based on net income after non-controlling interest divided by weighted average trust units outstanding (excluding trust units issuable for exchangeable shares).
- (4) Based on number of trust units outstanding at each distribution date.
- (5) Net debt excludes the current unrealized risk management contracts asset and liability and the current portion of future income taxes.
- (6) Includes trust units issuable for outstanding exchangeable shares based on the period end exchange ratio.
- (7) Represents total consideration for the corporate acquisition including fees but prior to working capital, asset retirement obligation and future income tax liability assumed on acquisition.

## Management's Report

### Managements' Responsibility on Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the accompanying consolidated financial statements and for the consistency therewith of all other financial and operating data presented in this annual report. The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies detailed in the notes thereto. In Management's opinion, the consolidated financial statements are in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, have been prepared within acceptable limits of materiality, and have utilized supportable, reasonable estimates.

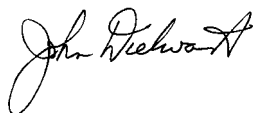
To ensure the integrity of our financial statements, we carefully select and train qualified personnel. We also ensure our organizational structure provides appropriate delegation of authority and division of responsibilities. Our policies and procedures are communicated throughout the organization including a written ethics and integrity policy that applies to all employees including the chief executive officer and chief financial officer.

The Board of Directors approves the consolidated financial statements. Their financial statement related responsibilities are fulfilled mainly through the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is composed entirely of independent directors, and includes at least one director with financial expertise. The Audit Committee meets regularly with management and the external auditors to discuss reporting and control issues and ensures each party is properly discharging its responsibilities. The Audit Committee also considers the independence of the external auditors and reviews their fees.

The consolidated financial statements have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent auditors, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards on behalf of the unitholders.

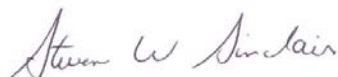
### Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining an adequate system of internal control over financial reporting. Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance that all assets are safeguarded, transactions are appropriately authorized and to facilitate the preparation of relevant, reliable and timely information. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Management has assessed the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rule 13a-15 under the US Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The assessment was based on the framework in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Management concluded that the Trust's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2009. The Trust's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2009 has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, the Trust's Independent Registered Chartered Accountants, who also audited the Trust's consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2009.



John P. Dielwart  
Chief Executive Officer

Calgary, Alberta  
February 17, 2010



Steven W. Sinclair  
Senior Vice-President Finance and Chief Financial Officer

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

To the Board of Directors of ARC Resources Ltd. and  
Unitholders of ARC Energy Trust:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of ARC Energy Trust and subsidiaries (the "Trust") as at December 31, 2009 and 2008, and the related consolidated statements of income and deficit, comprehensive income and accumulated other comprehensive income and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trust's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards and the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Trust as at December 31, 2009 and 2008, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Trust's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2009, based on the criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated February 17, 2010 expressed an unqualified opinion on the Trust's internal control over financial reporting.

*Deloitte & Touche LLP*

Independent Registered Chartered Accountants  
Calgary, Canada  
February 17, 2010

### COMMENTS BY INDEPENDENT REGISTERED CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS ON CANADA-UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REPORTING DIFFERENCE

The standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) require the addition of an explanatory paragraph (following the opinion paragraph) when there are changes in accounting principles that have a material effect on the comparability of the Trust's financial statements, such as the changes described in Notes 3 and 24 to the consolidated financial statements. Although we conducted our audits in accordance with both Canadian generally accepted auditing standards and the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), our report to the Board of Directors of ARC Resources Ltd. and Unitholders of ARC Energy Trust, dated February 17, 2010, is expressed in accordance with Canadian reporting standards which do not require a reference to such changes in accounting principles in the auditors' report when the changes are properly accounted for and adequately disclosed in the financial statements.

*Deloitte & Touche LLP*

Independent Registered Chartered Accountants  
Calgary, Canada  
February 17, 2010



## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

To the Board of Directors of ARC Resources Ltd. and  
Unitholders of ARC Energy Trust:

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of ARC Energy Trust and subsidiaries (the "Trust") as of December 31, 2009, based on the criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Trust's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Trust's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the company's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company's board of directors, management, and other personnel to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the Trust maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2009, based on the criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We have also audited, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards and the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended December 31, 2009 of the Trust and our report dated February 17, 2010 expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements and included a separate report titled Comments by Independent Registered Chartered Accountants on Canada-United States of America Reporting Difference referring to changes in accounting principles.

*Deloitte & Touche LLP*

Independent Registered Chartered Accountants  
Calgary, Canada  
February 17, 2010

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

As at December 31

(Cdn\$ millions)	2009	2008
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 5)	\$ -	\$ 40.0
Accounts receivable (Note 6)	115.9	110.0
Prepaid expenses	18.2	16.8
Risk management contracts (Note 13)	5.9	24.4
Future income taxes (Note 15)	7.1	3.9
	147.1	195.1
Reclamation funds (Note 7)	33.2	28.2
Risk management contracts (Note 13)	3.2	9.2
Property, plant and equipment (Note 8)	3,573.4	3,376.6
Goodwill	157.6	157.6
Total assets	\$ 3,914.5	\$ 3,766.7
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 9)	\$ 166.7	\$ 194.4
Distributions payable	23.7	32.5
Risk management contracts (Note 13)	12.9	23.5
	203.3	250.4
Risk management contracts (Note 13)	1.0	3.4
Long-term debt (Note 10)	846.1	901.8
Accrued long-term incentive compensation (Note 21)	10.9	14.2
Asset retirement obligations (Note 11)	149.9	141.5
Future income taxes (Note 15)	328.9	313.3
Total liabilities	1,540.1	1,624.6
<b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES</b> (Note 22)		
<b>SUBSEQUENT EVENT</b> (Note 23)		
<b>NON-CONTROLLING INTEREST</b>		
Exchangeable shares (Note 16)	36.0	42.4
<b>UNITHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Unitholders' capital (Note 17)	2,917.6	2,600.7
Deficit (Note 18)	(578.6)	(502.9)
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income (Note 18)	(0.6)	1.9
Total unitholders' equity	2,338.4	2,099.7
Total liabilities and unitholders' equity	\$ 3,914.5	\$ 3,766.7

See accompanying notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND DEFICIT

For the years ended December 31

(Cdn\$ millions, except per unit amounts)	2009	2008
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids	\$ 978.2	\$ 1,706.4
Royalties	(147.8)	(307.7)
	<b>830.4</b>	<b>1,398.7</b>
Gain (loss) on risk management contracts (Note 13)		
Realized	19.4	(75.7)
Unrealized	(7.7)	68.0
	<b>842.1</b>	<b>1,391.0</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Transportation	20.6	19.0
Operating	236.2	241.5
General and administrative	52.3	61.2
Provision for non-recoverable accounts receivable (Note 6)	(1.7)	32.0
Interest and financing charges (Note 10)	25.7	32.9
Depletion, depreciation and accretion (Notes 8 and 11)	386.4	379.6
(Gain) loss on foreign exchange (Note 14)	(70.0)	89.4
	<b>649.5</b>	<b>855.6</b>
Capital and other taxes	(0.3)	-
Future income tax recovery (Note 15)	32.8	4.5
Net income before non-controlling interest	225.1	539.9
Non-controlling interest (Note 16)	(2.3)	(6.9)
Net income	<b>\$ 222.8</b>	<b>\$ 533.0</b>
Deficit, beginning of year	\$ (502.9)	\$ (465.9)
Distributions paid or declared (Note 19)	(298.5)	(570.0)
Deficit, end of year (Note 18)	<b>\$ (578.6)</b>	<b>\$ (502.9)</b>
Net income per unit (Note 17)		
Basic and Diluted	<b>\$ 0.96</b>	<b>\$ 2.50</b>

See accompanying notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND ACCUMULATED  
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

For the years ended December 31

(Cdn\$ millions)	2009	2008
Net income	\$ 222.8	\$ 533.0
Other comprehensive (loss) income, net of tax		
Losses and gains on financial instruments designated as cash flow hedges <sup>(1)</sup>	(3.9)	(2.2)
De-designation of cash flow hedge <sup>(2)</sup> (Note 13)	-	10.0
Gains and losses on financial instruments designated as cash flow hedges in prior periods realized in net income in the current year <sup>(3)</sup> (Note 13)	1.1	(2.9)
Net unrealized gains (losses) on available-for-sale reclamation funds' investments <sup>(4)</sup>	0.3	(0.1)
Other comprehensive (loss) income	(2.5)	4.8
Comprehensive income	\$ 220.3	\$ 537.8
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income, beginning of year	1.9	(2.9)
Other comprehensive (loss) income	(2.5)	4.8
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income, end of year (Note 18)	\$ (0.6)	\$ 1.9

<sup>(1)</sup> Amounts are net of tax of \$1.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 (net of tax of \$0.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008).

<sup>(2)</sup> Amount is net of tax of \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2008.

<sup>(3)</sup> Amounts are net of tax of \$0.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 (net of tax of \$1 million for the year ended December 31, 2008).

<sup>(4)</sup> Amounts are net of tax of \$0.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 (nominal for the year ended December 31, 2008).

See accompanying notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

For the years ended December 31

(Cdn\$ millions)	2009	2008
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Net income	\$ 222.8	\$ 533.0
Add items not involving cash:		
Non-controlling interest (Note 16)	2.3	6.9
Future income tax recovery (Note 15)	(32.8)	(4.5)
Depletion, depreciation and accretion (Notes 8 and 11)	386.4	379.6
Non-cash (gain) loss on risk management contracts (Note 13)	7.7	(68.0)
Non-cash (gain) loss on foreign exchange (Note 14)	(69.0)	88.5
Non-cash trust unit incentive compensation expense (recovery) (Note 21)	0.6	1.0
Expenditures on site restoration and reclamation (Note 11)	(8.7)	(12.4)
Change in non-cash working capital	(11.9)	20.3
	<b>497.4</b>	<b>944.4</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Issue of long-term debt under revolving credit facilities, net	(120.7)	105.9
Issue of Senior Secured Notes	152.9	-
Repayment of Senior Secured Notes	(18.9)	(7.1)
Issue of trust units	255.0	4.9
Trust unit issue costs	(13.8)	-
Cash distributions paid (Note 19)	(242.3)	(458.8)
Change in non-cash working capital	1.6	(0.4)
	<b>13.8</b>	<b>(355.5)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Corporate acquisition (Note 4)	(178.9)	-
Acquisition of petroleum and natural gas properties	(11.8)	(51.2)
Proceeds on disposition of petroleum and natural gas properties	32.3	0.2
Capital expenditures	(359.4)	(548.1)
Net reclamation fund contributions (Note 7)	(4.6)	(2.2)
Change in non-cash working capital	(28.8)	45.4
	<b>(551.2)</b>	<b>(555.9)</b>
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<b>(40.0)</b>	<b>33.0</b>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 40.0</b>

See accompanying notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2009 and 2008

(all tabular amounts in Cdn\$ millions, except per unit amounts)

### 1. STRUCTURE OF THE TRUST

ARC Energy Trust (“ARC” or “the Trust”) was formed on May 7, 1996 pursuant to a Trust indenture (the “Trust Indenture”) that has been amended from time to time, most recently on May 15, 2006. Computershare Trust Company of Canada was appointed as Trustee under the Trust Indenture. The beneficiaries of ARC are the holders of the Trust units.

ARC was created for the purposes of issuing trust units to the public and investing the funds so raised to purchase a royalty in the properties of ARC Resources Ltd. (“ARC Resources”). The Trust Indenture was amended on June 7, 1999 to convert ARC from a closed-end to an open-ended investment Trust. The current business of ARC includes investment in energy business-related assets including, but not limited to, petroleum and natural gas-related assets, gathering, processing and transportation assets. The operations of ARC consist of the acquisition, development, exploitation and disposition of these assets and the distribution of the net cash proceeds from these activities to the unitholders.

### 2. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared by management following Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”). Effective January 1, 2011, ARC will be required to prepare Consolidated Financial Statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”).

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements, and revenues and expenses during the reporting year. Actual results could differ from those estimated.

The amounts recorded for depreciation and depletion of petroleum and natural gas property and equipment and for asset retirement obligations are based on estimates of petroleum and natural gas reserves and future costs. Estimates of reserves also provide the basis for determining whether the carrying value of property, plant and equipment is impaired. Accounts receivable are recorded at the estimated net recoverable amount which involves estimates of uncollectable accounts. Goodwill impairment tests involve estimates of ARC’s fair value. By their nature, these estimates are subject to measurement uncertainty, and the impact on the financial statements of future periods could be material.

#### Principles of Consolidation

The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of ARC and its subsidiaries. Any reference to “the Trust” or “ARC” throughout these Consolidated Financial Statements refers to the Trust and its subsidiaries. All inter-entity transactions have been eliminated.

#### Revenue Recognition

Revenue associated with the sale of crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids (“NGLs”) owned by ARC are recognized when title passes from ARC to its customers.

#### Transportation

Costs paid by ARC for the transportation of natural gas, crude oil and NGLs from the wellhead to the point of title transfer are recognized when the transportation is provided.

#### Joint Interests

ARC conducts many of its oil and gas production activities through jointly controlled operations and the financial statements reflect only ARC’s proportionate interest in such activities.

#### Depletion and Depreciation

Depletion of petroleum and natural gas properties and depreciation of production equipment are calculated on the unit-of-production basis based on:

- (a) total estimated proved reserves calculated in accordance with National Instrument 51-101, Standards of Disclosure for Oil and Gas Activities;
- (b) total capitalized costs, excluding undeveloped lands, plus estimated future development costs of proved undeveloped reserves, including future estimated asset retirement costs; and

- (c) relative volumes of petroleum and natural gas reserves and production, before royalties, converted at the energy equivalent conversion ratio of six thousand cubic feet of natural gas to one barrel of oil.

#### **Whole Trust Unit Incentive Plan Compensation**

ARC has established a Whole Trust Unit Incentive Plan (the "Whole Unit Plan") for employees, independent directors and long-term consultants who otherwise meet the definition of an employee of ARC. Compensation expense associated with the Whole Unit Plan is granted in the form of Restricted Trust Units ("RTUs") and Performance Trust Units ("PTUs") and is determined based on the intrinsic value of the Whole Trust Units at each period end. The intrinsic valuation method is used as participants of the Whole Unit Plan receive a cash payment on a fixed vesting date. This valuation incorporates the year-end unit price, the number of RTUs and PTUs outstanding at each period end, and certain management estimates. As a result, large fluctuations, even recoveries, in compensation expense may occur due to changes in the underlying unit price. In addition, compensation expense is amortized and recognized in earnings over the vesting period of the Whole Unit Plan with a corresponding increase or decrease in liabilities. Classification between accrued liabilities and accrued long-term incentive compensation is dependent on the expected payout date.

ARC charges amounts relating to head office employees to general and administrative expense, amounts relating to field employees to operating expense and amounts relating to geologists and geophysicists to property, plant and equipment.

ARC has not incorporated an estimated forfeiture rate for RTUs and PTUs that will not vest, rather it accounts for actual forfeitures as they occur.

#### **Cash Equivalents**

Cash equivalents include short-term investments, such as money market deposits or similar type instruments, with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased.

#### **Reclamation Funds**

Reclamation funds hold investment grade assets and cash and cash equivalents. Investments are categorized as either held-to-maturity or available-for-sale assets, which are initially measured at fair value. Held-to-maturity investments are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method. Available-for-sale investments are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in other comprehensive income, net of tax.

Investments carried at amortized cost are subject to impairment losses in the event of an other than temporary decline in market value.

#### **Property, Plant and Equipment ("PP&E")**

ARC follows the full cost method of accounting. All costs of exploring, developing, enhancing and acquiring petroleum and natural gas properties, including asset retirement costs, are capitalized and accumulated in one cost centre as all operations are in Canada. Maintenance and repairs are charged against earnings, and renewals and enhancements that extend the economic life of the PP&E are capitalized. Gains and losses are not recognized upon disposition of petroleum and natural gas properties unless such a disposition would alter the rate of depletion by 20 per cent or more.

#### **Impairment**

ARC places a limit on the aggregate carrying value of PP&E, which may be amortized against revenues of future periods.

Impairment is recognized if the carrying amount of the PP&E exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows expected to result from ARC's proved reserves. Cash flows are calculated based on third party quoted forward prices, adjusted for ARC's contract prices and quality differentials.

Upon recognition of impairment, ARC would then measure the amount of impairment by comparing the carrying amounts of the PP&E to an amount equal to the estimated net present value of future cash flows from proved plus risked probable reserves. ARC's risk-free interest rate is used to arrive at the net present value of the future cash flows. Any excess carrying value above the net present value of ARC's future cash flows would be recorded as a permanent impairment and charged against net income.

The cost of unproved properties is excluded from the impairment test described above and subject to a separate impairment test. In the case of impairment, the book value of the impaired properties is moved to the petroleum and natural gas depletable base.

#### **Goodwill**

ARC must record goodwill relating to a corporate acquisition when the total purchase price exceeds the fair value for accounting purposes of the net identifiable assets and liabilities of the acquired company. The goodwill

balance is assessed for impairment annually at year-end or as events occur that could result in an indication of impairment. Impairment is recognized based on the fair value of the reporting entity compared to the book value of the reporting entity. If the fair value of the entity is less than the book value, impairment is measured by allocating the fair value to the identifiable assets and liabilities as if the entity had been acquired in a business combination for a purchase price equal to its fair value. The excess of the fair value over the amounts assigned to the identifiable assets and liabilities is the fair value of the goodwill. Any excess of the book value of goodwill over this implied fair value of goodwill is the impairment amount. Impairment is charged to earnings in the period in which it occurs.

Goodwill is stated at cost less impairment and is not amortized.

#### **Asset Retirement Obligations**

ARC recognizes an Asset Retirement Obligation (“ARO”) in the period in which it is incurred when a reasonable estimate of the fair value can be made. On a periodic basis, management will review these estimates and changes, if any, will be applied prospectively. The fair value of the estimated ARO is recorded as a long-term liability, with a corresponding increase in the carrying amount of the related asset. The capitalized amount is depleted on a unit-of-production basis over the life of the reserves. The liability amount is increased each reporting period due to the passage of time and the amount of accretion is charged to earnings in the period. Revisions to the estimated timing of cash flows or to the original estimated undiscounted cost would also result in an increase or decrease to the ARO. Actual costs incurred upon settlement of the obligation are charged against the ARO to the extent of the liability recorded.

#### **Income Taxes**

ARC follows the liability method of accounting for income taxes. Under this method, income tax liabilities and assets are recognized for the estimated tax consequences attributable to differences between the amounts reported in the financial statements of ARC and ARC’s corporate subsidiaries and their respective tax base, using substantively enacted future income tax rates. The effect of a change in income tax rates on future tax liabilities and assets is recognized in income in the period in which the change occurs, provided that the income tax rates are substantively enacted. Temporary differences arising on acquisitions result in future income tax assets and liabilities.

#### **Basic and Diluted per Trust Unit Calculations**

Basic net income per unit is computed by dividing net income after non-controlling interest by the weighted average number of trust units outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per unit amounts are calculated based on net income before non-controlling interest divided by dilutive trust units. Dilutive trust units are arrived at by adding weighted average trust units to trust units issuable on conversion of exchangeable shares, and to the potential dilution that would occur if rights were exercised at the beginning of the period. The treasury stock method assumes that proceeds received from the exercise of in-the-money rights and the unrecognized trust unit incentive compensation are used to repurchase units at the average market price.

#### **Financial Instruments**

Financial assets, financial liabilities and non-financial derivatives are measured at fair value on initial recognition. Measurement in subsequent periods depends on whether the financial instrument has been classified as held-for-trading, available-for-sale, held-to-maturity, loans and receivables, or other financial liabilities.

##### *a. Held-for-trading*

Financial assets and liabilities designated as held-for-trading are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in those fair values charged immediately to earnings. With the exception of risk management contracts that qualify for hedge accounting, ARC classifies all risk management contracts as held-for-trading. Cash and cash equivalents are also classified as held-for-trading.

##### *b. Available-for-sale assets*

Available-for-sale financial assets are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in Other Comprehensive Income (“OCI”), net of tax. Amounts recognized in OCI for available-for-sale financial assets are charged to earnings when the asset is derecognized or when there is an other than temporary asset impairment. ARC classifies its reclamation funds as available-for-sale assets.

##### *c. Held-to-maturity investments, loans and receivables and other financial liabilities*

Held-to-maturity investments, loans and receivables, and other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method. ARC classifies accounts receivable to loans and receivables, and accounts payable, distributions payable and long-term debt to other financial liabilities.

Transaction costs are expensed as incurred for all financial instruments.



ARC has elected January 1, 2003 as the effective date to identify and measure embedded derivatives in financial and non-financial contracts that are not closely related to the host contracts.

ARC is exposed to market risks resulting from fluctuations in commodity prices, foreign exchange rates and interest rates in the normal course of operations. A variety of derivative instruments are used by ARC to reduce its exposure to fluctuations in commodity prices, foreign exchange rates, and interest rates. The fair values of these derivative instruments are based on an estimate of the amounts that would have been received or paid to settle these instruments prior to maturity. ARC considers all of these transactions to be effective economic hedges; however, most of ARC's contracts do not qualify or have not been designated as effective hedges for accounting purposes.

For transactions that do not qualify for hedge accounting, ARC applies the fair value method of accounting by recording an asset or liability on the Consolidated Balance Sheet and recognizing changes in the fair value of the instruments in earnings during the current period.

For derivative instruments that do qualify as effective accounting hedges, policies and procedures are in place to ensure that the required documentation and approvals are obtained. This documentation specifically ties the derivative financial instruments to their use, and in the case of commodities, to the mitigation of market price risk associated with cash flows expected to be generated. When applicable, ARC also identifies all relationships between hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its risk management objective and the strategy for undertaking hedge transactions. This would include linking the particular derivative to specific assets and liabilities on the Consolidated Balance Sheet or to specific firm commitments or forecasted transactions. Where specific hedges are executed, ARC assesses, both at the inception of the hedge and on an ongoing basis, whether the derivative used in the particular hedging transaction is effective in offsetting changes in fair value or cash flows of the hedged item. Hedge accounting is discontinued prospectively when the derivative no longer qualifies as an effective hedge, or the derivative is terminated or sold, or upon the sale or early termination of the hedged item. ARC has currently designated a portion of its financial electricity contracts as effective cash flow hedges.

In a cash flow hedging relationship, the effective portion of the change in the fair value of the hedging derivative is recognized in OCI while the ineffective portion is recognized in earnings. When hedge accounting is discontinued, the amounts previously recognized in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income ("AOCI") are reclassified to earnings during the periods when the variability in the cash flows of the hedged item affects earnings. Gains and losses on derivatives are reclassified immediately to earnings when the hedged item is sold or early terminated.

When hedge accounting is applied to a derivative used to hedge an anticipated transaction and it is determined that the anticipated transaction will not occur within the originally specified time period, hedge accounting is discontinued and the unrealized gains and losses are reclassified from AOCI to earnings.

#### **Foreign Currency Translation**

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated at the rate of exchange in effect at the Consolidated Balance Sheet date. Revenues and expenses are translated at the period average rates of exchange. Translation gains and losses are included in earnings in the period in which they arise.

#### **Non-Controlling Interest**

ARC must record non-controlling interest when exchangeable shares issued by a subsidiary of ARC are transferable to third parties. Non-controlling interest on the Consolidated Balance Sheet is recognized based on the fair value of the exchangeable shares upon issuance plus the accumulated earnings attributable to the non-controlling interest. Net income is reduced for the portion of earnings attributable to the non-controlling interest. As the exchangeable shares are converted to Trust units, the non-controlling interest on the Consolidated Balance Sheet is reduced by the cumulative book value of the exchangeable shares and Unitholders' capital is increased by the corresponding amount.

### **3. NEW ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **Current Year Accounting Changes**

Effective January 1, 2009, ARC adopted Section 3064, "Goodwill and Intangible Assets" issued by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants ("CICA"). Section 3064 establishes standards for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of goodwill and intangible assets subsequent to its initial recognition. This new section has no current impact on ARC or its Consolidated Financial Statements. This standard was adopted prospectively.

Effective December 31, 2009, ARC adopted CICA issued amendments to Handbook Section 3862, "Financial Instruments – Disclosures". The amendments include enhanced disclosures relating to the fair value of financial instruments and the liquidity risk associated with financial instruments. Section 3862 now requires that all financial instruments measured at fair value be categorized into one of three hierarchy levels. Refer to Note 13 Financial Instruments and Risk Management for enhanced fair value disclosures and Note 9 Financial Liabilities and Liquidity Risk for liquidity risk disclosures. The amendments are consistent with recent amendments to financial instrument disclosure standards in IFRS.

#### Future Accounting Changes

##### A. Business Combinations

The CICA issued Handbook Section 1582 "Business Combinations" that replaces the previous business combinations standard. Under this guidance, the purchase price used in a business combination is based on the fair value of shares exchanged at the market price at acquisition date. Under the current standard, the purchase price used is based on the market price of shares for a reasonable period before and after the date the acquisition is agreed upon and announced. In addition, the guidance generally requires all acquisition costs to be expensed. Current standards allow for the capitalization of these costs as part of the purchase price. This new Section also addresses contingent liabilities, which will be required to be recognized at fair value on acquisition, and subsequently remeasured at each reporting period until settled. Currently, standards require only contingent liabilities that are payable to be recognized. The new guidance requires negative goodwill to be recognized in earnings rather than the current standard of deducting from non-current assets in the purchase price allocation. This standard applies prospectively to business combinations on or after January 1, 2011 with earlier application permitted. ARC is currently assessing the impact of the standard.

##### B. Consolidated Financial Statements and Non-controlling Interest

The CICA issued Handbook Sections 1601 "Consolidated Financial Statements", and 1602 "Non-controlling Interests", which replaces existing guidance under Section 1600 "Consolidated Financial Statements". Section 1601 establishes standards for the preparation of Consolidated Financial Statements. Section 1602 provides guidance on accounting for a non-controlling interest in a subsidiary in Consolidated Financial Statements subsequent to a business combination. These standards will be effective for ARC for business combinations occurring on or after January 1, 2011 with early application permitted. ARC is currently assessing the impact of the standard.

#### 4. CORPORATE ACQUISITIONS

On December 21, 2009, ARC acquired all of the issued and outstanding shares of two legal entities – 1504793 Alberta Ltd. and PetroBakken General Partnership No. 1 (collectively "Ante Creek") – for total consideration of \$178.9 million. The allocation of the purchase price and consideration paid were as follows:

##### Net Assets Acquired

Property, plant and equipment	\$	231.0
Asset retirement obligations		(4.0)
Future income taxes		(48.1)
<b>Total net assets acquired</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>178.9</b>

##### Consideration Paid

Cash and fees paid	\$	178.9
<b>Total consideration paid</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>178.9</b>

The acquisition of Ante Creek has been accounted for as an asset acquisition pursuant to EIC – 124.

The future income tax liability on acquisition was based on the difference between the fair value of the acquired net assets of \$178.9 million and the associated tax basis of \$35.8 million.

These Consolidated Financial Statements incorporate the results of operations of the acquired Ante Creek properties from December 21, 2009.

## 5. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents are nil as at December 31, 2009 (\$40 million in Canadian Treasury Bills as at December 31, 2008).

## 6. FINANCIAL ASSETS AND CREDIT RISK

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to ARC if a partner or counterparty to a product sales contract or financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. ARC is exposed to credit risk with respect to its cash equivalents, accounts receivable, reclamation funds, and risk management contracts. Most of ARC's accounts receivable relate to oil and natural gas sales and are subject to typical industry credit risks. ARC manages this credit risk as follows:

- By entering into sales contracts with only established credit worthy counterparties as verified by a third party rating agency, through internal evaluation or by requiring security such as letters of credit;
- By limiting exposure to any one counterparty in accordance with ARC's credit policy; and
- By restricting cash equivalent investments, reclamation fund investments, and risk management transactions to counterparties that, at the time of transaction, are not less than investment grade.

The majority of the credit exposure on accounts receivable at December 31, 2009 pertains to accrued revenue for December 2009 production volumes. ARC transacts with a number of oil and natural gas marketing companies and commodity end users ("commodity purchasers"). Commodity purchasers and marketing companies typically remit amounts to ARC by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month following production. Joint interest receivables are typically collected within one to three months following production. At December 31, 2009, no one counterparty accounted for more than 25 per cent of the total accounts receivable balance and the largest commodity purchaser receivable balance is fully secured with Letters of Credit.

For the year ended December 31, 2009, ARC recorded a recovery of \$1.7 million for amounts received on balances previously included in ARC's allowance for doubtful accounts. The recovery includes \$1.2 million for settlement of oil revenues that were previously due from SemCanada Crude ("SemCanada"), a counterparty that marketed a portion of ARC's production and had filed for protection under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act in 2008. The remaining \$0.5 million is composed of \$0.6 million recovered from one counterparty and \$0.1 million written off for balances deemed uncollectable from various counterparties.

ARC's allowance for doubtful accounts was \$0.8 million as at December 31, 2009 and \$32 million as at December 31, 2008. In 2008, ARC recorded a provision for the full receivable of \$30.6 million due from SemCanada. As noted above, upon settlement of the SemCanada oil revenue claim, ARC recovered \$1.2 million and has written off the balance in the allowance of \$28.8 million. As at December 31, 2009, \$0.6 million remains in the allowance for the SemCanada gas revenue claim. The remaining movement of \$1.2 million is composed of \$0.6 million settled on balances previously included in the provision and \$0.6 million written off for balances deemed uncollectable. During the twelve months of 2009 ARC did not record any additional provision for non-collectible accounts receivable.

When determining whether amounts that are past due are collectable, management assesses the credit worthiness and past payment history of the counterparty, as well as the nature of the past due amount. ARC considers all amounts greater than 90 days to be past due. As at December 31, 2009, \$4.4 million of accounts receivable are past due, excluding amounts described above, all of which are considered to be collectable.

Maximum credit risk is calculated as the total recorded value of cash equivalents, accounts receivable, reclamation funds, and risk management contracts at the balance sheet date.

## 7. RECLAMATION FUNDS

	December 31, 2009		December 31, 2008	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 11.2	\$ 17.0	\$ 14.4	\$ 11.7
Contributions	6.2	5.3	5.8	5.9
Reimbursed expenditures <sup>(1)</sup>	(5.9)	(1.8)	(9.7)	(1.0)
Interest earned on funds	0.7	0.1	0.8	0.4
Net unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale investments	0.4	-	(0.1)	-
Balance, end of year <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 12.6	\$ 20.6	\$ 11.2	\$ 17.0

(1) Amount differs from actual expenditures incurred by ARC due to timing differences and discretionary reimbursements.

(2) As at December 31, 2009 the unrestricted reclamation fund held \$0.2 million in cash and cash equivalents (nil at December 31, 2008), with the balance held in investment grade assets.

ARC has established two reclamations funds to finance future asset retirement obligations; one fund has been restricted to finance obligations specifically associated with the Redwater property, with the unrestricted fund financing all other obligations. Contributions to the restricted and unrestricted reclamation funds and interest earned on the balances have been deducted from the cash distributions to the unitholders. The Board of Directors of ARC Resources has approved voluntary contributions to the unrestricted reclamation fund over a 20-year period that currently results in minimum annual contributions of \$6 million (\$6 million in 2008) based upon properties owned as at December 31, 2009. Required contributions to the restricted reclamation fund will vary over time and have been disclosed in Note 22. Contributions for both funds are continually reassessed to ensure that the funds are sufficient to finance the majority of future abandonment obligations. Interest earned on the funds is retained within the funds.

For the years ended December 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008, nominal amounts relating to available-for-sale reclamation fund assets were classified from accumulated other comprehensive income into earnings. As at December 31, 2009 all reclamation fund assets are reflected at fair value. The fair values are obtained from third parties, determined directly by reference to quoted market prices.

## 8. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	December 31, 2009		December 31, 2008	
Property, plant and equipment, at cost	\$ 6,242.8	\$	5,668.9	
Accumulated depletion and depreciation	(2,669.4)		(2,292.3)	
Property, plant and equipment, net	\$ 3,573.4	\$	3,376.6	

The calculation of 2009 depletion and depreciation included an estimated \$1,060 million (\$872 million in 2008) for future development costs associated with proved undeveloped reserves and excluded \$268.9 million (\$287.5 million in 2008) for the book value of unproved properties.

ARC performed a ceiling test calculation at December 31, 2009 to assess the recoverable value of property plant and equipment ("PP&E"). Based on the calculation, the value of future net revenues from ARC's reserves exceeded the carrying value of ARC's PP&E at December 31, 2009. The benchmark prices used in the calculation were as follows:

Year	WTI Oil (US\$/bbl)	AECO Gas (Cdn\$/mmbtu)	Cdn\$/US\$ Exchange Rates
2010	80.00	5.96	0.95
2011	83.00	6.79	0.95
2012	86.00	6.89	0.95
2013	89.00	6.95	0.95
2014	92.00	7.05	0.95
2015	93.84	7.16	0.95
2016	95.72	7.42	0.95
2017	97.64	7.95	0.95
2018	99.59	8.52	0.95
2019	101.58	8.69	0.95
Remainder <sup>(1)</sup>	2.0%	2.0%	0.95

(1) Percentage change represents the change in each year after 2019 to the end of the reserve life.

## 9. FINANCIAL LIABILITIES AND LIQUIDITY RISK

Liquidity risk is the risk that ARC will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they become due. ARC actively manages its liquidity through cash, distribution policy, and debt and equity management strategies. Such strategies include continuously monitoring forecasted and actual cash flows from operating, financing and investing activities, available credit under existing banking arrangements and opportunities to issue additional Trust units. Management believes that future cash flows generated from these sources will be adequate to settle ARC's financial liabilities.

The following table details ARC's financial liabilities as at December 31, 2009:

(\$ millions)	1 year	2 - 3 years	4 - 5 years	Beyond 5 years	Total
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities <sup>(1)</sup>	166.7	-	-	-	166.7
Distributions payable <sup>(2)</sup>	18.9	-	-	-	18.9
Risk management contracts <sup>(3)</sup>	14.8	2.1	-	-	16.9
Senior secured notes and interest	47.1	109.9	131.6	152.9	441.5
Revolving credit facilities	-	497.3	-	-	497.3
Working capital facility	7.9	-	-	-	7.9
Accrued long-term incentive compensation <sup>(1)</sup>	28.4	36.0	-	-	64.4
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>283.8</b>	<b>645.3</b>	<b>131.6</b>	<b>152.9</b>	<b>1,213.6</b>

(1) Liabilities under the Whole Trust Unit Incentive Plan represent the total amount expected to be paid out on vesting.

(2) Amounts payable for the distribution represents the net cash payable after distribution reinvestment.

(3) Amounts payable for the risk management contracts have been included gross at their future value.

ARC actively maintains credit and working capital facilities to ensure that it has sufficient available funds to meet its financial requirements at a reasonable cost. Refer to Note 10 for further details on available amounts under existing banking arrangements and Note 12 for further details on capital management.

## 10. LONG-TERM DEBT

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Syndicated credit facilities:		
Cdn\$ denominated <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 423.0	\$ 399.5
US\$ denominated	74.3	240.6
Working capital facility	7.9	2.1
Senior secured notes:		
Master Shelf Agreement		
5.42% US\$ Note	78.5	91.9
4.94% US\$ Note	6.3	14.7
2004 Note Issuance		
4.62% US\$ Note	54.5	76.5
5.10% US\$ Note	65.4	76.5
2009 Note Issuance		
7.19% US\$ Note	70.6	-
8.21% US\$ Note	36.6	-
6.50% Cdn\$ Note	29.0	-
<b>Total long-term debt outstanding</b>	<b>\$ 846.1</b>	<b>\$ 901.8</b>

(1) Syndicated credit facility balance was reduced on January 5, 2010. Refer to Note 23 for further details.

### Credit Facilities

ARC has an \$800 million secured, annually extendible, financial covenant-based syndicated credit facility. ARC also has in place a \$25 million demand working capital facility. The working capital facility is also secured and is subject to the same covenants as the syndicated credit facility.

Borrowings under the syndicated credit facility bear interest at bank prime (2.25 per cent at December 31, 2009, four per cent at December 31, 2008) or, at ARC's option, Canadian dollar bankers' acceptances or U.S. dollar LIBOR loans, plus a stamping fee. At the option of ARC, the lenders will review the syndicated credit facility each year and determine whether they will extend the revolving period for another year. In the event that the syndicated credit facility is not extended at any time before the maturity date, the loan balance will become repayable on the maturity date. The maturity date of the current syndicated credit facility is April 15, 2011. All drawings under the facility are subject to stamping fees. These stamping fees vary between a minimum of 60

basis points ("bps") to a maximum of 110 bps. During 2009, the weighted-average interest rate under the credit facility was 1.1 per cent (3.8 per cent in 2008).

### Senior Secured Notes Issued Under a Master Shelf Agreement

These senior secured notes were issued in two separate tranches pursuant to an Uncommitted Master Shelf Agreement. The terms and rates of these senior secured notes are summarized below:

Issue Date	Remaining Principal	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Principal Payment Terms
October 19, 2002	US\$6.0	4.94%	October 19, 2010	Five equal installments beginning October 19, 2006
December 15, 2005	US\$75.0	5.42%	December 15, 2017	Eight equal installments beginning December 15, 2010

In the second quarter of 2009 ARC extended its Uncommitted Master Shelf Agreement from May 2009 to April 2012. The extended agreement allows for an aggregate draw of up to US\$225 million in notes at a rate equal to the related U.S. treasuries corresponding to the term of the notes plus an appropriate credit risk adjustment at the time of issuance.

### Senior Secured Notes not Subject to the Master Shelf Agreement

#### 2004 Note Issuance

These notes were issued on April 27, 2004 via a private placement in two tranches. The terms and rates of these senior secured notes are summarized below.

#### 2009 Note Issuance

These notes were issued on April 14, 2009 via a private placement in three tranches. The terms and rates of these senior secured notes are summarized below.

Issue Date	Remaining Principal	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Payment Terms
April 27, 2004	US\$52.1	4.62%	April 27, 2014	Six equal installments beginning April 27, 2009
April 27, 2004	US\$62.5	5.10%	April 27, 2016	Five equal installments beginning April 27, 2012
April 14, 2009	US\$67.5	7.19%	April 14, 2016	Five equal installments beginning April 14, 2012
April 14, 2009	US\$35.0	8.21%	April 14, 2021	Five equal installments beginning April 14, 2017
April 14, 2009	Cdn\$29.0	6.50%	April 14, 2016	Five equal installments beginning April 14, 2012

### Credit Capacity

The following table summarizes ARC's available credit capacity and the current amounts drawn as at December 31, 2009:

	Credit Capacity	Drawn	Remaining
Syndicated Credit Facility	\$ 800.0	\$ 497.3	\$ 302.7
Working Capital Facility	25.0	7.9	17.1
Senior Secured Notes Subject to a Master Shelf Agreement <sup>(1)</sup>	235.5	84.8	150.7
Senior Secured Notes Not Subject to a Master Shelf Agreement	256.1	256.1	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,316.6</b>	<b>\$ 846.1</b>	<b>\$ 470.5</b>

(1) Total credit capacity is US\$225 million.

### Debt Covenants

The following are the significant financial covenants governing the revolving credit facilities:

- Long-term debt and letters of credit not to exceed three times trailing twelve month net income before non-cash items and interest expense;

- Long-term debt, letters of credit, and subordinated debt not to exceed four times trailing twelve month net income before non-cash items and interest expense; and
- Long-term debt and letters of credit not to exceed 50 per cent of the book value of unitholders' equity and long-term debt, letters of credit, and subordinated debt.

In the event that ARC enters into a material acquisition whereby the purchase price exceeds 10 per cent of the book value of ARC's assets, the ratio in the first covenant is increased to 3.5 times, while the third covenant is increased to 55% for the subsequent six month period. As at December 31, 2009, ARC had \$2 million in letters of credit (\$1.9 million in 2008), no subordinated debt, and was in compliance with all covenants.

The payment of principal and interest are allowable deductions in the calculation of cash available for distribution to unitholders and rank ahead of cash distributions payable to unitholders. Should the properties securing this debt generate insufficient revenue to repay the outstanding balances, the unitholders have no direct liability.

### Supplemental disclosures

The fair value of all senior secured notes as at December 31, 2009, is \$347.3 million compared to a carrying value of \$340.9 million (\$289.9 million compared to \$259.6 million as at December 31, 2008), and is calculated as the present value of principal and interest payments discounted at ARC's credit adjusted risk free rate.

Amounts of US\$16.4 million due under the senior secured notes (includes US\$6 million attributable to the Master Shelf Agreement) and \$7.9 million due under ARC's working capital facility in the next 12 months have not been included in current liabilities as management has the ability and intent to refinance this amount through the syndicated credit facility.

Interest paid during 2009 was \$2.6 million more than interest expense (\$1.6 million more in 2008).

ARC's total long-term debt is secured in the form of a floating charge on all lands and assignments and a negative pledge on petroleum and natural gas properties.

## 11. ASSET RETIREMENT OBLIGATIONS

The total future asset retirement obligations were estimated by management based on ARC's net ownership interest in all wells and facilities, estimated costs to reclaim and abandon the wells and facilities and the estimated timing of the costs to be incurred in future periods. ARC has estimated the net present value of its total asset retirement obligations to be \$149.9 million as at December 31, 2009 (\$141.5 million in 2008) based on a total future undiscounted liability of \$1.36 billion (\$1.32 billion in 2008). At December 31, 2009 management estimates that these payments are expected to be made over the next 51 years with the majority of payments being made in years 2050 to 2060. ARC's weighted average credit adjusted risk free rate of 6.5 per cent (6.6 per cent in 2008) and an inflation rate of two per cent (two per cent in 2008) were used to calculate the present value of the asset retirement obligations. During the year, no gains or losses were recognized on settlements of asset retirement obligations.

The following table reconciles ARC's asset retirement obligations:

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 141.5	\$ 140.0
Increase in liabilities relating to corporate acquisitions	4.0	-
Increase in liabilities relating to development activities	1.7	2.0
Increase in liabilities relating to change in estimate	2.1	2.6
Settlement of reclamation liabilities during the year	(8.7)	(12.4)
Accretion expense	9.3	9.3
Balance, end of year	\$ 149.9	\$ 141.5

## 12. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The objective of ARC when managing its capital is to maintain a conservative structure that will allow it to:

- Fund its development and exploration program;
- Provide financial flexibility to execute on strategic opportunities;
- Maintain a level of distributions that, in normal times, in the opinion of Management and the Board of Directors, is sustainable for a minimum period of six months in order to normalize the effect of commodity price volatility to unitholders; and

ARC manages the following capital:

- Trust units and exchangeable shares;
- Long-term debt; and
- Working capital (defined as current assets less current liabilities excluding risk management contracts and future income taxes).

When evaluating ARC's capital structure, management's objective is to limit net debt to less than two times annualized cash flow from operating activities and 20 per cent of total capitalization. As at December 31, 2009 ARC's net debt to annualized cash flow from operating activities ratio is 1.8 and its net debt to total capitalization ratio is 15.9 per cent.

(\$ millions, except per unit and per cent amounts)	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Long-term debt	846.1	901.8
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	166.7	194.4
Distributions payable	23.7	32.5
Cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable and prepaid expenses	(134.1)	(166.8)
Net debt obligations <sup>(1)</sup>	902.4	961.9
Trust units outstanding and issuable for exchangeable shares (millions)	239.0	219.2
Trust unit price <sup>(2)</sup>	19.94	20.10
Market capitalization <sup>(1)</sup>	4,765.7	4,405.9
Net debt obligations <sup>(1)</sup>	902.4	961.9
Total capitalization <sup>(1)</sup>	5,668.1	5,367.8
Net debt as a percentage of total capitalization	15.9%	17.9%
Net debt obligations to annualized cash flow from operating activities	1.8	1.0

(1) Market capitalization, net debt obligations and total capitalization as presented do not have any standardized meaning prescribed by Canadian GAAP and therefore may not be comparable with the calculation of similar measures for other entities.

(2) TSX close price as at December 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008 respectively.

ARC manages its capital structure and makes adjustments to it in response to changes in economic conditions and the risk characteristics of the underlying assets. ARC is able to change its capital structure by issuing new trust units, exchangeable shares, new debt or changing its distribution policy.

In addition to internal capital management ARC is subject to various covenants under its credit facilities. Compliance with these covenants is monitored on a quarterly basis and as at December 31, 2009 ARC is in compliance with all covenants. Refer to Note 10 for further details.

### 13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

#### Financial Instrument Classification and Measurement

Financial instruments of ARC carried on the Consolidated Balance Sheet are carried at amortized cost with the exception of cash and cash equivalents, reclamation fund assets and risk management contracts, which are carried at fair value. With the exception of ARC's senior secured notes, there were no significant differences between the carrying value of financial instruments and their estimated fair values as at December 31, 2009. The fair value of the ARC's senior secured notes is disclosed in Note 10.

All of ARC's cash and cash equivalents, risk management contracts, and reclamation fund investments are transacted in active markets. ARC classifies the fair value of these transactions according to the following hierarchy based on the amount of observable inputs used to value the instrument.

- Level 1 – Quoted prices are available in active markets for identical assets or liabilities as of the reporting date. Active markets are those in which transactions occur in sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.
- Level 2 – Pricing inputs are other than quoted prices in active markets included in Level 1. Prices in Level 2 are either directly or indirectly observable as of the reporting date. Level 2 valuations are based on inputs, including quoted forward prices for commodities, time value and volatility factors, which can be substantially observed or corroborated in the marketplace.



- Level 3 – Valuations in this level are those with inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data.

ARC's cash and cash equivalents, reclamation fund assets and risk management contracts have been assessed on the fair value hierarchy described above. ARC's cash and cash equivalents and reclamation fund assets are classified as Level 1 and risk management contracts as Level 2. Assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement requires judgment and may affect the placement within the fair value hierarchy level.

### Market Risk Management

ARC is exposed to a number of market risks that are part of its normal course of business. ARC has a risk management program in place that includes financial instruments as disclosed in the risk management section of this note.

ARC's risk management program is overseen by its Risk Committee based on guidelines approved by the Board of Directors. The objective of the risk management program is to support ARC's business plan by mitigating adverse changes in commodity prices, interest rates and foreign exchange rates.

In the sections below, ARC has prepared sensitivity analyses in an attempt to demonstrate the effect of changes in these market risk factors on ARC's net income. For the purposes of the sensitivity analyses, the effect of a variation in a particular variable is calculated independently of any change in another variable. In reality, changes in one factor may contribute to changes in another, which may magnify or counteract the sensitivities.

For instance, trends have shown a correlation between the movement in the foreign exchange rate of the Canadian dollar to the U.S. dollar and the West Texas Intermediate posting ("WTI") crude oil price.

#### Commodity price risk

ARC's operational results and financial condition are largely dependent on the commodity prices received for oil and natural gas production. Commodity prices have fluctuated widely during recent years due to global and regional factors including supply and demand fundamentals, inventory levels, weather, economic, and geopolitical factors. Movement in commodity prices could have a significant positive or negative impact on distributions to unitholders.

ARC manages the risks associated with changes in commodity prices by entering into a variety of risk management contracts (see Risk Management Contracts below). The following table illustrates the effects of movement in commodity prices on net income due to changes in the fair value of risk management contracts in place at December 31, 2009. The sensitivity is based on a \$15 increase and \$15 decrease in the price of US\$ WTI crude oil and a \$1.50 increase and \$1.50 decrease in the price of Cdn\$ AECO natural gas. The commodity price assumptions are based on Management's assessment of reasonably possible changes in oil and natural gas prices that could occur between December 31, 2009 and ARC's next reporting date.

	Increase in Commodity Price		Decrease in Commodity Price	
	Crude oil	Natural gas	Crude oil	Natural gas
Net income (decrease) increase	\$ (21.7)	\$ (54.6)	\$ 19.1	\$ 54.1

As noted above, the sensitivities are hypothetical and based on management's assessment of reasonably possible changes in commodity prices between the balance sheet date and ARC's next reporting date. The results of the sensitivity should not be considered to be predictive of future performance. Changes in the fair value of risk management contracts cannot generally be extrapolated because the relationship of change in certain variables to a change in fair value may not be linear.

#### Interest Rate Risk

ARC has both fixed and variable interest rates on its debt. Changes in interest rates could result in an increase or decrease in the amount ARC pays to service variable interest rate debt, potentially impacting distributions to unitholders. Changes in interest rates could also result in fair value risk on ARC's fixed rate senior secured notes. Fair value risk of the senior secured notes is mitigated due to the fact that ARC does not intend to settle its fixed rate debt prior to maturity.

If interest rates applicable to floating rate debt at December 31, 2009 were to have increased by 50 bps (0.5 per cent) it is estimated that ARC's net income would decrease by \$1.9 million. Management does not expect interest rates to decrease.

#### Foreign Exchange Risk

North American oil and natural gas prices are based upon U.S. dollar denominated commodity prices. As a result, the price received by Canadian producers is affected by the Canadian/U.S. dollar exchange rate that may fluctuate over time. In addition ARC has U.S. dollar denominated debt and interest obligations of which future cash repayments are directly impacted by the exchange rate in effect on the repayment date. Variations in the Canadian/U.S. dollar exchange rate could also have a positive or negative impact on distributions to unitholders.

The following table demonstrates the effect of exchange rate movements on net income due to changes in the fair value of risk management contracts in place at December 31, 2009 as well as the unrealized gain or loss on revaluation of outstanding US\$ denominated debt. The sensitivity is based on a \$0.10 Cdn\$/US\$ increase and \$0.10 Cdn\$/US\$ decrease in the foreign exchange rate.

	Increase in Cdn\$/US\$ rate	Decrease in Cdn\$/US\$ rate
Increase gain/decrease loss (increase loss/decrease gain) on risk management contracts	\$ 1.5	\$ (1.5)
(Increase loss/decrease gain) increase gain/decrease loss on foreign exchange	(28.6)	29.5
<b>Net income (decrease) increase</b>	<b>\$ (27.1)</b>	<b>\$ 28.0</b>

Increases and decreases in foreign exchange rates applicable to US\$ payables and receivables would have a nominal impact on ARC's net income for the year ended December 31, 2009.

### Risk Management Contracts

ARC uses a variety of derivative instruments to reduce its exposure to fluctuations in commodity prices, foreign exchange rates, interest rates and power prices. ARC considers all of these transactions to be effective economic hedges; however, the majority of ARC's contracts do not qualify as effective hedges for accounting purposes.

Following is a summary of all risk management contracts in place as at December 31, 2009 that do not qualify for hedge accounting:

<b>Financial WTI Crude Oil Option Contracts <sup>(1)</sup></b>						
Term		Contract	Volume bbl/d	Bought Put US\$/bbl	Sold Put US\$/bbl	Sold Call US\$/bbl
1-Jan-10	31-Mar-10	Collar	1,000	\$65.00	-	\$80.00
1-Jan-10	31-Dec-10	Collar	4,000	\$70.00	-	\$90.00
1-Jan-10	31-Dec-10	Collar	2,000	\$75.00	-	\$95.00
1-Jan-10	31-Dec-10	3-way collar	2,000	\$80.00	\$60.00	\$95.00

(1) Monthly average

<b>Financial AECO Natural Gas Swap Contracts <sup>(2)</sup></b>				
Term		Contract	Volume GJ/d	Sold Swap Cdn\$/GJ
1-Jan-10	31-Dec-10	Swap	80,000	\$5.61
1-Jan-11	31-Dec-13	Swap	20,000	\$6.16

(2) AECO 7a monthly index

<b>Financial NYMEX Natural Gas Swap Contracts <sup>(3)</sup></b>				
Term		Contract	Volume mmbtu/d	Sold Swap US\$/mmbtu
1-Apr-10	31-Oct-10	Swap	20,000	\$6.00

(3) Last 3 Day Settlement

<b>Financial Basis Swap Contract <sup>(4)</sup></b>				
Term	Contract	Volume	Basis Swap	
		mmbtu/d	US\$/mmbtu	
1-Jan-10	31-Oct-10	Basis Swap-L3d	50,000	(\$1.0430)
1-Nov-10	31-Oct-11	Basis Swap-Ld	15,000	(\$0.4850)
1-Nov-11	31-Oct-12	Basis Swap-Ld	15,000	(\$0.4067)

(4) Receive Nymex Last Day (Ld) or Last 3 Day (L3d); pay AECO 7a monthly index

<b>US\$ Debt Repayment Contracts</b>				
Settlement Date	Contract	Notional Volume	Swap	Swap
		US\$ millions	Cdn\$/US\$	US\$/Cdn\$
21-Jan-10	Forward	20.00	\$1.0480	\$0.9542

<b>Financial Electricity Heat Rate Contracts <sup>(5)</sup></b>							
Term	Contract	Volume	AESO Power	AECO 5a	multiplied	Heat Rate	
		MWh	\$/MWh	\$/GJ	by	GJ/MWh	
1-Jan-10	31-Dec-10	Heat Rate Swap	10	Receive AESO	Pay AECO 5a	x 9.15	
1-Jan-11	31-Dec-11	Heat Rate Swap	15	Receive AESO	Pay AECO 5a	x 9.08	
1-Jan-12	31-Dec-13	Heat Rate Swap	10	Receive AESO	Pay AECO 5a	x 9.15	

(5) Alberta Power Pool (monthly average 24x7); AECO 5a monthly index

<b>Financial Electricity Contracts <sup>(6)</sup></b>				
Term	Contract	Volume	Bought Swap	
		MWh	Cdn\$/MWh	
1-Jan-10	31-Dec-12	Swap	5	\$72.495

(6) Alberta Power Pool (monthly average 24x7); AECO 5a monthly index

Following is a summary of all risk management contracts in place as at December 31, 2009 that qualify for hedge accounting:

<b>Financial Electricity Contracts <sup>(7)</sup></b>				
Term	Contract	Volume	Bought Swap	
		MWh	Cdn\$/MWh	
1-Jan-10	31-Dec-10	Swap	5	\$63.00

(7) Alberta Power Pool (monthly average 24x7), AECO 5a monthly index

At December 31, 2009, the fair value of the contracts that were not designated as accounting hedges was a loss of \$4.3 million. ARC recorded a gain on risk management contracts of \$11.7 million in the statement of income for the year ended December 31, 2009 (\$7.7 million loss in 2008). This amount includes the realized and unrealized gains and losses on risk management contracts that do not qualify as effective accounting hedges.

The following table reconciles the movement in the fair value of ARC's financial risk management contracts that have not been designated as effective accounting hedges:

	<b>December 31, 2009</b>		December 31, 2008	
Fair value, beginning of year	\$	3.4	\$	(64.6)
Fair value, end of year <sup>(1)</sup>		(4.3)		3.4
Change in fair value of contracts in the year		(7.7)		68.0
Realized gain (loss) in the year		19.4		(75.7)
Gain (loss) on risk management contracts	\$	11.7	\$	(7.7)

(1) Intrinsic value of risk management contracts not designated as effective accounting hedges equals a loss of \$3.5 million at December 31, 2009 (\$0.9 million loss at December 31, 2008).

During 2007 ARC entered into treasury rate lock contracts in order to manage ARC's interest rate exposure on future debt issuances. During 2008 it was determined that the previously anticipated debt issuance was no longer expected to occur and the associated treasury rate lock contracts were unwound at a loss of \$13.6 million. The loss was reclassified from Other Comprehensive Income ("OCI"), net of tax \$10 million and recognized in net income.

ARC's electricity contracts are intended to manage price risk on electricity consumption. Portions of ARC's financial electricity contracts were designated as effective accounting hedges on their respective contract dates. A realized loss of \$1.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 (gain of \$3.9 million in 2008) has been included in operating costs on these electricity contracts. The accumulated unrealized fair value loss of \$0.5 million on these contracts has been recorded on the Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2009 with the movement in fair value recorded in OCI, net of tax. The fair value movement for the year ended December 31, 2009 is an unrealized loss of \$3.8 million. As at December 31, 2009 all of the unrealized fair value loss is attributed to contracts that will settle over the next twelve months. The following table reconciles the movement in the fair value of ARC's financial risk management contracts that have been designated as effective accounting hedges:

	<b>December 31, 2009</b>	December 31, 2008
Fair value, beginning of year	\$ 3.3	\$ (3.4)
Change in fair value of financial electricity contracts	<b>(3.8)</b>	(0.7)
Change in fair value of treasury rate lock contracts prior to de-designation	-	(6.2)
Reclassification of loss on treasury rate lock contracts to net income	-	13.6
Fair value, end of year <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>\$ (0.5)</b>	\$ 3.3

(1) Intrinsic value of risk management contracts designated as effective accounting hedges equals a loss of \$0.5 million at December 31, 2009 (\$3.4 million gain at December 31, 2008).

#### 14. GAIN (LOSS) ON FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The following is a summary of the total gain (loss) on US\$ denominated transactions:

	<b>2009</b>	2008
Unrealized gain (loss) on US\$ denominated debt	\$ 66.3	\$ (90.8)
Realized gain on US\$ denominated debt repayments	2.7	2.3
Total non-cash gain (loss) on US\$ denominated transactions	<b>69.0</b>	(88.5)
Realized cash gain (loss) on US\$ denominated transactions	1.0	(0.9)
Total foreign exchange gain (loss)	<b>\$ 70.0</b>	\$ (89.4)

#### 15. INCOME TAXES

In 2007, Income Trust tax legislation was passed resulting in a two-tiered tax structure subjecting distributions to the federal corporate income tax rate plus a deemed 13 per cent provincial income tax at the Trust level commencing in 2011. On March 4, 2009 legislation was passed providing that the provincial component of the tax on ARC is to be calculated based on the general provincial rate in each province in which ARC has a permanent establishment. This is the same way that a corporation would calculate its provincial tax rate. The provincial component of the tax was substantively enacted as of December 31, 2009 but was not substantively enacted as of December 31, 2008. ARC has reflected a reduced tax rate in the calculation of future income taxes in 2009.

The tax provision differs from the amount computed by applying the combined Canadian federal and provincial statutory income tax rates to income before future income tax recovery as follows:

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Income before future income tax recovery and non-controlling interest	\$ 192.3	\$ 535.4
Canadian statutory rate <sup>(1)</sup>	29.0%	32.4%
Expected income tax expense at statutory rates	55.8	173.4
Effect on income tax of:		
Net income of ARC	(86.0)	(181.2)
Effect of change in corporate tax rate	7.2	(8.9)
Unrealized loss (gain) on foreign exchange	(9.7)	13.4
Change in estimated pool balances	(0.7)	(1.0)
Other non-deductible items	0.6	(0.2)
Future income tax recovery	\$ (32.8)	\$ (4.5)

(1) The statutory rate consists of the combined Trust and Trust's subsidiaries statutory tax rate

The net future income tax liability is comprised of the following:

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Future tax liabilities:		
Capital assets in excess of tax value	\$ 418.3	\$ 381.4
Risk management contracts	-	1.7
Other comprehensive income	-	0.8
Long-term debt	8.5	0.2
Future tax assets:		
Asset retirement obligations	(37.6)	(35.8)
Non-capital losses	(49.9)	(24.4)
Risk management contracts	(1.1)	-
Other comprehensive loss	(0.1)	-
Trust unit incentive compensation expense	(8.2)	(8.3)
Attributed Canadian royalty income	(4.5)	(4.6)
CEC, SR&ED pools and deductible share issue costs	(3.6)	(1.6)
Net future income tax liability	\$ 321.8	\$ 309.4
Net future income tax asset, current	\$ 7.1	\$ 3.9
Net future income tax liability, long-term	\$ 328.9	\$ 313.3

The petroleum and natural gas properties and facilities owned by ARC have an approximate tax basis of \$2.23 billion (\$2.07 billion in 2008) available for future use as deductions from taxable income. Included in this tax basis are estimated non-capital loss carry forwards of \$181.9 million (\$86.9 million in 2008) that expire in the years 2027 through 2029. The following is a summary of the estimated ARC tax pools:

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Canadian oil and gas property expenses	\$ 951.6	\$ 1,001.3
Canadian development expenses	391.1	360.7
Canadian exploration expenses	105.6	41.5
Undepreciated capital costs	432.2	414.5
Non-capital losses	181.9	86.9
SR&ED tax pools	0.8	0.3
Other	15.2	7.0
Estimated tax basis, federal	2,078.4	1,912.2
Provincial tax pools	155.5	155.9
Estimated tax basis, federal and provincial	\$ 2,233.9	\$ 2,068.1

No current income taxes were paid or payable in both 2009 and 2008.

## 16. EXCHANGEABLE SHARES

ARC is authorized to issue an unlimited number of ARL Exchangeable Shares that can be converted (at the option of the holder) into trust units at any time. The number of Trust units issuable upon conversion is based upon the exchange ratio in effect at the conversion date. The exchange ratio is calculated monthly based on the cash distribution paid divided by the 10 day weighted average unit price preceding the record date and multiplied by the opening exchange ratio. The exchangeable shares are not eligible for distributions and, in the event that they are not converted, any outstanding shares are redeemable by ARC for Trust units on August 28, 2012. The ARL Exchangeable Shares are publicly traded.

(units thousands)	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Balance, beginning of year	1,092	1,310
Exchanged for trust units <sup>(1)</sup>	(221)	(218)
Balance, end of year	871	1,092
Exchange ratio, end of year	2.71953	2.51668
Trust units issuable upon conversion, end of year	2,369	2,748

(1) During 2009, 220,573 ARL exchangeable shares were converted to trust units at an average exchange ratio of 2.59547, compared to 218,455 exchangeable shares at an average exchange ratio of 2.36901 during the year ended 2008.

The non-controlling interest on the Consolidated Balance Sheet consists of the fair value of the exchangeable shares upon issuance plus the accumulated earnings attributable to the non-controlling interest. The net income attributable to the non-controlling interest on the Consolidated Statement of Income represents the cumulative share of net income attributable to the non-controlling interest based on the Trust units issuable for exchangeable shares in proportion to total Trust units issued and issuable at each period end.

Following is a summary of the non-controlling interest for 2009 and 2008:

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Non-controlling interest, beginning of year	\$ 42.4	\$ 43.1
Reduction of book value for conversion to trust units	(8.7)	(7.6)
Current year net income attributable to non-controlling interest	2.3	6.9
Non-controlling interest, end of year	36.0	42.4
Accumulated earnings attributable to non-controlling interest	\$ 43.3	\$ 41.0

## 17. UNITHOLDERS' CAPITAL

ARC is authorized to issue 650 million Trust units of which 236.6 million units were issued and outstanding as at December 31, 2009 (216.4 million as at December 31, 2008).

ARC has in place a Distribution Reinvestment and Optional Cash Payment Program ("DRIP") in conjunction with the Trusts' transfer agent to provide the option for unitholders to reinvest cash distributions into additional trust units issued from treasury at a five per cent discount to the prevailing market price with no additional fees or commissions.

ARC is an open ended mutual fund under which unitholders have the right to request redemption directly from ARC. Trust units tendered by holders are subject to redemption under certain terms and conditions including the determination of the redemption price at the lower of the closing market price on the date units are tendered or 90 per cent of the weighted average trading price for the 10 day trading period commencing on the tender date. Cash payments for trust units tendered for redemption are limited to \$100,000 per month with redemption requests in excess of this amount eligible to receive a note from ARC Resources Ltd. accruing interest at 4.5 per cent and repayable within 20 years.

(units thousands)	December 31, 2009		December 31, 2008	
	Number of trust units	\$	Number of trust units	\$
Balance, beginning of year	216,435	2,600.7	210,232	2,465.7
Issued for cash	15,474	253.0	-	-
Issued on conversion of ARL exchangeable shares (Note 16)	572	8.6	517	7.6
Issued on exercise of employee rights	-	-	238	4.2
Distribution reinvestment program	4,134	67.0	5,448	123.2
Trust unit issue costs, net of tax <sup>(1)</sup>	-	(11.7)	-	-
Balance, end of year <sup>(2)</sup>	236,615	2,917.6	216,435	2,600.7

(1) Amount is net of tax of \$2.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009.

(2) The number of Trust units outstanding increased significantly on January 5, 2010. Refer to Note 23 for further details.

Net income per trust unit has been determined based on the following:

(units thousands)	2009	2008
Weighted average trust units <sup>(1)</sup>	233,025	213,259
Trust units issuable on conversion of exchangeable shares <sup>(2)</sup>	2,369	2,748
Dilutive impact of rights <sup>(3)</sup>	-	50
Diluted trust units and exchangeable shares	235,394	216,057

(1) Weighted average trust units exclude trust units issuable for exchangeable shares.

(2) Diluted trust units include trust units issuable for outstanding exchangeable shares at the year-end exchange ratio.

(3) There are no rights outstanding as of December 31, 2009 and therefore, no dilutive impact. Previously outstanding rights were dilutive and therefore were included in the diluted unit calculation for 2008.

Basic net income per unit has been calculated based on net income after non-controlling interest divided by weighted average trust units. Diluted net income per unit has been calculated based on net income before non-controlling interest divided by diluted trust units.

## 18. DEFICIT AND ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS) INCOME

	December 31, 2009		December 31, 2008	
Accumulated earnings	\$	2,946.9	\$	2,724.1
Accumulated distributions		(3,525.5)		(3,227.0)
Deficit		(578.6)		(502.9)
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income		(0.6)		1.9
Deficit and accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income	\$	(579.2)	\$	(501.0)

The accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income balance is composed of the following items:

	December 31, 2009		December 31, 2008	
Unrealized gains and losses on financial instruments designated as cash flow hedges	\$	(0.7)	\$	2.0
Net unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale reclamation funds' investments		0.1		(0.1)
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income, end of year	\$	(0.6)	\$	1.9

## 19. RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES AND DISTRIBUTIONS

Distributions are calculated in accordance with the Trust Indenture. To arrive at distributions, cash flow from operating activities is reduced by reclamation fund contributions including interest earned on the funds, a portion of capital expenditures and, when applicable, debt repayments. The portion of cash flow from operating activities withheld to fund capital expenditures and to make debt repayments is at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

	2009		2008	
Cash flow from operating activities	\$	497.4	\$	944.4
Deduct:				
Cash withheld to fund current year capital expenditures				

Net reclamation fund contributions	(194.3)	(372.2)
Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>	(4.6)	(2.2)
Accumulated distributions, beginning of year	298.5	570.0
Accumulated distributions, end of year	3,227.0	2,657.0
Distributions per unit <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 1.28	\$ 2.67
Accumulated distributions per unit, beginning of year	\$ 23.70	\$ 21.03
Accumulated distributions per unit, end of year <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 24.98	\$ 23.70

(1) Distributions include accrued and non-cash amounts of \$56.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 (\$111.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2008).

(2) Distributions per trust unit reflect the sum of the per trust unit amounts declared monthly to unitholders.

(3) Accumulated distributions per unit reflect the sum of the per trust unit amounts declared monthly to unitholders since the inception of ARC in July 1996.

## 20. TRUST UNIT INCENTIVE RIGHTS PLAN

The Trust Unit Incentive Rights Plan (the "Rights Plan") was established in 1999 and authorized ARC to grant up to 8,000,000 rights to its employees, independent directors and long-term consultants to purchase Trust units, of which 7,866,088 were granted before the plan was discontinued in 2004 and replaced with the Whole Trust Unit Incentive Plan (see Note 21). During 2008 the remaining 238,000 rights were exercised, at a weighted average exercise price of \$10.40. As at December 31, 2008 all rights issued under the Rights Plan had been exercised or cancelled.

## 21. WHOLE TRUST UNIT INCENTIVE PLAN

The Whole Trust Unit Incentive Plan (the "Whole Unit Plan") results in employees, officers and directors (the "plan participants") receiving cash compensation in relation to the value of a specified number of underlying notional trust units. The Whole Unit Plan consists of Restricted Trust Units ("RTUs") for which the number of trust units is fixed and will vest evenly over a period of three years and Performance Trust Units ("PTUs") for which the number of trust units is variable and will vest at the end of three years.

Upon vesting, the plan participant receives a cash payment based on the fair value of the underlying trust units plus accrued distributions. The cash compensation issued upon vesting of the PTUs is dependent upon the future performance of ARC compared to its peers based on a performance multiplier. The performance multiplier is based on the percentile rank of ARC's Total Unitholder Return. The cash compensation issued upon vesting of the PTUs may range from zero to two times the value of the PTUs originally granted.

During the year, cash payments of \$16.6 million were made to employees relating to the Whole Unit Plan compared to \$28.2 million in 2008. In October 2008, vesting periods were revised from April and October to March and September of each year commencing in 2009.

Non-cash compensation expense associated with the Whole Unit Plan is determined based on the intrinsic value of the Whole Trust Units at each period end and is expensed in the statement of income and capitalized on the balance sheet over the vesting period. As the value of the RTUs and PTUs is dependent upon the trust unit price, the expense recorded may fluctuate over time.

ARC recorded non-cash compensation expense of \$(0.1) million and \$0.7 million to general and administrative and operating expenses, respectively, and capitalized \$0.1 million to property, plant and equipment in the year ended December 31, 2009 for the estimated change in the Plan liability (\$1.1 million, \$(0.1) million, and \$0.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2008). The non-cash compensation expense was based on the December 31, 2009 unit price of \$19.94 (\$20.10 at December 31, 2008), accrued distributions, a performance multiplier, and the estimated number of units to be issued on maturity.



The following table summarizes the RTU and PTU movement for the year ended December 31, 2009:

(thousands)	Number of RTUs	Number of PTUs
Balance, beginning of year	756	959
Granted	703	635
Vested	(355)	(261)
Forfeited	(52)	(28)
Balance, end of year	1,052	1,305

The change in the net accrued long-term incentive compensation liability relating to the Whole Trust Unit Incentive Plan can be reconciled as follows:

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 31.9	\$ 30.3
Change in net liabilities in the year		
General and administrative expense	(0.1)	1.1
Operating expense	0.7	(0.1)
Property, plant and equipment	0.1	0.6
Balance, end of year <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 32.6	\$ 31.9
Current portion of liability <sup>(2)</sup>	22.4	18.8
Accrued long-term incentive compensation	\$ 10.9	\$ 14.2

(1) Includes \$0.7 million of recoverable amounts recorded in accounts receivable as at December 31, 2009 (\$1.1 million for 2008).

(2) Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities on the Consolidated Balance Sheet.

## 22. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Following is a summary of ARC's contractual obligations and commitments as at December 31, 2009:

(\$ millions)	Payments Due by Period				Total
	2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	Thereafter	
Debt repayments <sup>(1)</sup>	34.8	571.7	107.4	132.2	846.1
Interest payments <sup>(2)</sup>	20.1	35.5	24.2	20.8	100.6
Reclamation fund contributions <sup>(3)</sup>	4.9	8.9	7.7	64.2	85.7
Purchase commitments	41.2	37.1	15.9	14.9	109.1
Transportation commitments <sup>(4)</sup>	4.8	26.6	24.2	7.1	62.7
Operating leases	4.0	13.0	14.9	74.4	106.3
Risk management contract premiums <sup>(5)</sup>	1.6	-	-	-	1.6
Total contractual obligations	111.4	692.8	194.3	313.6	1,312.1

(1) Long-term and short-term debt.

(2) Fixed interest payments on senior secured notes.

(3) Contribution commitments to a restricted reclamation fund associated with the Redwater property.

(4) Fixed payments for transporting production from the Dawson gas plant, expected to be operational in 2010.

(5) Fixed premiums to be paid in future periods on certain commodity risk management contracts.

In addition to the above Risk management contract premiums, ARC has commitments related to its risk management program (see Note 13). As the premiums are part of the underlying risk management contract, they have been recorded at fair market value at December 31, 2009 on the balance sheet as part of risk management contracts.

ARC enters into commitments for capital expenditures in advance of the expenditures being made. At a given point in time, it is estimated that ARC has committed to capital expenditures equal to approximately one quarter of its capital budget by means of giving the necessary authorizations to incur the expenditures in a future period. ARC's 2010 capital budget has been approved by the Board at \$610 million. This commitment has not been disclosed in the commitment table as it is of a routine nature and is part of normal course of operations for active oil and gas companies and trusts.

The 2010 capital budget of \$610 million includes approximately \$20 million for leasehold development costs related to ARC's new office space in downtown Calgary. The operating lease commitments for the new space are included in the table above.

ARC is involved in litigation and claims arising in the normal course of operations. Management is of the opinion that pending litigation will not have a material adverse impact on ARC's financial position or results of operations and therefore the above table does not include any commitments for outstanding litigation and claims.

## 23. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On January 5, 2010 ARC issued 13 million trust units at a price of \$19.40 per trust unit for total net proceeds of approximately \$240 million. A portion of the net proceeds has been used to repay bank indebtedness of approximately \$180 million which was incurred to fund the Ante Creek purchase outlined in Note 4, with the remainder used to repay other outstanding bank indebtedness.

## 24. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian GAAP, which differs in some respects from US GAAP. Any differences in accounting principles as they pertain to the accompanying consolidated financial statements are immaterial except as described below:

The application of US GAAP would have the following effect on net income as reported for years ended December 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008.

	2009	2008
Net income as reported for Canadian GAAP	\$ 222.8	\$ 533.0
Adjustments:		
Depletion and depreciation (a)	103.8	8.1
Ceiling test write-down (a)	(144.5)	(1,150.4)
Transaction Costs (b)	(0.2)	-
Research and Development Costs (c)	(1.0)	-
Unit based compensation (d)	-	(0.9)
Non-controlling interest (e)	2.3	6.9
Effect of applicable income taxes on the above adjustments and rate change (h)	2.9	292.9
Uncertain tax provision (i)	(1.0)	(15.6)
<b>Net income (loss) under US GAAP</b>	<b>\$ 185.1</b>	<b>\$ (326.0)</b>

Net income (loss) per Trust unit (Note 17)

Basic and Diluted (f)	\$ 0.79	\$ (1.51)
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### Comprehensive Income:

Net income (loss) under US GAAP	\$ 185.1	\$ (326.0)
Other Comprehensive (loss) income	(2.5)	4.8
<b>Comprehensive income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 182.6</b>	<b>\$ (321.2)</b>

The application of US GAAP would have the following effect on the consolidated balance sheets as reported:

	2009		2008	
	Canadian GAAP	US GAAP	Canadian GAAP	US GAAP
Property, plant and equipment (a)	\$ 3,573.4	\$ 2,256.4	\$ 3,376.6	\$ 2,131.2
Goodwill (b)	157.6	179.9	157.6	157.6
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (i)	(166.7)	(183.7)	(194.4)	(210.4)
Future income taxes/Deferred income taxes(h)	(321.8)	16.4	(309.4)	18.5
Non-controlling interest (e)	(36.0)	-	(42.4)	-
Temporary equity (d), (e), (g)	-	(4,567.6)	-	(3,796.3)
Unitholders' capital (g)	(2,917.6)	-	(2,600.7)	-
<b>Deficit (g)</b>	<b>578.6</b>	<b>3,166.1</b>	502.9	2,589.6

The above noted differences between Canadian GAAP and US GAAP are the result of the following:

- (a) Under Canadian GAAP, impairment is recognized if the carrying amount of the PP&E exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows expected to result from ARC's proved reserves. Cash flows are calculated based on third party quoted forward prices, adjusted for ARC's contract prices and quality differentials.

Upon recognition of impairment, ARC would then measure the amount of impairment by comparing the carrying amounts of the PP&E to an amount equal to the estimated net present value of future cash flows from proved plus risked probable reserves plus the cost of unproved properties less impairment. ARC's risk-free interest rate is used to arrive at the net present value of the future cash flows. Any excess carrying value above the net present value of ARC's estimated future cash flows would be recorded as a permanent impairment and charged against earnings.

On December 31, 2008, the SEC published final rules and interpretations updating its oil and gas reporting requirements. ARC has prospectively adopted these new rules effective year end December 31, 2009. Under US GAAP, companies using the full cost method of accounting for oil and gas producing activities perform a ceiling test on each cost centre using discounted estimated future net revenue from proved oil and gas reserves using a discount rate of 10 per cent. Effective for the year ended December 31, 2009, prices to be used in the US GAAP ceiling test are the 12-month average price prior to the end of the reporting period. For the year ended December 31, 2009, a ceiling test write-down of \$144.5 million has been recorded for US GAAP purposes. In the prior year, a ceiling test write-down of \$1.15 billion was recorded. Prices used in the US GAAP ceiling test in the prior year were those in effect at year-end. The amounts recorded for depletion and depreciation have been adjusted in the periods following write-downs taken under US GAAP in prior years to reflect the impact of the reduction of depletable costs.

A US GAAP difference also exists relating to the basis of measurement of proved reserves that is utilized in the depletion calculation. Under US GAAP, depletion charges are calculated by reference to proved reserves estimated using 12-month average prices prior to the end of the reporting period. Under Canadian GAAP, depletion charges are calculated by reference to proved reserves estimated using future prices.

- (b) On December 21, 2009, as described in Note 4, ARC acquired all of the issued and outstanding shares of two legal entities – 1504793 Alberta Ltd. and PetroBakken General Partnership No. 1 (collectively "Ante Creek"). The acquisition has been accounted for as an asset acquisition under Canadian GAAP. Under US GAAP, this acquisition qualifies as a business combination and has been accounted for as a corporate acquisition. Under Canadian GAAP an iterative calculation is used to determine the amount to record deferred taxes at in an asset acquisition. However, as the transaction was accounted for as a business combination under US GAAP this iterative calculation does not apply and goodwill results from the difference between the present value of the tax shield inherent in the fair value of the asset as compared with the undiscounted deferred tax balance. ARC has recorded goodwill of \$22.3 million for US GAAP and has charged \$0.2 million for transaction costs in the income statement, it has reduced property, plant and equipment and future income taxes by \$29.8 million and \$7.5 million, respectively for US GAAP purposes. Under US GAAP, transaction costs are classified in the operating activities section of the Cash Flow Statement, whereas under Canadian GAAP this amount has been classified under the investing section of the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.
- (c) Under Canadian GAAP, costs incurred for ARC's Redwater CO<sub>2</sub> pilot project are capitalized as qualifying development costs. A US GAAP difference exists as certain costs classified under the Research and Development Costs standard under US GAAP are required to be expensed. Specifically, US GAAP requires that costs that are incurred for a particular research and development project and that have no alternative future use must be expensed. For the year ended December 31, 2009, ARC recorded \$1.0 million to the income statement for US GAAP purposes.
- (d) Under US GAAP, rights granted under the rights plan are considered liability awards and must be fair valued at each reporting date in accordance with ASC 718. Changes in fair values between periods are charged or credited to earnings with a corresponding change in the trust unit rights liability. Once the rights are exercised this amount is classified to temporary equity.

Under Canadian GAAP, the rights plan is treated as an equity award with the initial fair value calculated upon grant date. The fair value is then recorded to compensation expense and credited to contributed surplus over the vesting period of the rights. Upon any rights exercises, the fair value recorded in contributed surplus is reclassified to unitholders' capital. As at December 31, 2009 and 2008, there are no rights outstanding.

ARC's Whole Unit Plan is also accounted for in accordance with ASC 718. Under Canadian GAAP the plan is intrinsically valued. There is, however, no material US GAAP difference as terms of the plan result in the fair value of the plan approximating the intrinsic value.

- (e) Under Canadian GAAP, ARL Exchangeable Shares are classified as non-controlling interest to reflect a minority ownership in one of ARC's subsidiaries. As these exchangeable shares must ultimately be converted into Trust Units, the exchangeable shares are classified as temporary equity along with the Trust Units for US GAAP purposes using the exchange ratio.

- (f) Under Canadian GAAP, basic net income per unit is calculated based on net income after non-controlling interest divided by weighted average trust units and diluted net income per unit is calculated based on net income before non-controlling interest divided by diluted trust units. Under US GAAP, as the exchangeable shares are classified in the same manner as the trust units with no non-controlling interest treatment, basic net income per unit is calculated based on net income divided by weighted average trust units and the trust unit equivalent of the outstanding exchangeable shares. Diluted net income per unit is calculated based on net income divided by a sum of the weighted average trust units, the trust unit equivalent of the outstanding exchangeable shares, and the dilutive impact of rights.
- (g) Under US GAAP, as the Trust Units are redeemable at the option of the unitholder, the Trust Units must be recorded at their redemption amount and presented as temporary equity in the consolidated balance sheet. The redemption amount is determined based on the lower of the closing market price on the balance sheet date or 90 percent of the weighted average trading price for the 10 day trading period commencing on the balance sheet date of the Trust Units and the Trust Unit equivalent of the exchangeable shares outstanding. Under Canadian GAAP, all Trust Units are classified as permanent equity. As at December 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008, ARC has classified \$4.6 billion and \$3.8 billion, respectively, as temporary equity in accordance with US GAAP. Changes in redemption value between periods are charged or credited to deficit. For the year ended December 31, 2009, \$463 million was charged to deficit (\$306.5 million credited to deficit for the year ending December 31, 2008).
- (h) Legislation was passed whereby distributions paid by ARC will be subject to tax beginning in 2011. As a result, the deferred tax position of ARC, the parent entity, is now required to be reflected in the consolidated deferred income tax calculation for US and Canadian GAAP purposes. For the year ended December 31, 2009, \$33.7 million relating to deferred income tax expense on DD&A adjustments and tax rate change adjustments on previous ceiling test write-downs taken under US GAAP and a future income tax recovery of \$36.3 million relating to the current year ceiling test write down was recorded (\$292.9 million deferred income tax recovery for the year ended December 31, 2008). ARC also reduced its deferred tax liability compared to Canadian GAAP by \$0.3 million relating to adjustments for the Ante Creek acquisition transaction costs and Redwater EOR costs expensed to the income statement under US GAAP.
- (i) ARC recorded an additional charge to deferred income tax expense of \$1.0 million for uncertain tax positions including accrued interest and penalties of \$0.8 million. As at December 31, 2009, the total amount included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities in relation to uncertain tax positions in the US GAAP Consolidated Balance Sheet was \$17.0 million including accrued interest and penalties of \$4.5 million.
- (j) Subsequent events have been evaluated up to February 17, 2010.
- (k) In 2009 and 2008, the FASB and SEC issued new and revised standards all of which were determined not to have a material effect on ARC except for ASC 805 – Business Combinations for which the reconciling items noted above have been recorded. ASC 805 may also have an impact on any future acquisitions compared to Canadian GAAP.