

# Guide to MLP Investing

GTE Wealth Forum Austin, Texas





About Alerian	3
Overview of MLPs	8
MLP Performance	12
MLP Investment Options	16
Current Issues & Risks	24
Appendix: Asset Class Growth	30
Other	33









- ► Real-time MLP Index
- ► MLP ETN
- ► MLP ETF

**\$18** billion in index-linked products

93% market share for passive exchange traded products

12
product
partners

9

REAL-TIME MLP & ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE INDICES

AMZ / AMZI / AMEI / AMZE / ANGI / AMLI / AMMI / AMSI / AMCI



# **About Alerian** // Alerian index series



Ticker	Name	Tracking	Methodology	Launch
AMZ	Alerian MLP Index	Energy MLPs	Float-adjusted, Capitalization-weighted	June 2006
AMZI	Alerian MLP Infrastructure Index	Infrastructure MLPs	Capped, Float-adjusted, Capitalization-weighted	November 2009
AMEI	Alerian Energy Infrastructure Index	Energy Infrastructure MLPs and Corporations	Tier-weighted	April 2013
AMZE	Alerian MLP Equal Weight Index	Energy MLPs	Equal-weighted	April 2013
AMCI	Alerian MLP Closed End Fund Index	MLP Closed End Funds	Equal-weighted	March 2016
ANGI	Alerian Natural Gas MLP Index	Natural Gas MLPs	Equal-weighted	January 2010
AMLI	Alerian Large Cap MLP Index	Energy MLPs	Capitalization-weighted	April 2015
AMMI	Alerian Mid Cap MLP Index	Energy MLPs	Capitalization-weighted	April 2015
AMSI	Alerian Small Cap MLP Index	Energy MLPs	Capitalization-weighted	April 2015



# About Alerian // Leveling the playing field for MLP investing







# Alerian index-linked products



Ticker	Product Type	Product Name	Licensee	Inception Date	Underlying Index	Annual Fee	Total Assets (mil)
AMLP	ETF	Alerian MLP ETF	ALPS	August 24, 2010	AMZI	0.85%	\$10,739
ENFR	ETF	Alerian Energy Infrastructure ETF	ALPS	November 1, 2013	AMEI	0.65%	\$32
AMJ	ETN	JPMorgan Alerian MLP Index ETN	JPMorgan	April 1, 2009	AMZ	0.85%	\$3,483
AMU	ETN	ETRACS Alerian MLP Index ETN	UBS	July 17, 2012	AMZ	0.80%	\$389
MLPI	ETN	ETRACS Alerian MLP Infrastructure Index ETN	UBS	March 31, 2010	AMZI	0.85%	\$2,600
MLPQ	ETN	ETRACS 2x Leveraged Alerian MLP Infrastructure Index ETN	UBS	February 9, 2016	AMZI	0.85%	\$52
MLPG	ETN	ETRACS Alerian Natural Gas MLP Index ETN	UBS	July 13, 2010	ANGI	0.85%	\$15
MLPS	ETN	ETRACS 1x Monthly Short Alerian MLP Infrastructure Index ETN	UBS	September 28, 2010	AMZI	0.85%	\$4
Series 9-42	ROC Note	CIBC Alerian MLP Infrastructure Index-Linked ROC Notes	CIBC	October 7, 2010	AMZI	1.25%	\$497
ALERX*	Mutual Fund	ALPS Alerian MLP Infrastructure Index Fund	ALPS	December 31, 2012	AMZI	0.85%	\$48
ALEFX	VIT	ALPS Alerian Energy Infrastructure Portfolio	ALPS	April 30, 2013	AMEI	0.95%	\$92
AMJL	ETN	X-Links Monthly Pay 2X Leveraged Alerian MLP Index ETN	Credit Suisse	May 16, 2016	AMZ	0.85%	\$0.7

<sup>\*</sup> Represents Class I Source: Alerian as of April 28, 2017

Total Alerian-linked fund and note AUM

\$17,952 mm











Stable Cash Flows

Fee-based toll-road (Price x Volume) business models that benefit from inelastic energy demand



**Growing Distributions** 

Interstate liquid tariffs have built-in PPI "plus" revenue indexing



**Energy Infrastructure** 

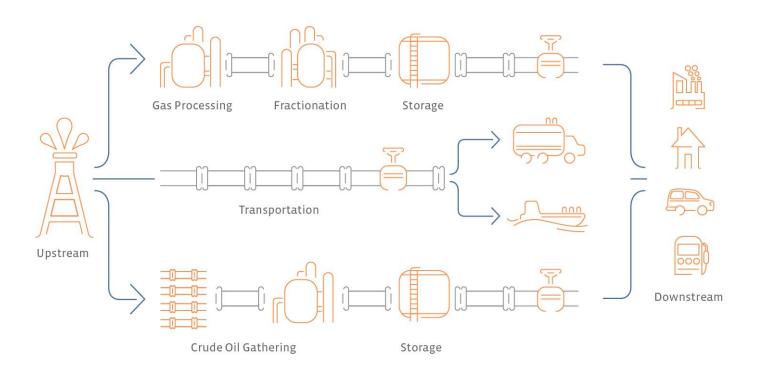
Increasing need for pipeline, storage, and processing assets to serve growing domestic production



Diversification

Low correlation to broader markets, commodity prices, and interest rates over the long-term







### Overview of MLPs // Simple investment story, complex tax structure



### General Taxation

- Income/deductions are passed through to unitholders on a Schedule K-1
- Investors must file income taxes in each state in which the MLP operates
- 70%-100% of MLP distributions are tax-deferred return-of-capital
- Remaining 0%-30% of MLP distributions are taxed at ordinary income rates

### Treatment at Sale

- Gain from reduced basis is "recaptured" and taxed at ordinary income rates
- Any remaining taxable gain is taxed at capital gain rates

### Wealth Transfer

- No ordinary income "recapture" of cost basis
- Cost basis is "stepped-up" to current price on day of transfer

### Tax-Advantaged Accounts

- Subject to tax if unrelated business taxable income (UBTI) exceeds \$1,000
- UBTI based on partnership income, not cash distributions

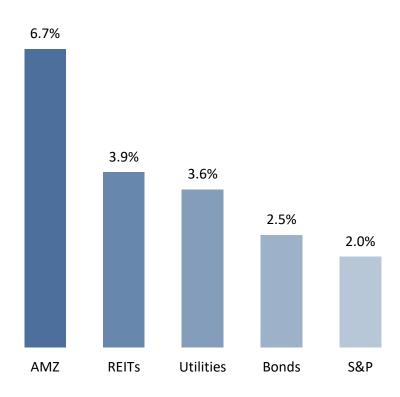








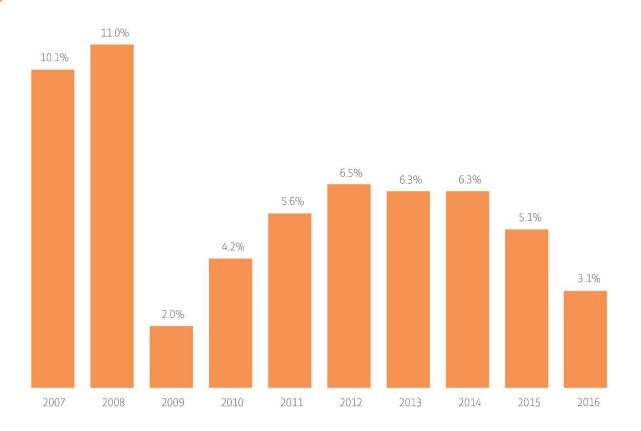






### Distribution growth drives returns

# **⊬**Alerian



+6.0%

10-year Average Annual Distribution Growth



# The periodic table of performance



2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017 YTD	Annualized
Commodities 32.7%	Bonds 5.2%	MLPs 76.4%	MLPs 35.9%	Utilities 19.9%		Small Cap 38.8%	Utilities 29.0%		Small Cap 21.3%	Non-US 10.0%	S&P 500 7.2%
Utilities	Utilities	Non-US	Small Cap	MLPs	Non-US	S&P 500	REITs	S&P 500	MLPs	Utilities	Small Cap
19.4%	-29.0%	31.8%	26.9%	13.9%	17.3%	32.4%	28.7%	1.4%	18.3%	7.2%	7.0%
MLPs	Small Cap	REITs	REITs	REITs	Small Cap	MLPs	S&P 500	Bonds	Utilities	S&P 500	MLPs
12.7%	-33.8%	27.6%	26.7%	9.4%	16.3%	27.6%	13.7%	0.5%	16.3%	7.2%	6.4%
Non-US	MLPs	Small Cap	S&P 500	Bonds	S&P 500	Non-US	Bonds	Non-US	S&P 500	Small Cap	Utilities
11.2%	-36.9%	27.2%	15.1%	7.8%	16.0%	22.8%	6.0%	-0.8%	12.0%	3.6%	6.3%
Bonds	S&P 500	S&P 500	Commodities	S&P 500	MLPs	Utilities	Small Cap	Small Cap	Commodities	REITs	REITs
7.0%	-37.0%	26.5%	9.0%	2.1%	4.8%	13.2%	4.9%	-4.4%	11.4%	3.1%	4.4%
S&P 500	REITs	Commodities	Non-US	Commodities	Bonds	REITs	MLPs	Utilities	REITs	MLPs	Bonds
5.5%	-37.3%	13.5%	7.8%	-1.2%	4.2%	-0.5%	4.8%	-4.8%	5.5%	2.6%	4.3%
Small Cap	Non-US	Utilities	Bonds	Small Cap	Utilities	Commodities	Non-US	MLPs	Bonds	Bonds	Non-US
-1.6%	-43.4%	11.9%	6.5%	-4.2%	1.3%	-1.2%	-4.9%	-32.5%	2.6%	1.6%	0.9%
REITs	Commodities	Bonds	Utilities	Non-US	Commodities	Bonds	Commodities	Commodities	Non-US	Commodities	Commodities
-16.3%	-46.5%	5.9%	5.5%	-12.1%	0.1%	-2.0%	-33.0%	-32.8%	1.0%	-7.0%	-9.2%

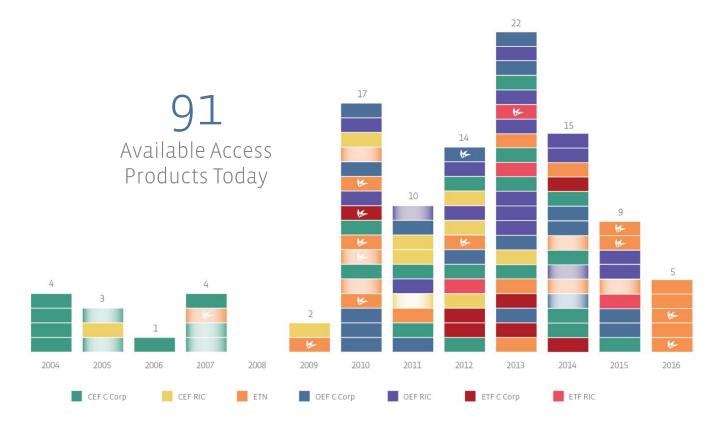


MLP Investment Options



# **MLP Investing** // Continued demand for access products

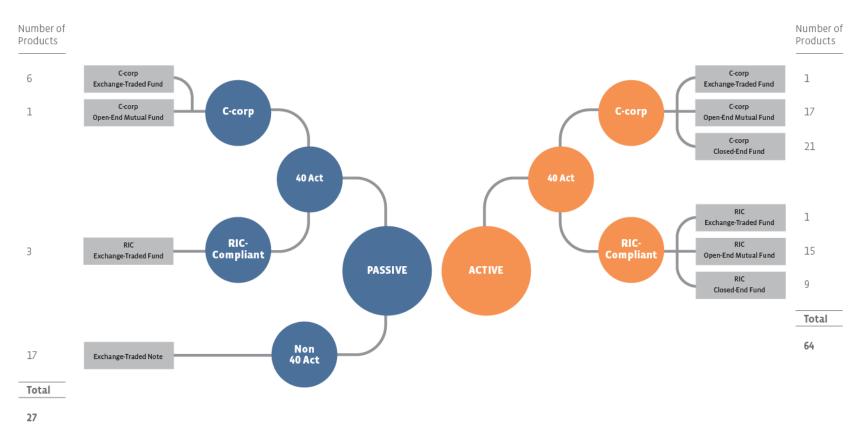






# MLP Investing // MLP investment product decision tree

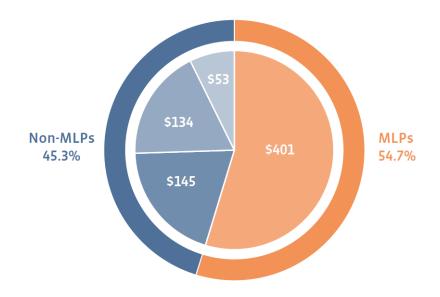






# MLP Investing // Total Energy Infrastructure Universe





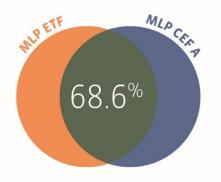
Company	Market Cap (billions)	Percentage of Market Cap	Examples
US Energy Infrastructure MLPs	\$401	54.7%	EPD, MMP
Canadian Energy Infrastructure Companies	\$145	19.8%	TRP, ENB
US Energy Infrastructure Companies	\$134	18.2%	KMI, TRGP
US General Partners	\$53	7.3%	PAGP, WMB
W - 4	-1 4707		

**Total** \$797

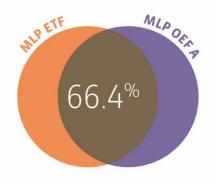


# **MLP Investing** // Passive vs. active – high holdings overlap

















### Liquidity concentrated in select MLPs

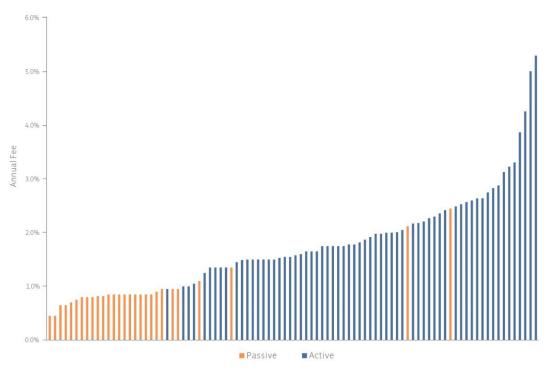
Days to Exit \$10 million Position in Single MLP





### **MLP Investing** // Passive vs. active – worth the fees?



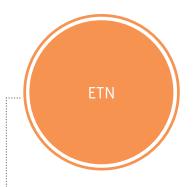


Each bar represents a currently available MLP investment product, and the length of the bar represents its annual fee. Expenses include management fees, borrowing costs, 12b-1 fees, other expenses as defined in the prospectus (including, but not limited to, shareholder service fees and fund acquisitions costs), fee waivers, and expense reimbursements. Current and deferred income tax expenses, trading costs, and commissions, among other costs, are excluded. Annual fees calculated from prospectus at fund launch.



### **MLP Investing** // Different strokes for different folks





Advantages Little/No Tracking Error 100% MLP Exposure

Generally Lower After-Tax Income\*\*
Credit Risk of Issuer

Tax-Advantaged Investors
Total Return Investors
Comfortable with Issuer Credit Risk

C Corp 40 Act Funds

Generally Higher After-Tax Income\* Ownership of Underlying Securities 100% MLP Exposure

Deferred Tax Liability Mutes Gains

After-Tax Yield Investors Low Volatility Investors



Little/No Tracking Error Ownership of Underlying Securities

25% MLP Exposure Generally Lower Income\*\*\*

Tax-Advantaged Investors
Total Return Investors
Comfortable with Non-MLP Investments

Disadvantages

Suitability

<sup>\*</sup>Due to expense ratio being taken from NAV, and income being treated as return of capital/qualified dividend

<sup>\*\*</sup>Due to expense ratio being taken from coupon, and coupon being taxed as ordinary income

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Due to lower MLP exposure







### **President-elect Donald Trump //** Focusing on "Vital Energy Infrastructure"



### Pro-Energy Administration

- Smoother permitting process
- Regulations, or less stringent regulations, may benefit energy industry
- Focus on energy independence and coal revival

# Vital Energy Infrastructure

- Trump's stated intention is to build vital energy infrastructure, and midstream MLPs play a critical role in building, maintaining, and operating these assets
- Construction and maintenance of midstream assets creates jobs

### Revamped Tax Code

- Small potential that all partnerships would be taxed. While this
  would remove a significant investment incentive, the 2017 JCT
  study indicates these partnerships cost only \$1.0B annually in tax
  revenues, limiting the downside impact
- Lower corporate and individual tax rates would not provide a direct benefit as MLPs are pass-through entities

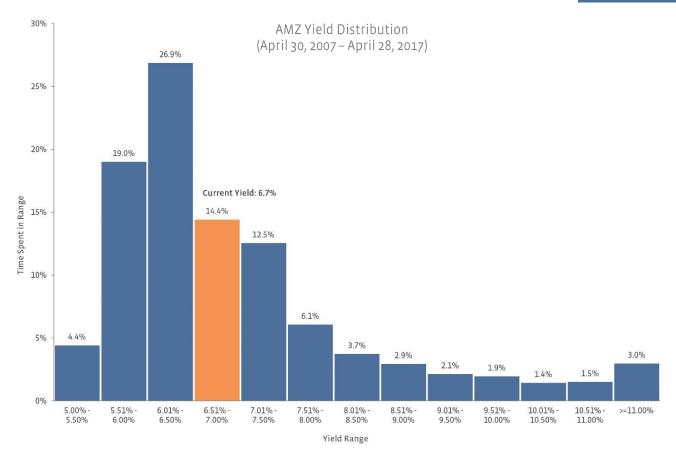
### Open Federal Lands

- Trump promised to lift restrictions on American energy reserves to create jobs
- For oil and gas, current limiting factor is low commodity prices, not reserves. Coal may modestly revive.



# Current Issues & Risks // Historical distribution of MLP yields







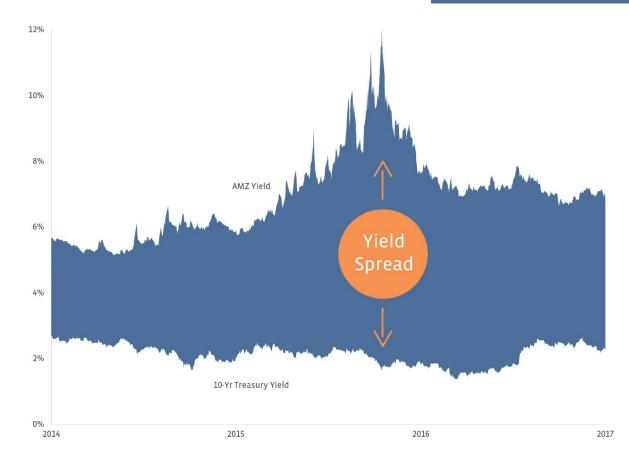


# 443 bps

Current AMZ
Spread to
Treasuries

# 403 bps

10-Yr Median AMZ Spread to Treasuries





# **Current Issues & Risks //** Midstream MLPs continue to grow distributions



### Distribution Profile of AMZ Constituents

### Distribution Profile of AMZI Constituents

	Increase	Maintain	Cut		Increase	Maintain	Cut
1Q14	31	18	1	1Q14	18	7	0
2Q14	35	15	0	2Q14	22	3	0
3Q14	30	20	0	3Q14	21	4	0
4Q14	28	19	3	4Q14	18	7	0
1Q15	28	19	3	1Q15	15	8	0
2Q15	34	14	2	2Q15	17	6	0
3Q15	31	19	0	3Q15	15	7	0
4Q15	18	27	5	4Q15	11	11	0
1Q16	20	18	5	1Q16	13	11	0
2Q16	21	22	1	2Q16	15	10	1
3Q16	18	24	2	3Q16	14	11	0
4Q16	18	24	1	4Q16	14	11	0
1Q17	21	20	2	1Q17	15	9	2



### **Current Issues & Risks //** What are the risks?



Sharp interest rate increase

Labor/materials availability

Tax law changes

Demand destruction

Execution

Environmental law changes

Broad equity market decline

Recontracting

Limited capital markets access

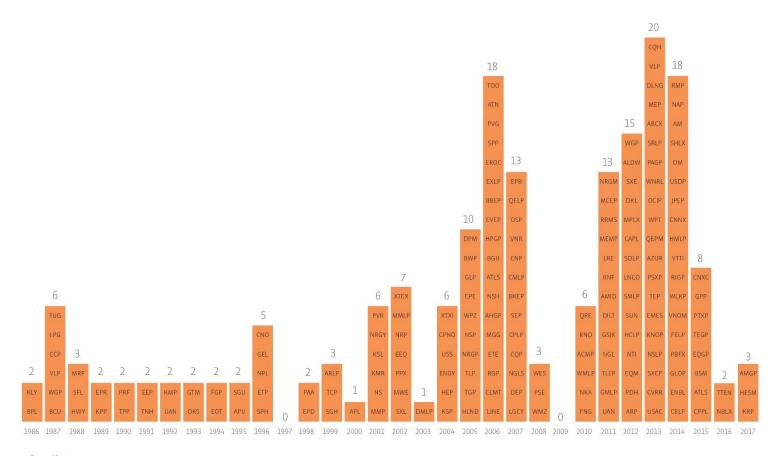
Perceived commodity price exposure



Appendix: Asset Class Growth

# **Appendix** // History of MLP IPOs

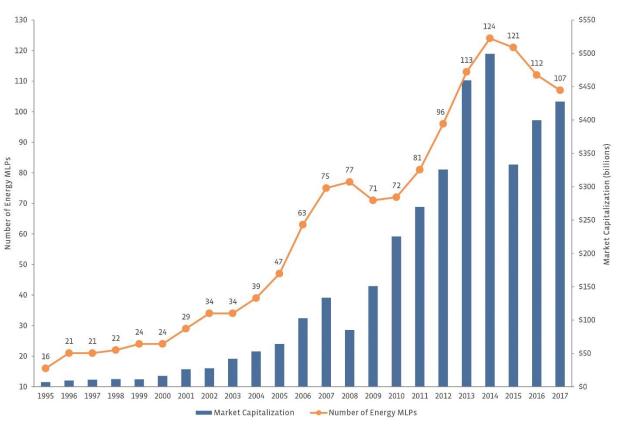














# Other



### **AMZ and AMZI Methodology**





### Structure

- Publicly traded partnership or LLC Only the entity that operates the assets



Generate energy-related (qualifying income) cash flow<sup>1</sup>



### Distribution

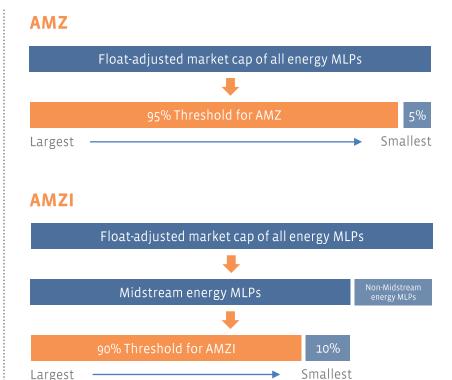
Declared distribution for trailing two quarters



Median dollar trading volume threshold<sup>2</sup>



Float-adjusted market cap threshold



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For AMZI: qualifying midstream activities, per Energy MLP Classification Standard (EMCS SM)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For AMZ and AMZI: median daily trading volume of at least \$2.5 million for the six-month period preceding the data analysis date Last methodology update: January 26, 2016



### **Disclaimers**



### Copyright. No Unauthorized Redistribution.

Alerian © 2017. All rights reserved. This document, in whole or in part, may not be redistributed, reproduced, and/or photocopied without prior written permission.

### This Document Is Impersonal and Not a Solicitation.

In jurisdictions where Alerian or its affiliates do not have the necessary licenses, this document does not constitute an offering of any security, product, or service. Alerian receives compensation in connection with licensing its indices to third parties. All information provided by Alerian in this document is impersonal and not customized to the specific needs of any entity, person, or group of persons. Alerian and its affiliates do not endorse, manage, promote, sell, or sponsor any investment fund or other vehicle that is offered by third parties and that seeks to provide an investment return linked to or based on the returns of any Alerian index.

### No Advisory Relationship.

Alerian is not an investment advisor, and Alerian and its affiliates make no representation regarding the advisability of investing in any investment fund or other vehicle. This document should not be construed to provide advice of any kind, including, but not limited to, tax and legal.

### You Must Make Your Own Investment Decision.

It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Index performance does not reflect the deduction of any fees or expenses. Past performance is not a guarantee of future returns. You should not make a decision to invest in any investment fund or other vehicle based on the statements set forth in this document, and are advised to make an investment in any investment fund or other vehicle only after carefully evaluating the risks associated with investment in the investment fund or other vehicle, as detailed in the offering memorandum or similar document prepared by or on behalf of the issuer. This document does not contain, and does not purport to contain, the level of detail necessary to give sufficient basis to an investment decision. The addition, removal, or inclusion of a security in any Alerian index is not a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold that security, nor is it investment advice.

### No Warranties.

The accuracy and/or completeness of any Alerian index, any data included therein, or any data from which it is based is not guaranteed by Alerian, and it shall have no liability for any errors, omissions, or interruptions therein. Alerian makes no warranties, express or implied, as to results to be obtained from use of information provided by Alerian and used in this service, and Alerian expressly disclaims all warranties of suitability with respect thereto.

### Limitation of Liability.

While Alerian believes that the information provided in this document is reliable, Alerian shall not be liable for any claims or losses of any nature in connection with the use or misuse of the information in this document, including but not limited to, lost profits or punitive or consequential damages, even if Alerian has been advised of the possibility of same.

### Research May Not Be Current.

This document has been prepared solely for informational purposes based on information generally available to the public from sources believed to be reliable. Alerian makes no representation as to the accuracy or completeness of this document, the content of which may change without notice. Alerian expressly disclaims any obligation to update the contents of this document to reflect developments in MLPs and/or the energy infrastructure sector. The methodology involves rebalancings and maintenance of indices that are made periodically throughout the year and may not, therefore, reflect real-time information.

### Policies and Procedures.

Analytic services and products provided by Alerian are the result of separate activities designed to preserve the independence and objectivity of each analytic process. Alerian has established policies and procedures to maintain the confidentiality of material nonpublic information received during each analytic process. Alerian and its affiliates provide a wide range of services to, or relating to, many organizations, and may receive fees or other economic benefits from these organizations.