Brief Rationale



May 20, 2014

CARE ASSIGN RATINGS TO THE SHORT-TERM BANK FACILITIES OF AEGIS GAS (LPG) PVT LTD

Ratings

Facilities	Amount (Rs. crore)	Ratings ¹	Remarks
Short-term Bank Facilities#	15	CARE A1+ (SO) [A One Plus (Structured Obligation)]	Assigned
Short-term Bank Facilities##	10	In-Principle CARE A1+ (SO) [In Principle A One Plus (Structured Obligation)]	Assigned
Total Facilities	25		

#Backed by an unconditional and irrevocable corporate guarantee provided by the Aegis Logistics Ltd [ALL, rated CARE AA-/ A1+]

##Backed by an unconditional and irrevocable corporate guarantee **to be** provided by the Aegis Logistics Ltd [ALL, rated CARE AA-/A1+]

Rating Rationale

The ratings factor in credit enhancement in the form of an unconditional and irrevocable guarantee provided by the parent Aegis Logistics Limited (ALL).

The ratings of ALL derives strength from its leading position in the liquid and gas logistics business, experienced management, strategic location of its facilities in the heart of the Indian petrochemical belt on the Western coast of India, healthy diversification of its income profile, comfortable capital structure and debt coverage indicators. The ratings however, continue to be constrained by project risk and increasing threat of competition from emerging capacities at nearby ports. The ability of the company to improve its profitability margin by managing the currency volatility in its trading business (in its subsidiary Hindustan Aegis LPG Ltd-HALL) and further improve its capital structure is the key rating sensitivity. Furthermore, the ability of the company to optimally utilize the expanded capacity remains a rating sensitivity.

Background

Aegis Gas (LPG) Pvt Ltd was incorporated on December 26, 2001 as Shell Gas (LPG) India Pvt Ltd. Pursuant to the takeover of the company by Aegis Logistics Ltd (100% subsidiary) on April 1, 2010 the name of the company was changed to its current name. The company is an importer and marketer of branded packed LPG with presence in the commercial sector in and around 42 cities in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, A.P., Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan. The company has its own import terminal at Pipavav with storage capacity of 2,700 MT per annum and cylinder filling plants at Kheda in Gujarat, Dharwad and Udipi in Karnataka. AGLPL also has third party filling plants located at Murbad, Nasik, Pune, Kolhapur in Maharashtra, Bangalore, Trichy, Hyderabad, Gulabpura. The company has two main businesses - Gas Distribution to commercial sector and gas logistics. Gas Distribution business involves importing and supplying LPG in packed cylinders through its own filling plant and third party filling plants. Gas logistics provides 3PL services to bulk importers including unloading of products from ship, transfer through jetty line, storage of product in LPG terminal and distribution to the destination points as advised by the customers.

During FY13 (refers to the period April 1 to March 31), AGLPL earned a PAT of Rs.2.02 crore on a total operating income of Rs.110.05 crore.

¹ Complete definition of the ratings assigned are available at <u>www.careratings.com</u> and other CARE publications



Profile of the Group

ALL, formerly known as Aegis Chemical Industries Limited (ACIL), was incorporated in June 1956. It is promoted by London based NRI, Mr K M Chandaria and family. ALL along with its subsidiaries provides total logistic solutions for oil, gas, chemicals and petrochemical industries. The services provided range from storing, moving to distributing oil, gas, chemicals and petroleum products to the end user. It provides storage terminals facilities for bulk chemicals and POL (Petroleum, Oil and Lube) products through its storage terminals located at Trombay near Mumbai, Haldia and Kochi. As on July 31, 2013the group had four liquid terminals having a total storage capacity of 3.39 lakh KL. Furthermore, it also had a storage capacity of 0.23 lakh MT along with other infrastructural facilities required for import, storage and distribution of LPG and propane. The group also has 94 auto-gasstations and a network of 54 dealers for the packed cylinder business.

On consolidated basis, ALL achieved a total operating income of Rs.4,200.29 crore and a PAT of Rs.35.15 crore in FY13 as compared to a total operating income of Rs.4,554.77 crore and PAT of Rs.22.38 crore in FY12. During 9MFY14, ALL achieved a total operating income of Rs.3,939.90 crore and a PAT of Rs.54.88 crore.

For the detailed rationale of Aegis Logistics Ltd., please refer our website www.careratings.com.

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CARE has classified instruments rated by it on the basis of complexity. This classification is available at www.careratings.com. Investors/market intermediaries/regulators or others are welcome to write to care@careratings.com for any clarifications.

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